

## Chapter II

### The Moral Message of the Novel

#### A. Novels

##### 1. Definition of Novel

The term novel comes from the Latin '*novellas*' which later revealed to be *novies*, which means new. This word is then adapted in English to make the term novel. This new saying is associated with the fact that the novel is a type of fictional story that emerged later compared with short stories and romance (Waluyo, 2002).

The similar notion also comes from Nurgiyantoro (1994). He argues that the term *novella* and *novelle* contain the same meaning as the term *novellet* (English: *novellet*), which means a proxy of fiction long enough, not too long, but not too short. In line with that opinion, Abrams stated that the novel title in English and which later entered Indonesia came from the Italian *novella* (in German: *novelle*). Literally *novella* means "A small new item", and then interpreted as a short story in the form of prose. Etymologically, the word *novel* comes from *novellus* which means new. So, in fact, the novel is the most recent literary form of fictional literature.

According to Lindell in Waluyo (2006) a literary work in the form of a novel, was first born in England with the title "Pamella" which appeared in 1740. Originally the novel "Pamella" is a diary form a housekeeper then develops and becomes a form fictional prose that we know today. Sem i (1993: 32) states that the novel expresses a concentration of life at a time of

tension, and a firm concentration of life. Novel is a work of fiction that reveals the aspects of humanity more deeply and presented with a smooth.

On the other hand, Tarigan (2003: 164) says that the novel is a prose fiction with a certain length, whose contents include: depicting figures, movements and scenes of representative real life events with a plot or a complex state.

Furthermore, novel is a type of literary work that presents a useful value for the reader. This has been disclosed by Goldmann (in Saraswati, 2003: 87) which defines the novel as a story of a degraded search for authentic values in a world that is also degraded by authentic values in a degraded world, a problematic hero. The thematic traits appear in terms of authentic values which Goldmann claims to be the totality implicitly appearing in the novel, the values that organize according to the mode of the world.

Based on the above opinion, it can be concluded that the novel is the kind of fictional story that emerged latest when compared with other fiction stories. The novel reveals the life conflict of its characters in a deeper and more subtle way. Novels present like other literary works are not without meaning. Novel presented in the middle of society has a function and a central role by providing inner satisfaction for its readers through the educational values.

## **2. Types of Novel**

There are some statements about the type of novels. Sumardjo and Saini (1986: 29) argue that novels can be classified into three groups: romance novels,

adventure novels, and fantasy novels. Romance novel is a novel in which there are female characters and men in a draw, even sometimes the role of women is more dominant. Adventure novel involves fewer women's roles than men. If a woman is involved in this type of novel, then her portrayal is almost stereotypical and has little role. This type of novel is a much-loved reading for men because male characters are dominant and involves many male worlds. The fantasy novel is a novel that tells unrealistic and impossible events in everyday life. The characteristic elements, settings, and plots used are not realistic so it cannot be used to convey the author's idea. The concepts and ideas are clearly conveyed in the form of a fantastic story that does not correspond to daily life.

More specifically, Sumardjo and Saini (1986) categorize novels based on their fictional elements: plot novels, character novel, and thematic novel. First, novel plot emphasizes the structure of the story or the development of events. This novel usually describes a lot of tension because it tells a set of incidents. Second, the character novel emphasizes the character traits character of the characters, such as coward, lazy, humorous, angry, easily desperate, easily discouraged, and so forth. Last, the thematic novel that emphasizes the theme or subject matter.

Meanwhile, Goldman (in Saraswati, 2003) grouped the novels in general into three types: abstract idealism novels, psychological novels (romance of despair), and educational novels (pedagogical).

### 3. The Functions of Novel

Basically, a novel is a story that contains human life in which cannot escape from a conflict. This makes the authors hope that novel can be benefited to readers. In addition, literature can serve as works of art that can be used as entertaining writing. This is in accordance with the opinion of Warren (in Nurgiyantoro, 1994) which states that a work of fiction means enjoying the story and amusing readers to obtain inner satisfaction.

Furthermore, Agustien, Mulyani, and Sulistiono (1999) describe several functions of literary works, in this case is novel. They are recreational, aesthetic, morality, and religious. Recreational function, i.e. literature can provide a fun entertainment for readers. It can be said a novel has this function when it is able to direct or educate its readers because of the values of truth and goodness contained in it. Meanwhile, aesthetic function can be reached when literature is able to give beauty to its readers. The function of morality is when literature is able to provide knowledge to its readers so as to know good and bad morals, and religious function is when the literature contains religious teachings that can be followed by literary readers.

However, Semi (1993: 20-21) describes the function of literary works in it including novels, as an important tool for thinkers to move the reader to reality and help him take a decision when experiencing a problem, as a balance of science and technology, as a means to continue the tradition of a nation in a positive sense, and as a place where human values are given a natural place, maintained and disseminated.

Based on those literary functions above, essentially literary works, in this case novel, give much benefit to the readers, both as a means of entertainment and as a means of educating. It educates people to be more moral and respectful of human beings, imitate the religious teachings that are in it, and can make people aware to continue the noble tradition of the nation.

### **B. Moral Values**

Value comes from the Latin, '*valere*' is literally meaning good or bad which then means everything that is liked, desired, aspired and agreed upon (Hamidy, 2007). Value is in the conscience and mind as a belief. Values must be nurtured continuously as an aspect of the obligation problem that arise ups and downs.

Hamid (2007: 4) says the concept of value is closely related to goodness, which exists in an object-subject. It may be that objects are good but not valuable to a person in a particular context. So, the good is more attached to the 'object', or to the context while the value shows in one's attitude towards something good. There is a value pursued as a means (medial value), there is also a value pursued for its own value (final value). Furthermore, universal values apply to all human beings whenever and wherever, such as human rights, but particular values apply only to certain groups of people or on certain occasions, such as "the value of a speech." Eternal values apply whenever and wherever, such as religious freedom, which means that all human beings are free from coercion either from individuals or from social groups or a human force, so that no one should be forced to act contrary to their faith.

Meanwhile, etymologically, moral according to Hamid (2007) comes from the Latin word '*mores*' derived from the syllable '*mos*'. *Mores* means customs, behavior, character, which then means developing as a habit in good behavior. Furthermore, the moral notion in KBBI (Indonesian Dictionary, 2008) is the generally accepted teaching of good deeds about attitudes, duties, and minds.

Moral in fact speaks of the question of right or wrong, what needs to be done and abandoned for certain causes which lead to the "judgment" of the public regarding the actions that have been done by an individual. Moral considerations depend on the circumstances that frame the individual. For example, social systems, social classes, and beliefs are shared. Human morality is an awareness of good, bad about a prohibition, about what to do, in every act of human beings indirectly burdened by moral responsibility that must always be obeyed. The prevailing morality in society is binding on every individual in all walks of life. Every individual in behaving and socializing in society must pay attention to the existing order. In addition to doing what is assigned to him by his social self and by his personal fate.

In other words, moral relativity points to the fact that the prevailing moral norms in different cultures and societies are not the same as the others. Due to cultural messages that differ from society to society, the moral norms also vary. It is called cultural relativity. Moral values will govern the attitude of life about good and bad. This means that moral consciousness based on human agents will always be realized to whom and wherever.

Moreover, Kohlberg as quoted in Asri (2008) says moral reasoning emphasizes the reason why an action is done, rather than just the meaning of an action, so it can be judged whether the action is good or bad.

Thus, it can be said that the notion of moral is value that is generally accepted about the deeds, attitudes, obligations, and character. Moral values are messages that stem from messages of humanity, about universal good and bad messages.

### **C. Moral Values in Literary Works**

#### **1. Definition of Moral in Literary Works**

In studying moral traits, people will usually be directed to examine literary works especially the problem of moral approach. According to Sidi and Jeck (in Sikana, 1986), the approach often used in a novel is a moral approach.

Moral value in a literary work is not spared from the author's knowledge and understanding of morals. Basically, the value stems from the norm, because only by standing on the norm one can get value. From the notions of morality encompassed by experts, it can be concluded that the moral is a messaging system that regulates how humans should behave well in life. This means that morals always be the guidance underlying every action of human beings so as not to get out of control in doing and behaving.

Moral understanding in literature itself is not different from the moral sense in general, which is about the bad-good values are generally accepted and based on the values of humanity. Moral in literary works is usually intended as a

guide and advice that is practical for the reader in everyday life. In this case, Kenny in Nurgiyantoro (2009: 321) states that the moral of the story is usually intended as a suggestion related to certain practical moral teachings, which can be taken or interpreted through the story concerned with the reader. It is a "clue" deliberately given by the author about various matters relating to behavior and social manners. It is practical because the "clue" can be displayed, or found in the model, in real life, as the model shown in the story is through the attitude and behavior of its characters. According Sayuti (2000), the moral story is usually intended as a piece of moral advice that is rather practical that can be taken from a story.

Moreover, literary works are written by the author to offer an idealized life model. Literary works contain moral application in the attitude and behavior of the characters in accordance with the view of morals. It is based on the moral message conveyed through the fictional story would have a different effect than those through nonfiction writing (Nurgiyantoro, 2009).

From above explanation, it can be summed up that the moral is a concept of life in the form of suggestions or meanings contained in a story, addressed to the reader. Based on the understanding of a particular theme, moral in literary works can be viewed as a message. The element of the message is the idea that becomes the basis of writing a work, the idea underlying the creation of literary works as a supporter of the message.



## **2. Moral Type in Literary Works**

When the works of fiction contain and offer moral to the reader, of course, there are several types and forms of moral teachings are ordered. In the long work of fiction there is often more than one moral message. It is not yet based on the consideration and interpretation of the reader which may also differ in terms of number and type. The type and embodiment of the moral message contained in the literary work will depend on the beliefs, wishes, and interests of the author (Nurgiyantoro, 2009).

The type or form of the moral message contained in the literary work will depend on the beliefs, desires, and interests of the author concerned. The type of moral teaching itself can cover the infinite problem. It can cover the whole issue of life, all issues concerning human dignity and prestige. Broadly speaking, the issues of life and human life can be distinguished into the problems of internal of human, human relationships with other people in the social sphere, including its relationship with the natural environment, and human relationships with God (Nurgiyantoro, 2009). It is similar with what is proposed by Daroesa (1986) that moral is used to assess human action which includes four aspects of livelihood. The four aspects of life include the relationship human with God, human relationships with himself, and human relationships with the natural environment around. It can be said that in essence literature is closely related to religion, social and individual.

The behavior of human relations with himself is defined in all forms of moral teaching that relates to the individual as a person who shows the existence

of the individual with various attitudes attached to him. Human problems with himself (Nurgiyantoro, 2009) can be various types and levels of intensity. Human problems with humans in everyday life cannot be separated from God. A human remembers God by performing worship according to religious teachings he embraced. Rasjidi (1984: 33) states that man is a religious being in the sense that he worships God, performs rituals or worship and ceremonies to ask forgiveness and regret himself. Human behavior with God is reflected in the individual in living life with all the problems. Any action in human life will not be separated from God as the creator of nature and its contents including all creatures. Human relationship with God is done by praying or another form that shows a vertical relationship with the Almighty in order to seek guidance, help or as a form of gratitude.

Meanwhile, in human relationships with other human beings in social life, there is often a friction of interest. The issue of human life with the environment can be a positive problem or a negative issue. Given that humans are essentially social creatures that need each other, including relationships with the environment around as completeness in life sometimes cause various problems. Friction of interests (rights and obligations) that arise between an individual with another individual as well as with the environment, will usually lead to moral problems. Moral problems generally lead to disagreement with the moral principles themselves Haricahyono (1995).

As noted above, things in literature will always deal with man's problems with God, in relation to oneself, and in relation to other humans or nature.

#### **D . Relevant Previous Research**

Researches related to values in a literary work, especially moral values has been studied previously. Some of them are a paper prepared by Dewi Sasmita from the Indonesian Language and Literature Study Program of Islamic University of Riau in 2010, entitled *Analisis Nilai-nilai Moral Dalam Novel Kidung Karya Mohamad Sobary*. In this study, the researcher discusses three issues: the relationship of morals and responsibility, the relationship of morals and conscience, and the relationship of morals and obligations. This study discusses the moral values contained in a novel.

Then, the moral study that has been done is also in the form of a paper entitled *Nilai-Nilai Moral Dalam Cerita Remaja Minggu Pagi* (1999) conducted by Sri Haryanti. This study concludes that there are seven moral values in this short story. The moral values are affection, generosity, counsel, responsibility, patience, conscience, and piety.

The difference between previous studies and this research is in terms of the title, the object of the study, the setting of the story, and the different novels. Thus, this study can be said as a follow-up study.