



The Form of Tolerance Value in the Novel Bulan Terbelah di Langit Amerika by Hanum Salsabiela Rais and Rangga Almahendra

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Abstract

This study aimed to describe the form of tolerance values in the novel Bulan Terbelah di Langit Amerika by Hanum Salsabiela Rais and Rangga Almahendra. The research method which was used is descriptive qualitative. The data collection used reading and note-taking techniques. The data in this study was a novel entitled Bulan Terbelah di Langit Amerika. The data source in this study were quotes which were contained in the novel. The analysis technique which was used is the content analysis technique. The theory used is the theory of tolerance values found in each text by paying attention to the elements of tolerance values. The results of this study indicated that there was a tolerance value that included in four elements. The first element was to give freedom or independence. The second element was recognizing the rights of each individual, then the third element was respecting the beliefs of others, and the fourth element is mutual understanding. One aspect of character education was a tolerance. For this reason, the results of this study could be used as material for character education. That was because the research results of the novel entitled the Bulan Terbelah di Langit Amerika were in accordance with the four elements of tolerance values.

Keywords: *Tolerance; Character Education; Attitude*

Introduction

Literary works can be used as a means of strengthening the character of each individual in the field of humanization. Therefore, literary works are needed because there are values that can be emulated. Literary works are imaginative works created by humans that are creative and aesthetically pleasing. Literary work is not only a means of entertainment but also contains values or messages that the author conveys to the reader. One of the messages conveyed is the value of tolerance which can be seen from the attitudes and behaviour of the characters in the story. According to Esten (1984: 9) the process of creating literary works from the facts found in society (objective reality) in various forms of events, values or norms, views of life, and aspects of people's lives.

One of the literary works favoured by young people in the novel. Novels are popular with young people because the stories in them are interesting and in accordance with the stories of the lives of young

people. This is in line with Scholes (1984). A novel is a story related to the real or fictional reality that is born from what the author sees and imagines. Therefore, the contents of the story in the novel are full of values and messages that can be emulated in everyday life. One of the novels that have a value of tolerance in the contents of the story is the novel entitled *Bulan Terbelah di Langit Amerika* by Hanum Salsabiela Rais.

The setting of the novel is in the continent of Europe, where the story of tolerance is very well known because various races, ethnicities, and religions are united and live-in harmony. This is, in line with Suyadi (2013: 8). Tolerance is an attitude and behaviour that gives respect to differences in race, religion, ethnicity, and other things that are different from himself consciously in order to create a calm and harmonious life within these differences. To analyse the value of tolerance in the text of the novel, various literature studies were used related to the value of tolerance which includes giving freedom, recognizing the rights of each individual, respecting the beliefs of others, and understanding each other.

One aspect of character education is tolerance. Therefore, the results of this study can later be used as material for character education in the aspect of tolerance. This is in line with previous research conducted by Ioana Boghian (2016) entitled "Teachers' Perspectives on Tolerance Education. A Literature Review" in the *Journal of Innovation in Psychology, Education and Didactics*, Vol. 20, No. 2. The results of the research are about the study and the perspective of the teacher on the concept of tolerance, a pedagogical approach of tolerance, and the goals of tolerance education for students. Then, highlight the level of awareness of the need for tolerance education and the challenges to implement it. This research and this research have something in common, namely regarding the tolerance value that will be applied in the field of education.

Research on the value of tolerance was also carried out by Mujahidil Mustaqim (2019) with the title "Analysis of Tolerance Values in the Religious Education Curriculum" in the *Journal of Islamic Religious Education*, Vol. XVI, No. 1. The results of the study indicate that the Religious Education curriculum includes strengthening tolerance and according to the needs and conditions of the times today. The content of the Religious Education curriculum is not dominated by belief and worship alone but also about human relations. Besides being applicable in the Religious Education curriculum, the value of tolerance can also be applied to Literature learning. This is evidenced by this research, the material for the value of tolerance can be taken from the novel. The novel is one of the teaching materials in literature learning.

Research Method

The method which is used in this research is qualitative descriptive analysis. Data collection techniques in this study were reading and note-taking techniques. The data source in this study were obtained using literature. Literature technique is a study of the sources used in similar research. The document is used to find data about variables in the form of text in the novel. This is in line with M. Nazir (1988: 111) argues that library research is a technique of collecting data by conducting a review study of the literature, books, notes, and reports related to the problem to be studied. The analysis stage is carried out by analysing the text in the novel. The theory which is used is the theory of the value of tolerance found in each text by looking at the character of the attitudes, actions, and behaviours of the characters in the novel.

Results and Discussion

A. Theoretical Review

Tolerance is a form of mutual respect without differentiating between ethnicity, beliefs, culture, gender, and appearance with the aim of creating harmony. This is in line with Tillman (2004: 95) Tolerance is an attitude of mutual respect, through understanding with the aim of peace. Tolerance is a peaceful method.

An attitude of tolerance is important to apply in everyday life. According to Tilaar (1999: 160) what is needed in society is not just looking for commonalities and agreements that are not easy to achieve, in fact, the most important thing in a society with diversity is that there is mutual understanding, tolerance is called an essential factor to achieve harmony. According to Abdullah (2001: 202-203) the element of tolerance can be manifested in the following forms of attitude:

- a. Grant's freedom or independence
- b. Recognizing the rights of each individual
- c. Respecting the beliefs of others
- d. Mutual understanding

B. Results

The value of tolerance includes a form of tolerance, openness, freedom, respect, and acceptance of cultural diversity, the background of a group, recognizing the rights of each individual, and respecting their beliefs. Some of the data that shows the value of tolerance in the novel *Bulan Terbelah di Langit Amerika* are as follows:

a. Grant's Freedom or Independence

The form of the attitude of the value of tolerance in giving freedom or independence is shown in the following quote:

Quote 1:

"Manusia dicipta tak berbeda untuk memiliki hak kehidupan dan penghidupan yang sama, untuk mengejar kebahagiaan di bumi Amerika ini. Sebuah siratan tentang keinginan besar penghapusan perbudakan yang pernah mendominasi Amerika, dan inspirasi tentang keadilan demi kesejahteraan" (Rais dan Rangga, 2016: 172).

"Humans are created no different to have the same right of life and livelihood, to pursue happiness on this American earth. It is a reflection of the desire to abolish slavery that once dominated America, and inspiration about justice for welfare" (Rais and Rangga, 2016: 172).

The quotation above describes the form of the value of tolerance in giving freedom or independence in the life of the nation and state, especially about justice and an attitude of mutual respect and appreciate for the rights to religion in the United States and abolishing slavery that occurred in the old days.

Quote 2:

“Nyonya Hussein, berkenankan saya mengisahkan betapa muslim seperti Ibrahim. Yang tak gentar dibakar api. Yang tak gentar menerjang panas. Demi sebuah takdir yang dia perjuangkan. Bukan untuknya, tapi untuk saya” (Rais dan Rangga, 2016:294).

“Mrs. Hussein, let me tell you how Muslim is like Ibrahim. The one who cannot be afraid is burned by the fire. Undaunted brave heat. For the sake of a destiny that he fought for. Not for him, but for me” (Rais and Rangga, 2016: 294).

In this quotation, the character Philip Brown mentions the tolerant attitude carried out by Ibrahim, his saviour in the 9/11 tragedy. This reflects the attitude of giving Abraham the freedom to Philip Brown when he was in an emergency in the WTC building.

b. Recognizing the Rights of Each Individual

The form of tolerance value attitude recognizes the rights of each individual is shown in the following quote:

Quote 3:

“Malam hari adalah waktu pertemuan yang kami berdua selalu dambakan. Saat keluh kesah satu hari mendapatkan wadah yang sempurna. Ya, makan malam menu Indonesia yang kumasak spesial setiap malam untuknya” (Rais dan Rangga, 2016:20).

“Night is the meeting time that we both have always wanted. When I complain one day, I get the perfect container. Yes, the Indonesian dinner menu that I cook special every night for him” (Rais and Rangga, 2016: 20).

The data from the quotation above shows the value of tolerance between individuals in the form of recognizing the rights of each individual, especially as a family, as a married couple. The attitude of openness and being a good listener was carried out by Rangga to his wife.

Quote 4:

“Ya, aku sudah cukup yakin dia menganggapku gembel. Tapi pria itu ternyata... Entah siapa yang membisikan hatinya. Dia melihatku dengan keibaan yang dalam. Mendadak dia menyodorkan telepon genggamannya untukku” (Rais dan Rangga, 2016:111).

“Yes, I'm pretty sure he thinks I'm a crap. But that man turned out to be... I don't know who whispered his heart. He looked at me with deep compassion. Suddenly he held out his handheld phone for me” (Rais and Rangga, 2016: 111).

The male character in the quotation shows the value of tolerance in the form of assistance to Hanum, who is in crisis after being trapped in rioting demonstrations. Although Hanum had the prejudice that he might only be considered a bad guy, but what happened was the opposite. The man gave Hanum cell phone assistance to Hanum. This reflects the man's attitude to recognize individual rights and not undermine others.

Quote 5:

“Mom selalu bilang, jadi orang muslim itu harus toleran seperti kata Grandpa. Jika Grandma ingin aku mendengarkannya membaca Alkitab, Mom bilang tidak apa-apa. Asalkan aku tidak ikut-ikutan membacanya. Tuhan tahu hatiku” (Rais dan Rangga, 2016:162).

“Mom always says, become Muslims must be tolerant like Grandpa said. If Grandma wants me to listen to her read the Bible, Mom says it's okay. As long as I don't read it too. God knows my heart” (Rais and Rangga, 2016: 162).

The quotation above shows the tolerance behaviour that was did by Sarah, Azima's daughter. Even with a heavy heart, he still tried to please his grandmother who was sick. Sarah's attitude reflects that she still recognizes her grandmother's rights.

c. Respect the Beliefs of Others

The form of the value of tolerance in an attitude of respecting the beliefs of others is shown in the following quote.

Quote 6:

“Aku mulai paham sekarang mengapa Gertrud memintaku. Dia bermaksud baik. Gagasan “would the world be better without Islam?” itu berkesempatan dijawab tidak, dengan aku sebagai penulisnya. Ya, itu memang benar maksud tersembunyinya” (Rais dan Rangga, 2016:51).

“I'm starting to understand now why Gertrud asked me to. He means well. The idea of "would the world be better without Islam?" it has the opportunity to be answered no, with me as the author. Yes, that is true the hidden intentions” (Rais and Rangga, 2016: 51).

The quotation above shows the application of the value of tolerance carried out by Hanum's partner, Gertrud. Even though he is a non-Muslim, he does not want to take advantage of the demands of work that can corner the religion that Hanum and Muslims believe in as a whole. This shows a respectful attitude, accepts cultural diversity and backgrounds, and respects the beliefs of other people.

Quote 7:

Tapi aku tak tega ketika aku menemukan seorang reporter muslim yang begitu menyenangkan diajak ngobrol. Masih bisa mengerti ketika aku mengkritik orang-orang muslim saudaranya yang jahat-jahat itu. Dan, kau bisa menangis mendengar kisahku,” Jones menepuk pundakku. Aku tahu dia tidak enak hati padaku” (Rais dan Rangga, 2016:229).

“But I didn't have the heart when I found a Muslim reporter who was so fun to chat with. I can still understand when I criticize the Muslim brothers who are evil. And, you can cry hearing my story, “Jones patted my shoulder. I know he doesn't feel bad for me” (Rais and Rangga, 2016: 229).

From the quotation, there is an attitude of tolerance between Jones and Hanum. Even with an unpleasant situation and feeling hurt by the tragedy of the 9/11 WTC, the attitude of both of them showed respect and respect for the rights and feelings of each of different religions.

Quote 8

“Perempuan bertubuh renta itu untuk pertama kalinya memakaikan kerudung untuk putri tercinta. Tatapannya merelakan Azima untuk kembali seperti dulu lagi. Percaya bahwa hijab adalah perisai putrinya, yang tak dapat tergantikan apapun meski terjangan badai dan petir sekalipun” (Rais dan Rangga, 2016:319).

“This woman with an old body for the first time wore a veil for her beloved daughter. Her gaze allowed Azima to return to the way it used to be. Believing that the hijab is her daughter's shield, which cannot be replaced by anything even though the storms and thunder” (Rais and Rangga, 2016: 319).

The quotation above shows the value of tolerance in an attitude of respecting the beliefs of others. When Azima's mother finally gave up her daughter to embrace the religion her daughter believed in.

d. Mutual Understanding

The form of tolerance value in an attitude of mutual understanding is shown in the following quote.

Quote 9:

“Tapi kami sudah mengantisipasi ini semua. Kami sudah menata hati dan emosi jika kami harus diperlakukan seperti orang asing yang dicurigai membawa ancaman atau terror bagi mereka. Negeri ini berhak berlaku seperti itu” (Rais dan Rangga, 2016:66).

“But we have anticipated all of this. We have arranged our hearts and emotions if we have to be treated like strangers who are suspected of bringing a threat of terror to them. This country has the right to act like that” (Rais and Rangga, 2016: 66).

In the novel, *Bulan Terbelah di Langit Amerika* tells a lot of things related to the tragedy of the collapse of the WTC 9/11 which caused deep hurt for the American people. In the quotation above, Hanum, as a journalist whose job is to find information related to the tragedy, understands that there is a different treatment when entering at the powerful city. This shows Hanum applies a mutual understanding of the people there.

Quote 10:

“Aku mengangguk mantap. Aku memintanya menunggu saja di bangku panjang sekitar Grand Memorial. Menjaga dua koper kecil dan dua ransel dalam keadaan dingin dan semerawut area Ground Zero, membuatku tak tega melihatnya. Apalagi dia harus membawa laptop besar yang selalu digopoh untuk memoles presentasinya” (Rais dan Rangga, 2016:89).

“I nodded firmly. I asked him to wait on the bench around the Grand Memorial. Keeping two small suitcases and two backpacks in the cold and chaotic Ground Zero area, I couldn't bear to see it. Moreover, he has to carry a large laptop which is always scrambled to polish his presentation” (Rais and Rangga, 2016: 89).

The quotation above, shows a mutual understanding, namely when Rangga was waiting for Hanum who was interviewing the source. Even though Rangga is still busy preparing for his presentation, Rangga faithfully looks after the things they carried.

Conclusion

From the results of this research which were conducted in the novel entitled *Bulan Terbelah di Langit Amerika* by Hanum Salsabiela Rais and Rangga Almahendra, it can be concluded that in the novel there is a value of tolerance which is very useful for readers. The value of tolerance includes giving freedom or independence, recognizing the rights of each individual, respecting the beliefs of others, and mutual understanding. These values of tolerance can be used as an example in everyday life, given the widespread acts of intolerance that have occurred so far. Apart from this, the results of this study can also be used as material for character education. One aspect of character education is tolerance, and the results of this research from the novel are in accordance with the elements of the tolerance values.

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