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# The symbolic meaning of "Punakawan Javanese Wayang" (a value imaging study in character education at the character education course in STKIP Bina Insan Mandiri Surabaya)

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Abstract: This study aims to examine the image of figures of clowns in Javanese puppetry in order to enhance the values in character education of students in the world of education through symbolic meaning. This proves that education without character and character has been considered to fail to educate the nation's children. Many school graduates and scholars who are good at answering exam questions, have intelligent minds, but mentally weak, timid, and behavior is not commendable and do prohibited acts. With image theory and symbols in the puppet the author conducted an analysis to examine the image of the clown who then got the symbol of punokawan in Javanese wayang. This study uses interpretive descriptive methods and literature using image and symbol theory. The research used in this study has the purpose of understanding the phenomena experienced by the research subject. The results of this study can be formulated that the image of figures of Javanese puppets is symbolic, ie clowns in Javanese wayang as servants who have exemplary attitudes (honesty, fairness, not ging up / despair, and a high sense of nationalism) that are very necessary and implied in the value of character education. Character education in the subject of character education for students, especially students of STKIP Bina Insan Mandiri Surabaya, is more encouraging to be socialized to all academics so that they can create a generation that is of good quality in terms of intellectual, personality and character in the future.

Keywords: symbolic meaning, Javanese puppet clowns, value imaging studies, STKIP BIM character education

The development of education carried out in Indonesia needs to pay attention to the concept of learning and learning. In this era of globalization, it illustrates a turning point in the development of human civilization. This is indicated by the growth of awareness of values. Even for the scientific field which was once considered to be slue-free, today there are many positions and roles of value. Regarding the role of values, character education should bring

learners to cognitive value recognition, affective value appreciation, and ultimately to actual values. The current problem of character education needs to get a response that is so great considering that the morale of the nation is getting more damaged, alternative solutions must be sought immediately and it needs to be developed more operationally so that it is easily implemented.

Character education is education that prioritizes in terms of character which always involves aspects of knowledge, feelings, and actions. So with character education, a child will become emotionally intelligent. Emotional intelligence is also a very important provision to meet life in the future. Podhorsky & Moore (2006) states that education should be interpreted as an effort to create programs which include values that focus on improving teaching and learning practices, not solely focusing on designing classes with teacher proof curriculum. This value has also been applied to every packaged science study through the curriculum. The 2013 revised curriculum that is currently developing has given proportional attention to the dimensions of cognitive, effective, and psychomotor.

Speaking of value values have a relationship that is closely related to culture. There are three forms of culture, namely: (1) the form of culture as a complex of ideas, ideas, values, norms, and regulations; (2) the form of culture as a complex pattern of activities and actions from within the community; (3) the form of culture as objects produced by humans (Koentjaraningrat, 2002: 187). Bina Insan Mandiri Surabaya College of Teacher Training and Education (STKIP BIM) is a formal educational institution at the university level. Graduates from STKIP BIM become graduates of education whose main task is to educate the sons and daughters of the nation to always do truth, goodness, and beauty. Implementation in the implementation of values whose success can be estimated from a number of behaviors on a particular value topic.

# REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Wayang has gained international recognition from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) since 7. November 2003 as "Master Piece of Oral Intangible Heritage of Humanity". Puppet has a function and symbolic meaning as a philosophical piwulang, education, moral teachings, noble taste appreciation and great benefits for human life in order to be able to distinguish between good and evil. Based on the above problems, the author wants to conduct research activities by combining approaches to the learning process with symbolic meaning in value imaging that leads to character education. The research activity was entitled: Symbolic Meaning "Punakawan Javanese Wayang "(A Value Imaging Study in Character Education on Courses. Personal Education in STKIP Bina Insan Mandiri Surabaya.

Symbol theory according to Suwaji Bastomi (1992: 55), a symbol or symbol in Javanese culture is a reference for behaving and has a function as a guide that gives direction to the experience of human life. This is a study of value imaging that has complex meanings in character education. Character education is generally summarized in the subject matter. The subject of character education is a course that provides more insight into values, norms, morals, and their implementation in character education especially in the STKIP Bina Insan Mandiri Surabaya environment.

#### Punakawan in Puppet

In puppet art there are many life stories presented. The puppet art connoisseurs must be familiar with life stories taken from these ancient literary works, ranging from the Ramayana story to the Mahabarata. Not only that, every puppet show must also have a moral message to be conveyed by a puppeteer. The puppeteer is the person who plays the puppet show in a show. Likewise with the four puppet characters where packaged into pirates in Javanese wayang. The four figures of the cleric consisted of Semar and his three children, including Gareng, Petruk, and Bagong. The Punakawan are shown as funny cheerful groups with their typical humor to melt the atmosphere. In addition, Punakawan also has their own character which is certainly worth exploring deeper into each character presented.

#### Semar

Semar is one of the characters who is always present in the Punakawan, narrated as the main character servant of the story Sahadewa of the Pandawa family. The head and view of Semar always face up. This actually contains a philosophy that describes human life in order to always remember the power (God). The cloth that was used as a shirt by Semar, namely the Semangkusumorojo patterned Semar which is an embodiment, in order to worship the banowo or always uphold justice and truth on earth. In Javanese spiritual circles, Semar is considered a symbol of the Oneness.

### Gareng

Gareng in Javanese puppet stories is a adopted child of Semar. Gareng has one limp leg. This teaches philosophy in life so that it is always careful when acting and behaving. In a story, Gareng was once a king, but because of his arrogance, he challenged every knight who came to see him and every time in a fight, they were always balanced. Gareng, who has a short stature, always walks down his gaze. This indicates caution in behaving and behaving.

#### Petruk

Petruk is described as a person who likes to joke and joke, both through speech and behavior. As a clownman, Petruk is a person who can nurture, can keep things a secret, always be a good listener, and always benefit others.

#### Bagong

Bagong's figure is depicted as short, fat, but his eyes and mouth are so wide, which depicts his presumptuous yet honest and powerful character. This one puppet character also reminded that humans in the world have various characters and behaviors.

#### Imaging Value

The definition of value is often called value, the term value is usually translated into Indonesian into a value and can be interpreted as a price (Mulyana, 2004: 7). Tracking the reality of this value can be done by observing a person's tendency to behave. From various views on value classification, it is necesory to discuss instrumental and terminal values closely with character education, especially in the College of Teacher Training and Education Bina Insan Mandiri Surabaya (STKIP BIM), because it views that human values can be demonstrated by means of behave or behavior results

# Value Sources developed in Character Inducation.

The values developed in nati 111 character education are identified from the following sources, namely (MONE, 2010: 8): (1) Religion: Indonesian people are religious communities. The results of this activity will be able to grow the character education values in themselves

through various learning activities that occur in learning classes especially in the STKIP Bina Insan Mandiri Surabaya environment.

Character education originating from puppet or folklore is also developed in the curriculum to teath students about the important characteristics needed to build character. Almerico stated, "Good literature with character development themes has the power to develop, shape, and reinforce essential dispositions for instilling in many important core ethical values" (Almerico, 2014: 3). In his presentation, Almerico included folklore as one of the teaching materials that could be used as an alternative as a character education tool.

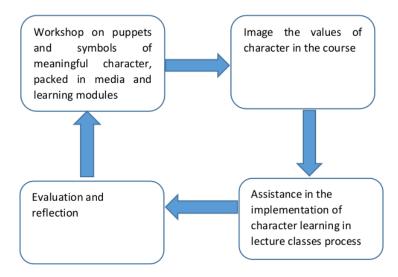
#### Subjects of Character

In principle, the development of the values of character education is one of the nation's efforts in self-development, and culture in the academic environment. The development of the character education value is packaged in subjects of character education, which are compulsory institutions in the STKIP Bina Insan Mandiri Surabaya environment. These processes are intended to develop the ability of students to carry out social activities as social beings with noble character.

The author makes use of various relevant theories by analyzing the results of previous studies that have relevance to this research. The results of previous research findings are:

- a. Aulia Fajri Purnamasari Surakarta IAIN 2013 concerning Character Value Investment Efforts through Wayang's Figure and It's Impact on Religion Behavior of Students in Purworejo 18 State SMP. Efforts to plant character values were examined through wayang figures through learning.
- b. Arief Hidayatullah majoring in madrasah teachers at the Faculty of Science and Teacher Training at UIN SUNAN KALIJAGA 2013 concerning Character Education Values in the Wayang Semar Character. This research is due to concerns about the increasing moral decline in the nation's generation caused by the crisis of each individual's character.
- c. Imam setiawan majoring in Islamic Education, Tarbiyh and Science Faculty
- Teacher Training of SALATIGA IAIN 2016 about Value of Education in the Story of Ruci Godding Leather Stories. This research basically looks at education that took place in the era of globalization which brought the current of modernization in the changes and progress of the Indonesian nation.
- d. Youpika, F. & Zuchdi, D. 2016 concerning the Value of Character Edigation from Folklore, Pasemah Bengkulu and its Relevance as Literary Learning Materials. This study aims to describe the values of character education contained in the story, and to find out its relevance as literature learning material in schools.

Picture 1 Research Road Map



#### RESEARCH METHOD

## Type of research

In this study, researchers used qualitative research methods with a descriptive qualitative approach. According to Moleong (2014: 6), qualitative research is research that has the stention to understand what phenomena are experienced by the research subject. Through this qualitative research, descriptive data collected is in the form of words, images, and not numbers (Sugiyono, 2015: 283). In qualitative research, humans play important roles as instruments. In conducting research, researchers themselves are the main data collection tools in the form of observations, interviews, or document review.

## Research Data

The data in this study were collected by natural settings on the performance of puppet shows with various respondents such as puppeteers, sinden, rapper, talent and puppet crew, to describe the image of values in character education from symbolic meanings in Javanese puppet characters in the course environment of STKIP Bina Insan Mandiri Surabaya. When viewed from the data source, the following data collection is in the form of words that will be arranged narratively and in the form of images, where this will be able to clarify and strengthen the data obtained previously. Furthermore, when viewed in terms of methods or techniques of data collection, researchers used the method of observation, interviews, and documentation.

# **Data Collection Techniques**

12 qualitative research, making notes is indeed necessary to use as an ingredient in making data analysis. Making notes can be done when conducting interviews or even while still conducting interviews and observations, Mustafa (2009: 93). (3) Documentation comes from the word dokume which means written goods. Using the documentation method mans collecting data by recording existing data. According to Sugiyono (2012: 329) said that the document is a record of events that have passed. Documents can be in the form of writing, drawing, or work of

someone. So that it is clear the symbolic meaning of imaging values in character education in Javanese puppet characters, especially in the environment of STKIP Bina Insan Mandiri Surabaya as an implementation of the subject of character education.

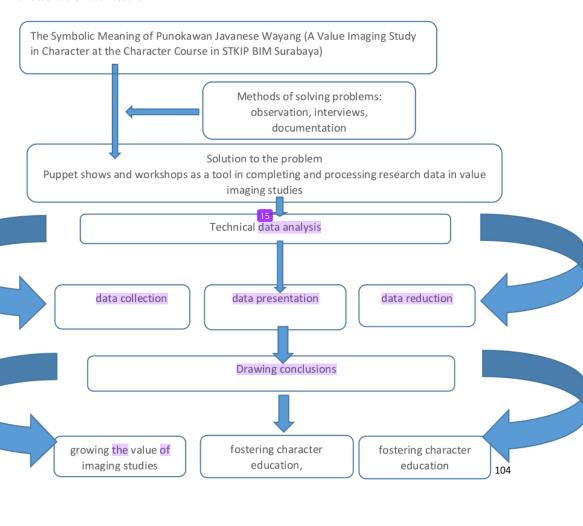
## Legality Tota Data checking

To test the validity of the data in this study using an extension of observation and triangulation to test the truth of the data obtained from the study. In order to obtain complete data in the performance. So that it has a very clear symbolic meaning in imaging values in character education in Javanese puppet experts, especially in the environment of STKIP Bina Insan Mandiri Surabaya as an implementation of the subject of character education.

#### **Data Analysis Techniques**

Bogdan & Biklen in Moleong (2014: 248) explained that in carrying out data analysis, of course, the process of data collection in the field through field notes, reading or studying data, gathering, sorting, and then thinking by making the data category so can have symbolic meanings in imaging values in character education in Javanese puppet experts, especially in the environment of STKIP Bina Insan Mandiri Surabaya as an implementation of the subject of character education.

#### Flowchart of the research



Based on the fowchart above the data analysis will be certainly passed. The process of data collection in the field through field notes, reading or studying data, collecting it, sorting it out, and then thinking by making the data categories so that they can have symbolic meaning in the imaging values in character education at Javanese wayang especially in the environment of STKIP Bina Insan Mandiri Surabaya. It is as an implementation of the subject of character education.

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