

Chapter II

Poetry and Moral Values

In this chapter, the writer consist of five section. The first section explains the definition of literature. The second section explains the definition of poetry. The third section explains the elements of poetry. The fourth section explains kinds of poetry. The fifth section explains the definition of moral value.

2.1 Definition of Literature

According to Oxford dictionary “Literature is pieces of writing that are valued as works of art, especially novels, plays and poems (in contrast to technical books and newspapers, magazines, etc.)” (Oxfords, 1995: 127). According to Frederick (1998:4) literature means: “A vital record of what men have seen in life, what they have experienced of it, what they have thought and felt about those aspects of it which have the most enduring interest from human beings”, it is fundamentally an expression of life through the medium of language. Literature is as a source of information, knowledge, news, and show the truth.

According to Taum (1997:13) *Sastra adalah karya cipta atau fiksi yang bersifat imajinatif dalam penggunaan bahasa yang indah dan berguna yang menandakan hal-hal lain.* (Literature is an imaginative work or fiction in a form of beautiful language and useful for other things). Literature is often said to be a school of live in that authors tend to comment on the conduct of people and individual in society. They either point of what they found in important issues as human affairs of propose ideal alternatives to way thing actually custom and more of particular social group or individuals. Their aspiration and value are explored and exposed. (Taylor, 1981:12).

Sumardjo and Saini (1986:17) classified literature into two groups, namely the imaginative and non-imaginative. Imaginative literature consists of two genres namely the prose and poetry. Prose consists of fiction and drama. Fiction includes novels, short stories, and novella. Drama includes prose drama and poetry drama. It also includes the comedy drama, tragedy, melodrama, and a tragic comedy. Poetry includes epic poetry, lyric, and dramatic. While the non-imaginative literature consists of essays, criticism, biography, autobiography, history, memoirs, diaries, and letters.

2.2 Definition of Poetry

Poetry (from the Latin *poeta*, a poet) is a form of literary art in which language is used for its aesthetic and evocative qualities in addition to, or in lieu of, its apparent meaning. Poetry may be written independently, as discrete poems, or may occur in conjunction with other arts, as in poetic drama, hymns, lyrics, or prose poetry.

According to Hillyer (1960:1), Poetry is the one unbroken thread between us and the past; from vanished cities and civilizations this common utterance links us with the heroism and piety, the loves and festivals-all that has gone before, unchanged and ever renewed. Poetry is also a beautiful manifestation of the spontaneous emotions of a poet. Poetry is created when emotions find the right words to express themselves. Poetry often begins in an abstract idea that is developed by the means of concrete words, without letting the idea lose its abstractness. A poem is a single piece of poetry, complete in itself. Poetry is the collective term used to describe a group of poems, which may or may not be related by theme, author, or style. Robert Penn Warren has whimsically defined a poem as a group of lines that printed evenly along the left-hand margin of a page (Miller, 1981:44). So poetry is so varied than poem. But it's not possible

to make a single comprehensive definition between them. To define poetry is not so easy, because the meaning so varied between one definition to another and not everything in a poetry can be named or explained, enough to sharpen your perception as a reader and give a fuller understanding of what it is in a poetry that gives pleasure and creates form and meaning.

Poetry often uses particular forms and conventions to suggest alternative meanings in the words, or to evoke emotional or sensual responses. Devices such as assonance, alliteration, onomatopoeia, and rhythm are sometimes used to achieve musical or incantatory effects. The use of ambiguity, symbolism, irony, and other stylistic elements of poetic diction often leaves a poem open to multiple interpretations. According to **Robert Frost**, poetry is a rhythmical composition of words expressing attitude, designed to surprise and delight and to arouse an emotional response (Kennedy, 1978:5)

2.3 Elements of Poetry

Elements of poetry can be defined as a set of instruments used to create a poem. Many of these were created thousands of years ago. The elements of poetry help us bring imagery and emotion to poetry, stories, and dramas. Here is a list of elements of poetry:

- **Alliteration**

Alliteration is the repetition of a stressed consonant sound. In Anglo-Saxon (now usually called Old English) verse, alliteration played the same part that rhyme does in modern verse: it was a fixed and expected enrichment of the lines. Perhaps the easiest to understand is alliteration, which is the repetition of consonant sounds at the beginnings of words (bully boys; window on the world). This is also used in several poems for sound effect. Several words in the sentence may begin with the same alphabet or syllable sound.

- **Assonance**

Assonance is a partial rhyme which has the same internal vowel sounds amongst different words.

- **Repetitions**

A repetition is the same word throughout the poem to emphasize significance.

- **Rhyme**

Rhyme is a repetition of the final sound of a word with differing introductory sounds; thus time and clime; or, in two-syllable or “feminine” endings: feather and weather. A poem may or may not have a rhyme. When you write poetry that has rhyme, it means that the last words of the lines match with each other in some form. Either the last words of the first and second lines would rhyme with each other or the first and the third, second and the fourth and so on.

- **Rhythm**

Rhythm which is may be defined as a pattern of recurring stresses and pauses. This is the music made by the statements of the poem, which includes the syllables in the lines. The best method of understanding this is to read the poem aloud. Listen for the sounds and the music made when we hear the lines spoken aloud.

- **Style of Poetry**

Figure of speech has important contribution in building the concentration and intensification of a poem. It can make the poem becomes dense with meaning and imagination and gives certain color of emotion for listener and reader.

- Personification is a style that makes an inanimate object behaves like human.
- Metaphor is a style that makes an object does not has its usual but different behavior
- Repetition is same words throughout a poem to emphasize significance.

- Hyperbole is a style that contains a redundant statement with an intention to increase the impression.
- Litotes is the opposite of hyperbole, that shrink or reducing the actual situation.
- Irony is a style of language that is stating contradictory meanings with an intention to ridicule.
- Simile is a figure that makes an explicit comparison between two entities using words such as “like” or “as”. The elements being compared are essentially different in nature but come together in the poet’s perception.

- **Symbol**

Symbol is something that represents something else through association, resemblance or convention. Symbols may undergo changes in meaning over the centuries. In Greek and Roman times the rose was often a symbol of sensual love; by the middle Ages it had become part of a new context, serving primarily as a symbol of spiritual love. Often poems will convey ideas and thoughts using symbols. A symbol can stand for many things at one time and leads the reader out of a systematic and structured method of looking at things. Often a symbol used in the poem will be used to create such an effect.

- **Theme**

Theme is the message, point of view and idea of the poem. The theme is the central idea or conception of the poem that the poet wants to share. It can be a story, or a description about anything.

- **I Lyric**

Character I (poet) in poetry, this character makes the poetry has more soul, so it becomes more imaginative for the reader.

2.4 Kinds of Poetry

There are some kinds of poetry that will be explained, namely: epic, dramatic monologue, and ode.

- **Epic**

Epic is the most ambitious kind of poetry deals with great heroes whose action determined the fate of their nation or of mankind. The poet does not just focus on telling the story but attempts to include all his knowledge and the whole of human experience.

Epic is a long narrative poem, majestic both in theme and style. Epics deal with legendary or historical events of national or universal significances, involving action of broad sweep and grandeur.

When we are reading an epic, initially we should submit to and enjoy the story. Then, when it comes to forming a critical response, think first about the significance of the story we have read. After that we can move on to the manner in which it is narrated, noting, for example, the ways in which the style is elevated to suit the author's ambitious purpose.

- **Dramatic Monologue**

Dramatic monologue is a poem in which an imaginary speaker addresses an audience. The poem usually takes place at a critical moment in the speaker's life and offers an indirect revelation of his or her temperament and personality.

Monologues are common in plays and longer poems, but the development of monologue as a distinct kind of poem is associated with the Victorian poet, Robert Browning in “My Last Duchess” (1842) that illustrates the characteristics of the mode: there is an imagined speaker, the Duke, who is addressing a representative of the girl he hopes to marry.

In addition, monologue is colloquial, following the patterns of the speaker’s voice. All dramatic monologues present one person’s response to life. Robert Frost, as example, exploits the mode in monologue through different ways, but the point of all dramatic monologue has in common is that they do not present the poet’s direct view of life, but take one step back and examine how imagined characters try to impose a shape and interpretation on the world they encounter. As in so much literature, we are concerned with the world’s lack of pattern and man’s attempt to pattern, understand, and find some meaning in experience.

• Ode

Ode is a lyric adopted from the Greek but already greatly in form by various English poets, and tends to be rather formal, often in varied or irregular meter, and usually between fifty and two hundred lines long.

Ode is an elaborate and elevated lyric poem, extending over quite a few stanzas, and addressed to a person or thing or to an abstraction (e.g. ‘melancholy’). In its more straightforward form it simply praises the subject, but as it developed in the romantic period the typical ode became more hesitant and philosophical.

An ode is always addressed to somebody (or something) who seems to transcend the problems of life, and thus stands as a symbol of perfection. An ode becomes more complicated, however, if the poet begins to question the status of the object addressed.

2.5 Definition of Moral Value

According to Durkheim (1973:44) moral has important role in society life. Restrain and authority that applied by collective awareness appears in moral side. Morality in all its forms is never met with except in society. It never varies except in relation to social, condition. The duties of the individual towards his self are, in reality duties towards society. This statement supported and similar to Poepoprodjo who divided moral into two kinds, Poepoprodjo (1998:188) says that “*moralitas adalah kualitas dalam perbuatan manusia yang menunjukkan bahwa perbuatan itu benar atau salah, baik atau buruk*”. Morality value teaches us to love each other not only human being but also to other creatures. According to Henry Bergson (1974:55), moral itself has two function are internal and external. Internal function has repress characteristic, at all purpose to self-defense while external morality has strong that appeals softly, it is not just enough to social, but also humanism.

Values are important thing or uses full for human beings or humanity that is being the source of literary work (Arifin, 1991:80). Rahim (Muh. Sikki, 1991:7) said that value forms essential basic from culture is traditional of ideas mainly which adheres on the self In this definition culture from part of- life which relatively contains the rule had to become base about what we surly, what must we do and what must be avoid to do.

From the definition above the writer concludes that literary work as much as valuable it man is able attitude toward another because literature will give contribution for formed the value system. According to Nurgiyantoro (1994:320), the definiton of moral is “*secara umum moral menyanan pada pengertian (ajaran tentang) baik dan buruk yang diterima umum mengenai perbuatan sikap, kewajiban, dan sebagainya: akhlak, budi pekerti, susila*”. (Generally moral

suggest to the definition of good and bad that are generally accepted about act of behavior, duty, character and ethic).

Moral value related to human being personal these cases also occur on other value- but there is a specific sign of moral value that is related to human responsible. This is referring to Bertin's statement (1997: 143) that moral value is related to human responsible. However, moral value cannot be defined from one point of view, because every culture has its own perspective in defining moral value. In this study the moral values of Frost's poetries are analyzed objectively from its original culture.