

## The Islamic Values Representations of Female Main Character in Novels by Habiburrahman El-Shirazy

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### Abstract

Habiburrahman El-Shirazy's novel presence reveals aesthetic values and is expected to realize its universal values in social life, as for example the values of religion, education, moral, ethic, social, and etc. His works contain religious valued endeavors, to present Islamic teaching instilled into each character, both male and female. The problems are how the attitude of the main female character is, how Islamic values of the novels is, and how to represent Islamic teachings of the novel. The research method used covers extrinsic approach by combining the literature and its thought (Wellek and Austin Warren), data and other data sources, its data collection, validity, and technique of data analyzing. The findings are the attitude of the main character is pious, obedient to her husband, parents, eager to study, responsible, generous, and handy. The values are found are *aqidah*, the worship values, its values and Islamic teaching representations are; *Aqidah (ilahiyyat, prophecy, ruhaniyyat, samiyyat)*, *syariat* (mahdah worships dan ghairu mahdah worships), *Akhlak* (the righteous attitude).

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## INTRODUCTION

Novel is one of interesting literature works to review. Its presence is intended to reveal aesthetic values, and expected to create universal values in social life. It covers religious, educational, moral, ethic, social, and many other values. Novel is created by its writer bind by his ideology. It represents life, represented by its writer dealing with his life reading. Therefore, the writer tends to be obsessive to put his ideology in his works.

Writer is a part of society, creating literature works based on his life experiences into religious teaching thoughts both moral in social life which lately given to its reader or society, revealing that literature works are not born from cultural emptiness, Literature work is a part of response toward previously published literature works. Therefore, a text bind by other texts. A newly born literature work can achieve its meaningful truth in its contrary process to the previous ones. Therefore, a literature work cannot be free from its background creations, both generally and specifically. Nafiyah & Mardikantoro's work (2016) claims a woman is a part of social member to be inspiration in composing the literature. It results problems of woman social life in novel compilation, *malam sepasang lampion* which is found three woman problems in social life, they are criminality, family disorganization, and social norm problems. It gives us description the main woman character in the novel facing social problem.

The following researches done by Juminartanti & Mulyani (2017) are "self-actualizing of the main male character in the trilogy Novel of Makrifat Cinta written by Taufiqurrahman Al-Azizy". The findings are the main male character described in the novel shown by the use of characterizing theory. The character shows himself, while characterizing used to describe its nature, attitude, and feeling. The main character profile on male character are Allah believer, doing Islamic rules, socializing with pious persons, inviting to righteous path, preventing chaos and bad things, easy to apologize, obedient, generous, patient,

continually and constant worshiping, controlling desire, defending the right ones, seeking knowledge, responsible, and keeping clarity. Its relevance toward the research done is its essence of male main character of the novel.

The research done by Annisa & Indiatmoko (2017), "Yogya's cultural marital representative system in female Jogja Novel written by Achmad Munif". The research results the novel, *Perempuan Jogja*, has female stress theme, meanwhile the main character has diligent, agile, obedient, loyal, motherhood, and wise natures. The research inspires this study done to find out the main character natures.

The research of main character by Setyowati & Supriyanto (2017), "the actualizing process of main character in the sequel of *Padang Bulan dan Cinta di dalam Gelas* Novel. The findings show Enong, as the main character, has bad and good characteristics. The good side of Enong are intelligent, caring, humorous, responsible, creative, independent, tough, hard worker, high-determination, quick learning and never stop learning; meanwhile, his bad side are vengeful. It inspires toward the main character and its characterizing.

The literature work can play communicating roles to deliver rules of Islamic teaching as character and moral formation towards readers, both children and teenagers, or even adults. It teaching value transformations can be implemented to literature works, such are novel, and other literature genres.

Islamic values can be interpreted as a useful thing to perfect social life based on its nature, absolutely taken from Islamic teachings. They principally are mainly stated in Qur'an, the holly book, and life practices done by Prophet Muhammad, stated on hadists. Therefore, the Islamic teaching is everything useful and functioning to perfect human social life based on its nature and accordingly toward Islamic teachings from Al-Qur'an and the Prophet Sunnah.

Islamic teaching can be differed into three types, observance values, aqidah values, and morals values (Zulaeha, 2013). The aqidah values teach human to realize Allah, the Almighty.

Meanwhile, observance values teach human to act based on Allah allowance. The akhlak values teach human to always act well based on the appropriate and right norms, so it leads to peaceful and harmonious life. Thus, the important values are the main Islamic teachings to achieve by society are included good deeds, honesty, obedience, clarity, and moral values.

One of literature work genres, novel, is interesting to review since it represents social cultural condition and consists Islamic teachings, such as Habiburrahman El-Shirazy's novels. Those novels provides Islamic novels to foster souls. Those novels contain Islamic teachings as *bil hal* endeavors (Sakai, 2012; Alimatussa'diyah & Nuryatin, 2017).

The most phenomenal and representing Islamic teaching by the main male and female characters are lately taken as research objects takes six Habiburrahman El-Shirazy's novels (Listiwati, 2013; Musa, 2012). From those focus on main female character only. Those are example of Habiburrahman's literature works pertaining Islamic value theme. They were shown from various teaching religion instilled in every given story (Mujahidin, 2012). The characters are mostly Muslims.

Habiburrahman in his novels tends to reveal male and female charming, well hearted, simple, and obedient character and characterizing. Those descriptions of female character becomes interesting discussion and topic. Those descriptions in his literature works are always religious: pious, knowledge seeker, well attitude wife, friend, neighbor, obedient to husband and parents are clearly described in his works. It is set by his religious life, Islam. In every character shown becomes the well religious ideal, both male and female characters.

From those things become interesting topic for the researcher to choose his novels as research objects. It is arisen due to some arguments, such as: his novels are soul formation and tranquility for his reader, containing many Islamic teaching (aqidah, akhlak, syariah), providing well instilled Islamic teaching and attitude in every female character characterizing, such as *Ayat Ayat Cinta* (AAC), *Cinta Suci Zahrana* (CSZ), *Ketika Cinta*

*Bertasbih* (KCB), *Bidadari Bermata Bening* (BBB), *Cinta Pudarnya Pesona Cleopatra* (PPC), and *Setetes Embun Cinta Niyala* (SECN).

The objectives of the study are to find out the female character's nature and characterizing, Islamic teaching and the representation of Islamic values of the characters in the novel.

## METHODS

The method used covers approach, data and data source, technique of collecting data, the validity of the data, and technique of analyzing data. Dealing with the gained data, they were in the forms of sentences. Therefore, it is called as qualitative research. To collect data, the use of literature review and document analyzing technique are used. Literature review is one of collecting data techniques by learning various literature works as references in composing the report. The main data source are Habiburrahman's works.

The method used are heuristics and hermeneutics. Heuristics is the way the reader interpret literature work text through linguistics signs. It results literarily meaning understanding, explicitly, and actual. It functions to choose well physical data dealing with linguistic factors or literature forming aspects. Meanwhile, hermeneutics focuses on emerging meaning of the works Nurgiyantoro (2012); Apik Ilma Annisa & Bambang Indiatmoko (2017).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the background, the problem formulation, research objectives, and then the findings are explained and provided from the novels. The containing data in the novels is provided based on purposes, those are: to describe and explain (1) to get the main female character's nature (2) to find the Islamic teaching content (3) to get Islamic teaching representations of the literature works.

### **The Natures of the Main Female Character in Habiburrahman El-Shirazy's Novels**

The main character can be determined from its emergence frequency in the story, and clue given by the writer, the most commented character and talked by the writer, and through other characters having relations to the main character (Al-Ma'ruf, 2010; Amzar, 2016; Nawawi, 2015).

Those novels, example AAC, has Aisha and Maria; CSZ has Zahrana; KCB has Anna Athafunnisa; BBB has Ayna; PPC has Raihana, while SECN has Niyala.

Those seven main female characters are found to have similar facial characterizing. All of them are described as beautiful and charming women even their beauties are described equal to Angels. Their nature are pious, obedient to husband and parents, smart, helpful, and knowledge seeker. All characters act as Islamic akhlak suggests.

In Islam, when a girl has not married yet, then becoming obedient to parents is a must (Arnes, 2009). However, once she has married, she needs to obey her husband. Those quotations show obedience and caring natures of Anna toward her husband. And sincerely she devotes herself for her husband and prays for him.

In those novels are not only showing the characters and their characterizing, the writer also provides Islamic teachings (Abdurrazaq, 2013). The values of Islamic teachings will be discussed later.

### **The Values of Islam about Woman in the Novels Written by Habiburrahman El-Shirazy**

The discussion of Islamic values are focused on one novel, AAC. The discussion also covers other five novels. To discuss completely will be discussed then represented in Islamic teachings.

#### **1. Aqidah**

##### **a. Believe to Allah SWT**

In the novel, its value is to believe only Allah SWT is the right one to enlighten human. Allah, the Most Merciful, is closed to his believers more than their own vessels and beating hearts.

##### **b. Believe to Angels**

It is to believe the existences of Allah's angels. It is also interpreted as believing to unseen realm. In the novel, the character, Fahril, believes Angels are well attitude and nature creatures of Allah. Noura, the character, also describes Maria's help as Jibril's fortunes upon her.

##### **c. Believe to Al – Qur'an**

Al-Qur'an as the holly book of Muslims and the embodiment of Prophet Muhammad's miracle given by Allah SWT. In the novel, there are believing values, such as believing, learning, and teaching Al-Qur'an. In the novel, Al-Qur'an teachings forbid male touching female and his mahram. Al-Qur'an also admits the existence of brotherhood outside of Islamic belief and faith.

##### **d. Believe to Prophet**

As Muslims, to act must be maintained and imitate and adopt the Prophet' life as guidance. Allah loves his followers and families and Insya Allah is always given mercies upon his believers. The novels contain believing values toward Prophet, such as: to do sunnah, shalawat, for those who do it will have assistance in the days later and many of us expect it.

##### **e. Believe to the Days Later**

It is to believe the upcoming judgment day. The Islamic teaching containing in this fifth rules is stated in AAC novel, that is about believe toward the judgment day.

##### **f. Believe to Qada and Qodar**

It is to believe every determinant and facts created by Allah SWT. It is based on two kinds of destiny. First, Muallaq, in which people can change upon their efforts, example: achievements, successes, and many more. Secondly, Mubram, in which cannot be changed by people because only Allah determines it: future couple, death, and many more.

## 2. Shari'a

The novels consist Shari'a values covering observance and socializing. Shari'a is everything consisting Allah's rules to worship and socialize.

The novels consist those values, such as obligated praying: Subuh, Zhuhur, Ashar, Maghrib, Isya', and Jum'at (only for men) and other sunnah praying, such as: Tahajud, Istikharah, and Tarawih. Those values taught in the novels are to recite two syahadat clauses. Those values are suggested to seek help from Allah patiently and through praying. For women, they must obey their husbands because their ridho are heaven for wives.

Mu'amalah or socializing, it is everything about among human relationship in various life and socializing, such as family, marriage, heritage, trading, renting, responsibility, courtesy, justice, governance, and many more. In the novels, there are socializing values, such as marriage, heritage, gift, and many more.

## 3. Akhlak

In the novels have morals values covering morals towards Allah SWT, to individual or himself, to each individual, and to surroundings.

### a. Morals to Allah SWT

It is based on human natures since born and instilled in his soul. The religious values are divided into: morals to Allah SWT, to himself, to each individual, to human, and to surroundings.

### b. Morals to himself

The morals is to be well personalized people whom are discipline, responsible, honest, trust, sincere, patient, and tough to face, and take everything on all occasions upon his life.

### c. Morals to Individuals

It is shown as to love and care each other, acting politely, loving and understanding each other, respecting any guest and neighbors.

## Representation of Islamic Teachings

### 1. Aqidah

To believe without doubt.

#### a. Ilahiyat

Every single thing is correlated to Allah.

#### b. Nubuwat

Every single thing is related to Prophets, the books of Allah, miracles, and etc.

#### c. Ruhaniyat

A discussion of metaphysics field, such as gene, angle, devils, satan, spirit, and many more.

#### d. Sam'iyat

Every single things known through hearing (Qur'an and Sunnah), nature barzah, afterlife, grave punishment, doomsday signs, heaven, hell, etc.

## 2. Syari'at

Every rule of Islam determined by Allah for his followers both stated in Al-Qur'an and hadists.

### a. Observance

Soul obedience appearance due to love to Allah and feeling his supremacy, believing that in this universe, there is something outside of human normal thoughts.

### b. Ghairu Mahdah Observances

Any observance beside mahdah or beyond mahdah.

### c. Mahdah Observance

Reflected observance into Islamic codes, syahadat, praying, zakat, fasting, and hajj.

## 3. Morals

### a. Well Morals

A good morals is based on Islamic teachings.

### b. Inappropriate Morals

Beside well Morals, there is also inappropriate or bad Morals.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the main female character of the novels written by Habiburrahman El-Shirazy are Aisha (AAC), Maria (AAC), Anna (KCB), Zahrana (CSZ), Ayna (BBB), Raihana (PPC), and Niyala (SECN). From those seven, they have similar natures and are described beautifully like angles. They are pious, helpful, polite, honest, sincere, trust, brave, generous, care, obedient to

both parents, religion, husbands, knowledge seeker, easy to socialize, educated, smart, and diligent. One of the characters is described little bit different, Raihana in PPC, a hafidhoh and silent woman.

The Islamic values of the novels are aqidah (believing to Allah, Angles, Prophets, Judgment day, Qodo and Qodar), syariah values (Observance, socializing), and morals values (to Allah, to personal self, to individuals).

The representation of Islamic teachings are (1) aqidah, such as *illahiyat*, *prophesy (about prophet)*, *ruhaniyat (metaphysics)*, and *samiyat (listening)*. (2) *mahdah* and *ghairu mahdah observances*, in which *ghairu mahdah* has more portions compared to the other one because it is shown in the dialogue among the characters, showing how human interact (*hablunminannas*). (3) muamalah are rules (or laws) of Allah to rule human with their world and society. (4) morals consists of well morals (*mahmudah*) which is more compared to inappropriate morals (*madzmumah*) because the writer wants to deliver good deed messages to be practice in life by the readers.

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