



## ANALYSIS OF MORAL VALUES REFLECTED IN THE MAIN CHARACTERS IN THE LEGEND OF SAMPURAGA

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### Abstract

This article analyzes the moral values of the main characters found in the Sampuraga Legend folklore. The purpose of this article is to find the types of moral values in the Sampuraga story, and the reasons for the existence of moral values in this legend. Qualitative descriptive method is used to get the results of the analysis. The source of the data in this research article is obtained from the text on the story, which is used to help find types of moral values. The results of the data findings after being analyzed are the types of moral values: never give up, altruism, courage, love and loyalty, mutual help, respect, honesty, lies/lie, and rude. The reason why moral values often exist in folklore is because moral values can be used as a guide for society, especially parents in providing moral education for their children, folklore can shape children's personalities for the better, as well as can attract children's interest to read legend stories, which of course can bring good for them.

**Keywords:** Folklore, Moral Values, Legend of Sampuraga

### Introduction

Literature deals with fiction and works of imagination that use language, and have a dominant aesthetic value. Literature has a privilege that cannot be obtained in other types of media, and it can only be transferred using language (Tussa'diah, 2018). Aesthetics and imagination have become the goals of art itself, while language is a tool and medium that makes a work different from other works of art.

Warren and Wellek (1956: 18-19) in Jessica Apriani Mainake (2014) stated that the form of literary works can benefit its readers. The function of a literary work is as a beautiful and useful creative work (Nurgiyantoro : 2015). And the beauty of these literary works can entertain the reader and create a sense of pleasure because of its entertaining nature in terms of language. It is presented, and the story itself is expected to provide a solution. Literary works are meaningful in the sense of knowledge, literary works can be taken as an advantage for their readers, and of course cannot be separated from the moral education conveyed by their content. Literature itself consists of several types in general, namely poetry, drama, prose, legends, short stories, and fairy tales. This article is about legends.

Legend is a form of story that is related to an event that occurred in the past in a certain society, and is related to the history of that society. It has the purpose of entertaining and also conveying moral messages. The legend of

Sampuraga on the Mandailing tribe in North Sumatra will be taken as a source of this article, because it teaches moral values.

As part of oral literature, legends are also examples of literary works in the form of original stories, born from society itself. In it, the author tries as much as possible to direct the reader to the picture of life through the stories contained in the story, such as the story of life in a certain society, in a household, the experience of a certain person, and so on. There in a legend, moral values are depicted through daily activities from day to day. One thing that is a very important factor contained in moral values to be learned is the need to have a good character in every human being as a good personality, self-discipline, and perseverance, to be able to cooperate with love and compassion for others and their environment. The word moral comes from the word *mos* which

meaning morals and values (Latin). Morality is based on right and wrong, while values are standards that define something, and are considered a habit, or it can be said that moral values are types of attitude standards based on considerations or decisions of right and wrong according to people's beliefs, and become moral standards. Universal truths are the chief characteristics of moral values, which are needed, and considered good or essential by human beings to guide their lives.

Kelley stated that morality means a system of rules of conduct (right or wrong),

doctrines, or recognized codes, so the point of view of morality is related to honesty, marriage, business transactions, contracts, discipline, raising children, and so on. Morality has a relationship with values. Value is something that

### Research Methods

The research in this article is conducted using a qualitative descriptive method, in which the analysis of documents is interpreted, and therefore the research focuses on the description of the object rather than the use of numbers. This is aimed at finding an image of the form of moral values (positive and negative) that are reflected in the characters, especially the main characters who are related to life problems and the delivery of moral values in the Legend of Sampuraga. The data from this study was obtained by researchers from the legendary book Sampuraga by Mansur Samin, from pages 7-11 published in 1995, this book only consists of four pages that contain conversations from the main characters. The technique of data collection is to use the Miles & Huberman method, which is to collect data, display data, and draw conclusions/verifications.

### Research Results and Discussion

This research focuses on data analysis on the moral values (positive and negative) of each main character. The data is analyzed to get results. Based on the data that has been collected, there are 23 pieces of data, based on moral values there are 9 types of moral values, namely: never give up, altruism, courage, love and loyalty, mutual help, respect, honesty (positive moral values), and lies/lies, and rudeness (negative moral values). While the reason for the existence of moral values in legends is that folklore can be used as a guide for society, and parents to teach or apply the moral values contained in folklore to shape children's personalities to become better individuals, besides folklore can also increase children's interest in reading legend stories, which of course can benefit them. The data that has been collected is analyzed using Lickona Thomas's theory.

### Discussion

The data analysis was carried out by examining the conversations of the main characters and the text of the story of Sampuraga, which contains moral values consisting of positive and negative moral values, and continued by finding the reason for the existence of moral values in this legend, as illustrated below:

#### A. Moral Values

##### Positive Moral Values

attracts people, something that is pleasing and loved, or in other words that he is liked (Bartens: 2000: 139)

#### 1. Never give up.

Never Give Up means believing that a person is capable, and accepting that he or she fails. This conversation that shows moral values is used 4 times:

Data 1 : "Actually I've been dreaming to find a better life. But where are you going?"

Data 2 : "Mother let me go wander. Here is never enough to make a living. I will look for work in other areas".

Data 3 : "Days have passed, he walked from forest to village."

Data 4 : "When he arrived at the Pidoli Kingdom, the wedding party had already started. It was very crowded and noisy, he tried to get closer to the crowd".

A fragment from the conversation above shows the moral value of "never give up". This is an expression of Sampuraga's heart that wants to change their situation, from living in poverty to being better. He worked hard every day in the fields, but still lived in poverty. He dreams of a better life, and he doesn't stop there. He plans to travel to make his dreams come true.

#### 2. Altruism

Altruism is a person's consideration of the well-being of others without thinking about himself. There are 2 types of Altruism found:

Data 5 : "Sampuraga, you are still young. Why do not you move to a prosperous country and find a better job?"

Data 6 : "After a year Sampuraga worked with a very rich merchant in the Pidoli Kingdom. The merchant gave him financial capital so that he could open his own business.

This was Sampuraga's conversation with his leader who advised him to go and seek a living in another prosperous country, because he was a diligent young man. Finally he worked with a very wealthy merchant in the kingdom of Pidoli, and the merchant gave him business capital for him to open his own business.

#### 3. Courage

Courage means someone who is brave enough to face fearful and debilitating danger, pain and violence. In the data, it was found that 4 times this type:

Data 7 : "Sampuraga : "I want to go to Mandailing. The boss said that the people in Mandailing are prosperous because the land is fertile".

Data 8 : "Trader: Sampuraga you are an honest and diligent man, do you want to marry my

daughter?”.

Data 9 : “Of course, Sir.

Data 10 : “Sampuraga my son! I am your mother.”

All of the above conversations show the moral value of courage; Sampuraga had the courage to go to Mandailing to work there, the courage of the merchant who asked Sampuraga to marry his son, and the courage of Sampuraga's mother to shout and mention that Sampuraga was her son.

#### 4. Love and Loyalty

Love is a feeling of love and affection, while loyalty is a commitment to stay firm in something or someone, and consistently help, help, support, or be responsible for others. From the data obtained, there are 5 pieces of data about Love and Loyalty:

Data 11 : “Actually I’ve been dreaming to find a better life. I want to make my mother happy”.

Data 12 : “Though I’m afraid to part with you as I am getting older, but I have no reason to forbid you. Sorry I did not ever make you happy”, said his mother.

Data 13 : “Thank you mother, I promise I will be back soon if I succeed. Please pray for me mother”. Sampuraga asked for his mother’s blessing.

Data 14 : “While weeping she prayed, “Oh my God... if it is really my son Sampuraga, please punish him because he has forgotten his mother”.

Data 15 : “Sampuraga my son! I am your mother! Said the old woman as she tried to embrace Sampuraga”.

The above data shows the loyalty of a child to his mother, and his mother is willing to part with her child and live alone in the forest, even though she is afraid of being separated from her son, but for the sake of her son's happiness she is willing to do it. But unfortunately his son (Sampuraga) forgets his mother, and even pretends not to know his mother after he succeeds and becomes rich

#### 5. Help each other.

Data 16 : “Sampuraga married the girl in a lavish wedding ceremony. All the preparation had started months before the wedding day. Ten buffalos and goats were provided for the feast”.

From this data 16, it is found that the moral value of helping each other, where usually when there is a big celebration such as a wedding, for example, not only the bride's family is involved in it, but also many people will help each other. Here it can be seen that there is an attitude of helping others.

#### 6. Respect

Respect is related to the manifestation

of our attitude of appreciation towards others or things other than ourselves (Lickona Thomas: 2013). This type of moral value only consists of one piece of data which is an expression of the heart of Sampuraga's mother who knows very well that once her son makes a decision, he will never change it again.

Data 17 : “His mother knew that Sampuraga has been decided and nothing could change his decision”.

#### 7. Honesty

Honesty is a character or trait of a person that must be appreciated because of kindness and frankness; namely compliance with facts. The following data contains about the moral value of honesty, where it is told that because Sampuraga is an honest and diligent young man, his boss/leader cares about him, and wants a better life for him. Likewise, his mother's honest and unbelievable words say how it is possible for Sampuraga to marry a beautiful girl and come from a working family, while her son is only a child of a poor widow.

Data 18 : ““Sampuraga is an honest and diligent young man. That was why the boss takes care of him and wants a better life for him.”

Data 19 : “Sampuraga's mother heard about her son marriage. Then she asked, Is that really my son? Maybe it was just the same name, she doubts.

#### Negative Moral Values

##### 8. Lying/Lying

Lying is a situation in which a statement is freely manipulated with information, attitudes or self-impressions with the intention of making others believe. In data 20 and 21, it is explained how Sampuraga lied by saying that his mother was not his biological mother. He also said that his biological mother had died.

Data 20 : “Hey old Lady! Don’t pretend to be my mother! I don’t have a mother like you! Get out of here now! Don’t disturb my party!”

Data 21 : “No!!! You're not my mother! She's dead!

##### 9. Rough

Rudeness is a self-attitude or words that a person shows to others by using disrespectful words or attitudes. Sampuraga shouted at his mother so violently, and said that his mother had pretended to know him and asked his bodyguards to drive his mother away from his palace. Data 22 and 23 show gross moral values; that is:

Data 22 : “Hey old lady ! Don't pretend to be my mother!”

Data 23 : “Guards, get this old lady out of here!”

#### B. Reasons Why Moral Value Is Found in Folklore

Folklore is a means of entertainment and was loved in ancient times because of its entertaining nature. Besides that, it turns out that folklore can

also be used by parents to include educational messages; Moral education to be precise. According to Wiguna and Alimin, parents like to tell about folklore, because folklore can educate, motivate and improve children's attitudes and personalities (2018: 144). The moral values contained in a folktale can be used by parents as a guide. Parents use this method to hone their child's psychological development. Attitudes and feelings in learning moral values are reflected by the characters shown in a folklore, which can be a role model for children to be able to understand the good and the bad things in.

### **Conclusion**

After all the data is analyzed, the conclusion of this study is that one of the types of folklore found in Indonesia is Legend. Moral values are found in the Legend of Sampuraga. Never give up, altruism, courage, love and loyalty, mutual help, respect, honesty (positive moral values), lying and rudeness (negative moral values) are the types of moral values found in Sampuraga folklore.

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