

A RELATIONSHIPS OF WOMEN AND NATURAL WITH KHAZANAH CULTURE AND HUMANITIES

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ABSTRACT

Preservation of the natural environment is the main stream in every development activity carried out. Various parties maintain the natural environment so that it remains sustainable, starting from the government, campuses, non-governmental organizations, to environmentalists who campaign in various forms of culture and literature. This discussion is the aim of research on the role of women in protecting the natural environment so that it remains sustainable. The data to be collected comes from source text of quotations or statements that refer to attitudes or statements containing ecological elements by female characters in literary works. The relationship between women and the natural environment is personified like an inanimate object, but not an object to be dominated and exploited. This condition encourages humans to interact with the natural environment and women always maintain harmony in egalitarian relationships. Literary works act as triggers to raise people's cultural awareness of various natural environmental issues that arise. In addition, literary works can be a reflection of social life. Various events that arise in life become a source of inspiration. The natural environment is the center for the birth of several poems, poems, short stories, novels

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1. INTRODUCTION

Environmental issues are crucial to be discussed at this time. Various responses from experts highlight the various impacts of environmental damage which are increasingly worrying for the survival of humans and other living things. The natural environment is polluted as a result of industrial activities that do not accurately estimate environmental impacts, illegal mining, illegal timber theft and even exploitative fishing contribute to environmental damage. The pace of modernization of human life in all fields through the use of technology that is not environmentally friendly is accelerating the destruction of the natural environment. This condition even causes climate change which is very influential for life on earth (Yuniawan, et al, 2014).

Indonesia as a country with a high level of biodiversity also feels the impact of damage to the natural environment. The abundant natural wealth that stretches from Sumatra to Papua, fertile soil, dense forests, abundant marine products, clusters of mangrove forests, coral reefs emphasize Indonesia's natural wealth. This condition makes Indonesia the country with the largest biodiversity in the world after Brazil (Muchlisin, 2009). The high biodiversity is not necessarily able to prosper all regions in Indonesia. In fact, environmental damage is still found due to human exploitation.

Concern for the natural environment continues to be encouraged, including in Indonesia. The campaign for the preservation of the natural environment is the main stream in every development activity carried out. Various parties participate in the campaign to keep the natural environment beautiful, starting from the government, campuses, non-governmental organizations, to environmentalists who campaign in the form of culture and literature. This is stated in various forms that tell a close relationship in the meaning contained between the two. This variety of discussion is the purpose of writing to be discussed, given the important role of women in maintaining ecosystems so that they remain sustainable. The role of women is manifested in forms of struggle that are told in various contemporary cultural and literary works.

2. METHODS

Research Approach

The approach taken in this study uses a qualitative descriptive approach with collect, process, reduce, analyze and present data objectively or in accordance with the facts in the field to obtain data (Moleong, 2000). Searching for data and information is carried out to find out and understand sequentially the relations of women and the natural environment in cultural and literary treasures. The data to be collected comes from source text of quotations or statements that refer to attitudes or statements containing ecological elements by female characters in literary works. Collection of literary works that tell about the struggle of women in carrying out actions of concern for the natural environment which are analyzed with relevant literature.

Data Collection and Analysis Techniques

Data collection techniques used in this study using reading techniques and note-taking techniques. The reading technique is carried out by examining references that are relevant to this study. The note-taking technique is carried out after reading which is followed by identifying texts that contain the existence and struggles of women, especially women's relations to nature and the natural environment.

Data analysis was used through the stages: making research instruments, as planners, collecting data, analyzing data, reviewing data, and collecting results to make conclusions.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Environmental Relations and Women

From a cultural and literary perspective, the natural environment can be embodied in various stories contained in poetry, prose and drama. All the elements that exist in the natural environment and women are able to inspire the emergence of literary works (Juanda, 2018). There is a speech content which contains the intention of carrying out mutually beneficial two-way communication.

The natural environment is personified like women's social life, so that the mention of the word "Mother Earth" is often an equivalent term for the earth as a dimension of life (Juanda, 2018). The portrait of a woman's life that is smooth, gentle and dominant in feelings becomes a symbol of her nature. Women as beings who occupy a position that must be maintained, cared for in order to create a balanced condition for survival together. In line with this, if the earth is damaged, not cared for, and even treated arbitrarily, it will have a damaging impact on human survival itself.

The existence of the relationship between women and the natural environment is an effective combination of feminine values that are inherent between the elements of tenderness and the benefits derived from the natural environment. Aspects of femininity inherent in women are able to organize life and take good care of family members. The role of women is so urgent, encouraging women to always maintain balance, both inside and outside the home. Women are role models for families because women's strategic role can be a place of education. The natural environment and women look after, care for and need each other.

Manifestations of the relationship between the natural environment and women have been intertwined for a long time. Various writings in the form of literary works that tell the harmonious relationship between women and the natural environment. Women are able to take advantage of the benefits available in the natural environment by looking after and caring for each other so they don't injure each other.

Women's Concern for the Natural Environment in Literary Works

Referring to the reader's response theory describing the activities carried out by the reader can produce the expected life order (Haerudin, 2014: 4-5). The reader will automatically identify and enrich something that is in him, both his feelings and emotions and views about other lives that he does not have. The resulting literary works often explain the good order of life. Taine's opinion cited in (Fananie, 2000: 116-117), literature is not just works that are imaginative and personal, but can also be a reflection or recording of culture.

Literary works contain moral implementation in the attitudes and behavior of the characters that are relevant to ethical and moral values. The existence of behavior patterns will radiate wisdom and moral values that are published to the reading public. Not always the writer clearly demonstrates moral values to the reader. In other words, readers are expected to be able to absorb the messages contained in literary works.

Readers are able to guide their own understanding to seek the moral values contained therein. Narrative descriptions arranged in sentences have described the complete and intact structured moral order of a group of people which are interconnected with various aspects of life. Literary works in the form of novels have discussed women's concern for the natural environment. Ayu Utami as a novelist in *Manjali* and Cakrabirawa, Particle by Dewi Lestari, *Amba* by Laksmi (Wiyatmi, 2017). The novelist of *Chemistry Cinta* in Wakatobi, Dedi Oedji has clearly described his experience working for an international NGO dealing with environmental conservation activities in Wakatobi.

This novel tells the story of the struggle of women in Wakatobi to escape the dominance of the patriarchal structure in the socio-cultural construction of society. Resistance to the stigma of women who are conditioned as subordinate beings who in fact bring changes to their people by carrying out underwater preservation (Wiyatmi, 2017). Concern for the destruction of the underwater environment, which is mostly carried out by men, is related to the domination of patriarchal structures in the relationship between the natural environment (men) and women.

The literary works described above are capable of acting as triggers to raise public cultural awareness of various natural environmental issues that arise. In addition, literary works can be a reflection of social life. Various events that arise in life become a source of inspiration. The natural environment is the center for the birth of several poems, poems, short stories, novels. Writers who use metaphors make the natural environment part of their work, such as: analogizing forests, seas and mountains as sources of inspiration that can convey moral messages to readers (Endaswara, 2016).

Women's concern for the natural environment can be seen in the novel *Aroma Karsa* by Dee Lestari. This novel tells the story of the character Raras Prayagung who has the ambition to reach the Puspita Karsa plant in order to fulfill his grandmother's request. Raras's ambition is to own the plant first before the plant is discovered by inappropriate people (Lestari, 2018). The presence of another central female figure is Tanaya Suma. The three central female characters in this novel become important subjects about women and liberation. Women are transformed into subjects and not objects, they try to abolish hierarchy and patriarchal culture, which so far have often been placed as objects. The form of activity that emerges from this figure gives a deep meaning to the struggle of women in the feminist movement.

Ecofeminism exists as a perspective and social movement that focuses human behavior on the relationship between the natural environment and women. The natural environment is personified like a woman, an inanimate object, but not an object to be dominated and exploited. This condition encourages humans to interact with the natural environment and women always maintain harmony in egalitarian relationships. No one is allowed to be treated as inferior, marginal and subordinated. The eco-feminism movement encourages changes in human culture in realizing values of equality, balance and developing the humanistic side of men and women so that they have the same responsibility to preserve the natural environment.

4. CONCLUSION

The existence of the relationship between women and the natural environment is an effective combination of feminine values that are inherent between the elements of tenderness and the benefits derived from the natural environment. Manifestation of the relationship between the natural environment and women in the form of literary works that tell about the harmonious relationship between women and the natural environment. Women are able to take advantage of the benefits available in the natural environment by looking after and caring for each other so they don't injure each other. The moral messages contained are in the form of metaphors to make the natural environment part of his work, such as: analogous to forests, seas and mountains as sources of inspiration that can convey moral messages to readers. The presence of central female figures becomes an important subject about women and liberation from patriarchal structures that cause damage to the natural environment. Women are transformed into subjects and not objects and try to abolish hierarchy and patriarchal culture, which so far have often been placed as objects.

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