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Semiotic Meaning in the Poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* and Its Relevance to Indonesian Language Learning

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Abstract

Poetry has many meanings in every word. The purpose of this study is to analyze the semiotic meaning in the poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* by JS. Khairen and its relevance to learning Indonesian. The research method is descriptive qualitative. A qualitative approach was chosen in this study. The data collection technique used the close reading technique. The hermeneutic analysis model was chosen as the data analysis technique for this study. The results of the study, the poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* uses rain as the center of meaning. Rain becomes an icon to describe it in real terms, the index describes the relationship and emotions felt by the character, and symbols are used to convey feelings of longing and separation experienced by the character. This sign is used to deepen the theme of longing and limitations to get closer to each other even though they are in the same situation. The poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* contains 4 icons, 5 indexes, and 6 symbols. The relevance of the analysis results to Indonesian language learning, namely the poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* can be used as an example of analyzing the meaning of poetry in Indonesian language learning in phase F. After that, the teacher can give students assignments to analyze other poems so that they can improve students' critical thinking skills.

Keywords: semiotics, novel, meaning

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Abstrak

Puisi memiliki banyak makna dalam setiap kata-katanya. Tujuan penelitian ini, yaitu untuk menganalisis makna semiotik dalam puisi Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu karya JS. Khairen dan relevansinya dengan pembelajaran bahasa Indonesia. Metode penelitiannya, yaitu deskriptif kualitatif. Pendekatan kualitatif dipilih dalam penelitian ini. Teknik pengumpulan datanya menggunakan teknik close reading. Model analisis hermeneutika dipilih menjadi teknik analisis data penelitian ini. Hasil penelitiannya, puisi Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu menggunakan hujan menjadi pusat makna. Hujan menjadi ikon untuk menggambarkan secara nyata, indeks menggambarkan hubungan dan emosi yang dirasakan tokohnya, serta simbol digunakan untuk menyampaikan perasaan rindu dan perpisahan yang dialami oleh tokoh. Tanda ini digunakan untuk memperdalam tema kerinduan dan keterbatasan untuk saling mendekat meskipun berada di situasi yang sama. Puisi Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu mengandung 4 ikon, 5 indeks, dan 6 simbol. Relevansi hasil analisis dengan pembelajaran bahasa Indonesia, yaitu puisi Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu dapat digunakan sebagai contoh makna analisis puisi dalam pembelajaran bahasa Indonesia pada fase F. Setelah itu, guru dapat memberikan tugas kepada siswa untuk menganalisis puisi lain sehingga dapat meningkatkan keterampilan siswa dalam berpikir kritis.

Kata kunci: semiotik, novel, makna

Introduction

Humans certainly have ideas and thoughts. These ideas can be expressed in the form of literature. Literature is an oral or written work that contains aesthetic value. Umamy (2021) states that literature contains moral and social values that can be implemented in everyday life. Literature that describes life in society is called literary works (Mardiana & Homary, 2023). Literary works are something created by humans with aesthetic purposes to convey ideas and thoughts through language (Dedad & Akastangga, 2021).

Literary works aim to entertain and contain messages that can be implemented in everyday life. One of the literary works is poetry. Al-Ma'ruf & Nugrahaini (2020) argue that literary works are works of artistic value in the form of oral or written works that describe human life. Hawa (2017) argues that literature is a work produced by humans and contains aesthetic value. One of the literary works that is often encountered is poetry.

Poetry is a literary work that is used as a medium to convey the poet's ideas and feelings which are expressed using beautiful and meaningful language. Hawa (2017) states that poetry is the oldest literary work that is monumental and contains aesthetic value. Novianty (2022) states that poetry is a literary work that uses a beautiful style of language and contains aesthetic value. Ratna (2011) states that poetry is an expression of the human soul and emotions in the form of beautiful and creative language. One of the sciences used to study poetry in more depth is semiotics.

Semiotics is a science that studies signs and everything related to signs and meaning in poetry. According to Zaimar (in Sumiyadi, 2003), semiotics is a science that studies signs, how they work, and their use. Culler (in Al-Ma'ruf & Nugrahaini, 2020) states that a poem must have semiotic properties, which means considering literature as a sign system. Semiotics has two aspects of signs, namely the signifier and the signified. According to Pradopo (2003), seen from the relationship between the signifier and the signified, there are three types of signs, namely icons, indexes and symbols.

Charles Sanders Peirce (in Al-Ma'ruf & Nugrahaini, 2020) argues that there are three types of signs, namely icons, indexes, and symbols. According to Pradopo (2003), an icon is a signifier that has similarities in natural form. Pradopo (2003) argues that an index is a sign that aims to show a relationship between a signified and a signified that has a casual nature. Pradopo (2003)

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argues that a symbol is a sign that does not show a natural relationship that occurs between the signifier and its signified. Poetry is taught in Indonesian language learning. This study attempts to analyze the relevance of this study to Indonesian language learning.

Relevant studies include Fadhila & Qur'ani (2021), Trinaldi (2024), Kurniawan et al. (2024), Prasetyo (2023), Madala et al. (2021), Soiandi (2023), Ridho & Yudistira (2023), Afria et al. (2023), Mardiana & Homary (2023), Nainggolan et al. (2021), and Mawaddah & Supena (2024) who analyzed the semiotic value in a poem. Research by Kori (2023), Mustika et al. (2021), and Dedad & Akastangga (2021) who analyzed the semiotic value in poetry using Charles Sanders Peirce's theory.

The similarity of this study with previous studies is that both analyze poetry using a semiotic approach. The difference lies in the poems analyzed and the style of presentation of the analysis results.

Method

The research method is descriptive qualitative. Ibrahim (2015) argues that descriptive qualitative is a method that aims to present and explain the results of poetry analysis clearly and according to the facts. This study chose a qualitative approach. Ibrahim (2015) stated that qualitative research is an approach that aims to describe objects by providing an overview and expanding understanding. The data collection technique uses the close reading technique. The hermeneutic method was chosen as the data analysis technique for this study. Ratna (2006) argues that the hermeneutic data analysis technique is a method used to find out the meaning in a text. The data source for this study is the poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* by JS. Khairen. The data validity test uses the turnitin test.

Result and Discussion

JS. Khairen is a writer who often publishes or shares his work in the form of novels or novels. One of the poems that Khairen published is entitled *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu*. This study attempts to analyze the semiotic value contained in the poem.

Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu

Work by JS. Khairen

Rain is the sky's faithful promise to the earth

Which will definitely come without waiting

We are trapped in the same rain

But can't find each other

Makes me keep waiting for you to turn around

And throw a smile at me

Various feelings spill from the sky

Anxiety and longing without being able to prevent it

A feeling so great that it eliminates other feelings

Our distance is not far

But can't look at each other

Let alone talk

Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu

This study succeeded in analyzing the semiotic value based on Charles Sanders Peirce's theory. It was found that there were 4 icons, 5 indexes, and 6 symbols in the poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* which are presented in the following table.

Table 1. Results of the Analysis of Semiotic Values of the Poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu*

No	Type of Sign	Total
1	Icon	4
2	Index	5
3	Symbol	6

1. Semiotic Meaning in the Poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* by JS. Khairen

Semiotics is a science that analyzes more deeply about signs in literary works. According to Segers (in Al-Ma'ruf & Nugrahaini, 2020) semiotics is a science that analyzes communication between meanings based on a sign system. Based on Charles Sanders Peirce's theory, poetry contains three types of signs, namely icons, indexes, and symbols. The semiotic analysis in the poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* by JS. Khairen is as follows.

A. Icon

An icon is a sign that has similarities with the object being described. The icons found in the poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* by JS. Khairen are as follows.

1) *Rain is the promise of the sky's loyalty to the earth*

The excerpt from the line of poetry above contains an icon, namely rain. The word rain becomes an icon in this poem. Rain is an event that can be imagined in real terms. The meaning of the word rain itself is drops of water that fall from the sky to the surface of the earth. In relation to this poem, rain is represented as a promise of loyalty because rain always falls from the sky to the earth.

2) *We are trapped in the same rain / But cannot find each other*

The word rain in the two-line excerpt of the poem above is again an icon because it describes the feelings felt by the character "I". Rain is often associated with feelings of sadness experienced by humans. The similarity lies in the word rain which shows the feelings of sadness that occur because the two characters cannot find each other even though they are trapped in the same condition.

3) *Turning the body / throwing a smile*

The phrase turning the body can be visualized as a body movement that turns backwards. The phrase throwing a smile shows human happiness shown in the form of expression. This event describes body movements and expressions that can be imagined by the reader. This is included in the icon of expression or interaction. Both phrases show the hope felt by the character "I". The character waits for the character "you" to turn around and smile.

4) *Various flavors spilling from the sky*

The phenomenon of rain falling from the sky can be imagined by the reader in real terms as a picture of heavy rain. This is included in the icon of physical phenomena. The phrase describes the outpouring of emotions felt by the character. In relation to this poem, namely the anxiety and longing that are continuously felt make these feelings unstoppable.

5) *Our distance is not far / can't look at each other*

The phrase our distance is not far shows that the distance between the two characters is close. This indicates that both are in the same area. The phrase can't look at each other shows that the characters cannot meet each other. The meaning

of this line of poetry is that even though the distance between the two characters is very close, they are not spiritually connected, which means that neither of them can feel the same feelings for each other.

B. Index

Index is a sign that shows a causal relationship and aims to be proof of something. Pradopo (2003) argues that index is a sign that aims to show the relationship between the signified and the sign that has a casual nature. The index found in the poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* by JS. Khairen is as follows.

1) *Rain is the promise of the sky's loyalty to the earth*

Rain as an index that describes the relationship between the sky and the earth. Rain shows the existence of a natural process. There is a causal relationship in the lines of the poem, namely the sky sends down water in the form of rain, then it is lowered to the earth. The rain that falls is a form of fulfillment of the promise made by the sky by sending water to the earth.

2) *What is certain to come without having to wait hard*

Rain is a symbol of certainty and regularity. Rain will come without having to wait because it is certain. The relationship between this and the meaning of the poem, namely something that is certain will come without having to wait for its presence. This shows a causal relationship, namely something that is certain (cause) will come without having to wait (effect).

6) *We are trapped in the same rain/ But we cannot find each other*

The word rain is a marker that shows a physical relationship that occurs between the characters "I" and "you". This phrase is the opposite of the actual situation, which is physically close, but spiritually distant. The state of being physically bound, but not spiritually, results in the two characters not being able to find or meet each other.

7) *Anxiety and longing without being able to prevent it*

Feelings of anxiety and longing can arise because of the situation experienced by the character. These feelings arise because the character "I" misses the character "you", but cannot meet each other. This is an index of the feelings felt by the character.

8) *My longing is as heavy as the rain*

The phrase as heavy as the rain shows the extent of the longing felt by the character. The word rain in this context shows how much longing is felt by the character "I". The heavier the rain, the greater the longing felt. This shows cause and effect.

C. Symbol

A symbol is a sign that aims to convey an idea or show something else that contains a deep or abstract meaning. Pradopo (2003) argues that a symbol is a sign that does not show a natural relationship that occurs between the signifier and the signified. The symbols found in the poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* by JS. Khairen are as follows.

1) *Rain*

Rain is a symbol of the feelings experienced by the character. Rain is often associated with sadness, longing, memories, and silence. The meaning of the rain symbol in this poem symbolizes the feelings of longing experienced by the character "I".

2) *Promise of loyalty*

The phrase promise of loyalty symbolizes a statement from someone who will do something consistently. This is related to this poem, the phrase promise of loyalty shows a commitment maintained by the character even though they are separated. This symbolizes eternal love and the hope of the character "I" to meet the character "you", and has a deep emotional attachment.

3) *Heaven and earth*

The sky and earth have their own relationship. In this context, the sky is the origin of the rain which means it is the source of longing for the character "I". Rain becomes the recipient of rain which means the person who misses. The word sky symbolizes the character "you" who is missed, while the earth symbolizes the character "I" who misses.

4) *Trapped in the rain*

The phrase trapped in the rain is a symbol of this poem. Rain makes communication between characters obstructed. The word rain also symbolizes the alienation between the characters "I" and "you".

5) *Distance*

Distance symbolizes the measure of how far the positions between characters are. In this context, distance symbolizes the inner distance experienced by the characters which causes separation inwardly. Distance as a symbol of physical closeness, but emotional distance makes the relationship between the characters not go well.

6) *As heavy as the rain that afternoon*

The symbol of rain strengthens the feeling of longing that is felt. The heavy rain that afternoon symbolizes the great feeling of longing that is felt. Rain becomes a measure of the great longing felt by the characters. This shows a symbol of feelings of longing that are so great.

2. Relevance of Semiotic Study of *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* Poem to Indonesian Language Learning

The results of this analysis are relevant and can be an example of appreciating texts in Indonesian language learning in phase F. The achievement of Indonesian language learning in phase F (reading element), namely students are able to evaluate ideas and views based on logical thinking rules from reading various types of texts (non-fiction and fiction) in print and electronic media. Students are able to appreciate fiction and non-fiction texts. The poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* can be an example of an analysis of signs and meanings.

This can be used as an example for students when they are going to analyze a meaning contained in a poem. Students can analyze the meaning of other poems. This will improve students' skills in understanding the meaning of poetry more deeply. This can train and improve students' critical thinking competencies. In addition, it can have a positive impact on students, namely increasing sensitivity to the beauty of the style of language contained in poetry. Through analysis, students can improve their poetry analysis and criticism skills.

The poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* uses icons that can make readers imagine what the poet feels. The index used is able to show the relationships and emotions felt by the characters in the poem. The poet conveys the feelings of longing and separation he experiences through

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symbols. The relevance of the results of the analysis to Indonesian language learning, namely the poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* can be an example of an analysis of the meaning of poetry in Indonesian language learning. Teachers can give students assignments to analyze other poems so that they can improve students' critical thinking skills.

Relevant research includes Fadhila & Qur'ani (2021), Trinaldi (2024), Kurniawan et al. (2024), Prasetyo (2023), Madala et al. (2021), Soiandi (2023), Ridho & Yudistira (2023), Afria et al. (2023), Mardiana & Homary (2023), Nainggolan et al. (2021), and Mawaddah & Supena (2024), who analyzed the semiotic value in a poem. Research by Kori (2023), Mustika et al. (2021), and Dedad & Akastangga (2021) who analyzed the semiotic value in poetry using Charles Sanders Peirce's theory.

The difference between this study and previous studies lies in the data selected. The similarity between this study and previous studies is that they both analyze semiotic values. The novelty offered is that no semiotic study has been found that analyzes the poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* by JS. Khairan.

Conclusion

Poetry contains three types of signs, namely icons, indices, and symbols. The poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* uses rain as the center of meaning. Rain functions as an icon or real image, the index is used to describe the relationship and emotions felt by the character, and the symbol is used to convey the feelings of longing and separation experienced by the character. This sign is used to deepen the theme of longing and the limitations of getting closer to each other even though they are in the same situation. The poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* contains 4 icons, 5 indices, and 6 symbols. The relevance of the analysis results to Indonesian language learning, namely the poem *Rinduku Sederas Hujan Sore Itu* can be used as an example of analyzing the meaning of poetry in Indonesian language learning in phase F. After that, the teacher can give students assignments to analyze other poems so as to improve students' critical thinking skills.

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