

Analysis of Social Values in the Novel Surat Kecil Untuk Dewa Karya  
Agnes Davonar and its use in learning Indonesian

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| ARTICLE INFO  | ABSTRACT   |
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| <b>Published:</b> 16-07-2024                              | <i>Literary works are works of art created using language, such as prose, poetry, novels or drama, with the aim of expressing certain ideas, emotions, experiences or views. Literary works not only function as mere entertainment, but also often have deep aesthetic, philosophical or social critical value. Literary works also reflect the culture and era in which they were created, and can influence readers' thoughts and feelings. In fact, this is a literary work that conveys reality and truth, namely the novel Small Letters for God by Agnes Davonar. In this novel, it tells the story of the struggle of a teenager who suffers from stage 3 rhabdomyosarcoma cancer and he has to undergo chemotherapy. Even though he knew that his illness was very serious, he still had extraordinary enthusiasm to live his life to be healthy again. In this regard, the writer was interested in writing an article entitled Analysis of the Social Values of the Novel Surat Kecil untuk God by Agnes Davonar. The aim of writing this article is to explain social values that can be applied in the school or community environment and to imply social values for learning Indonesian. The social values that will be analyzed in this novel are courage, empathy and forgiveness, the importance of family, loyalty and friendship, respect for life and religiosity and spirituality. This research uses qualitative methods in the form of data in the form of words, phrases, sentences and dialogues used. The source for this research was taken from the novel Small Letters for God published by Inandra Publisher which was printed in 2012.</i> |
| <b>Keywords:</b> : sosial value, novel, Theory of Zubaedi |  |

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## INTRODUCTION

Literary works are human access to express and express feelings, experiences, enthusiasm and thoughts through real writing from someone's imagination. Literary works are born from the reality of life in society which is then made as beautiful as possible. Like the teachings of the Chinese, there are two types of literature, namely literature containing entertainment and literature containing teaching. Literature is highly valued by the Chinese because it contains elements that can advance a person's thoughts and morals.

Literary works reflect the complexity of humans, culture and context. Through literature, authors often convey thoughts, emotions, experiences, and ideas that go beyond their personal desires. Literature is also a means of conveying messages, building relationships, and influencing readers' worldview. In many cases, literature is a mirror of the society and era in which it was created, recording the values, conflicts and aspirations that characterize human life (Widiyanto, 2024).

Social values are beliefs that apply in society and serve as guidance for society. There are several social values that must be applied in society, such as courage, empathy and forgiveness, the importance of family, loyalty and friendship, respect for life and religiosity and spirituality. With these social values, humans have a humanitarian spirit towards others.

This made the writer interested in taking up the article entitled Analysis of Social Values in the Novel Surat Kecil untuk God by Agnes Davonar and its Implications for Learning Indonesian because in this novel there are social values that can be applied in the school environment and in society and these social values are related to courage, empathy and forgiveness, the importance of family, loyalty and friendship, respect for life and religiosity and spirituality

## **METHOD**

This research uses a method in the form of valid and factual data, namely using qualitative research methods. According to Syahputra (2020:6) qualitative research is research that produces several findings that cannot be achieved using statistical procedures or other methods of quantification (measurement). Qualitative is research that only uses data to provide an interpretation of the results. According to Arikunto (2006:12) the qualitative descriptive method can also be called problem solving by describing or depicting a subject or object of research such as novels, dramas, short stories and poetry.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### Discovery 1. Courage

"Keke, now you are starting to grow up. This means you have to be able to look after yourself well, keep remembering what your father said" (Davonar, 2012:95) Data analysis:

The quote above shows that Keke must have the courage to continue to take good care of herself because she has started menstruating and is starting to grow up.

### 2. Empathy

"Fadha shouted at me to pass the ball to him, but my head felt a little dizzy so I failed. My eyes are dim. Suddenly Maya approached me and said, "Ke, your nose is bleeding..." (Davonar,2012:34)

Data analysis:

From the data excerpt above, we can see that when people who have high empathy see other people in trouble or experiencing disaster, they feel anxious because they can feel what other people feel. Not everyone has a high level of empathy when someone is in trouble or a disaster occurs, there are some people who can only look after rather than help, and are

happy when they see someone in trouble. From the data excerpt above, it can be seen that Maya's character has a high level of empathy. When Maya saw that her friend Keke was sick, Maya immediately met Keke and saw that Keke's nose was bleeding and felt worried.

3. The Importance of Family "I don't understand what happened but my father's face looked sad. At that moment Dad knelt down following my height. He looked at me with a face full of worry and then suddenly hugged me. In the middle of the night that day, I saw my father in tears while hugging me in the room, but I pretended to be asleep" (Davonar, 2012:43).

Data analysis:

The quote above explains the importance of family. Keke's father loves him very much Keke. This was seen when Keke's father found out that his daughter was suffering from cancer. Keke's father was very sad and worried about Keke's condition while hugging Keke tightly. This is an attitude of care, affection and the importance of the role of parents towards their children. (Widiyanto, 2023).

#### 4. Loyalty

"I could only hold back my tears when my friends appeared at that time. Suddenly my homeroom teacher appeared. He came to me gently and suggested I rest in the UKS room. My other friends went back to class except Fadha who got the chance to look after me." (Davonar, 2012:128).

Data analysis:

The quote above shows that Fada is a friend who faithfully accompanies Keke to take her to the school health unit. Keke tells Fadha that her cancer has returned. Hearing this news, Fadha really cried and comforted Keke. When Keke underwent treatment in Singapore, Keke's friends felt lonely because they didn't have enough friends. After receiving a telephone call from her father that Keke was coming home, they greeted Keke with great emotion when they arrived at the airport.

#### 5. Friendship

"Sometimes I share with my friends what I can, including teaching how to read the Koran to my friends who can't yet." (Davonar, 2012:11) Data analysis:

From the snippet of data above, it can be concluded how important friendship is, sharing and helping each other in both difficult and happy times. Sharing knowledge with friends is a good deed and can ease a little of their difficulties, from those who initially didn't know they understood. That is the meaning of friends loving each other, protecting and sharing joy and sorrow.

6. Awards in life "It's okay to get a B title, after all, if you want A or B, the aim of the LDKS is not to compete for grades. But to make us more united." Data analysis:

The quote above shows a form of appreciation or appreciation for Fadha to remain enthusiastic and not give up.

## CONCLUSION

The social values of courage, empathy, respect for life, loyalty, and the importance of family are such that these values are an important foundation in building a harmonious and sustainable society. The social value of courage strengthens individuals to face challenges and overcome obstacles in life. On a social level, courage strengthens the spirit of collaboration and solidarity, because when someone dares to stand up for the truth or to defend the weak, it inspires others to follow in their footsteps. The social value of empathy, the ability to feel and understand the feelings of others, is the foundation of empathy.

This value helps in building strong relationships between individuals and promotes tolerance and understanding among diverse groups in society. Social Values Respect in Life Respecting moral values, ethics and hard work is important for building a just and prosperous society. Appreciation of individual effort and respect for diversity of cultures and beliefs strengthen social bonds. The social value of loyalty creates a basis for trust and stability in personal and professional relationships.

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