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Ferdinand De Saussure's Semiotic Study of the Poetry "*Paman Doblang*" by W.S. Renda

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Abstract: The poem "Uncle Doblang" by W.S. Rendra is a literary work that has its own charm. Apart from being a medium of entertainment, this poem also holds various meanings and intentions in it, which are conveyed by the author through the form of semiotic signs that must be understood by the reader so that the meaning can be conveyed properly. On the other hand, not everything can be given meaning without reason. The existence of semiotic studies, especially Ferdinand De Saussure's semiotics, can certainly be applied as a theory to dissect poetry from an easy level. The use of semiotic studies is to analyze the signifier and signified contained in the poetry text. This study utilizes a qualitative data analysis method, namely reducing data, then producing a conclusion. The results obtained show that the poem does contain a lot of signifiers and signifieds that describe the twists and turns of the life of a prisoner who has to spend a lot of time in a dark prison room.

Keywords: semiotic analysis, uncle doblang poem, Ferdinand de Saussure semiotics

▪ INTRODUCTION

In general, literature is an expression that comes from life and is expressed through language. Language itself is a medium for humans to communicate, so language has an important role in human life. The language used by writers in their works is of course different from the language used every day by humans. Literary works have benefits, especially for human life. This is because literary works are able to provide awareness to readers, especially regarding the facts in life, even though the presentation is only through fiction or imagination. The relationship between literary works and humans cannot be separated, because a literary work is always related to all the chaos of human problems in it. Aminudin (2002:36) explains that literary works can even be a necessity for humans, especially if humans have the ability to dissect the meaning and mission contained in a literary work in the form of drama, prose or poetry.

Poetry is the result of the human mind, whose presence aims to convey a message or meaning to the reader. Poetry can also be used as a tool or intermediary, when someone is sad, in love, etc. This is because poetry can be used as a medium for people who are rich in imagination. The extrinsic elements contained in a poem include socio-cultural, educational, political, social, customary, economic and other aspects (Rimang, 2011:32).

Poetry by W.S. Rendra's title "Uncle Doblang" is a poem that uses language in the form of symbols or signs to express the author's thoughts in his work. Poetry is also a work that contains cultural value and beauty that can captivate its readers. These benefits come from appreciating literary works so that they become a life experience for every reader. When creating a literary work, the author does not directly express his thoughts. The author uses a tool in the form of signs, which are used to convey hidden messages. With these signs, readers will think about finding the message from the author.

The study of poetry requires theory or knowledge, one of which is semiotics. Semiotics is the study of signs in everyday life and their meanings. In Greek, semiotics

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comes from the words sema meaning "interpretation of signs" and semeon or "sign". Historically, Ferdinand De Saussure was one of the experts who studied semiotics. In his view, semiotics is the study of the signs contained in human social relations, including the meanings and sanctions that are the origin of the formation of signs. In 1966, Saussure paid attention to symbols. This is because words are the same as symbols. On the other hand, there is recognition from Saussure's followers that the real form of Saussure's sign is a signifier. Saussure was interested in the relationship between the signifier and the signified and between one sign and another. This eventually became a major concern in the semiotic tradition in Europe.

The aim of this research is so that poetry lovers can understand directly all kinds of sign systems used by writers in order to be able to sort poetry, which is not only entertaining, but also able to provide educational value, and can increase knowledge for readers in this field. It is hoped that literary studies related to letters and signs can be used as a reference for students involved in Indonesian language and literature education, most importantly the study of poetry, semiotics and analysis of Ferdinand De Saussure.

▪ METHOD

Qualitative analysis was used in this research. Procedures include collecting data or information, carrying out data reduction, presenting data, and producing conclusions. When gathering information, it is necessary to pay close attention to the text of the poem "Uncle Doblang" by W.S. Rendra, as well as looking for Ferdinand De Saussure's theory of semiotics. The next step is to reduce data about poetry semiotics. The selected data is then described to represent the phenomenon being explained. Only then is the analysis interpreted from the data presented.

▪ RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Uncle Doblang's poem written by W.S. Rendra is a poem that tells the story of the author's life while he was still in prison. This poem tells the story of how weak and depressed "Uncle Doblang" was when he was in a narrow, dark and stuffy prison room. This poem also describes the dark life experienced by prisoners, and how they give themselves the strength to always be patient in waiting for their freedom.

The research results of the poem "Uncle Doblang" which were studied using Ferdinand De Saussure's semiotic studies are as follows:

Location	Signifier	signified
First verse	They put you in a dark cell with no lights. No light hole. Stuffy. There's air. There's no space.	When you are put in a prison, the first thing you will feel is the darkness of a dimly lit room, which is stuffy and cramped.
	There's air. There's no space.	In prison, people can still breathe, but they cannot see the outside world.

	Isolated. Your friends are just hundreds of mosquitoes.	Prisoners who are serving their sentences in prison will feel alone. He lives in a narrow room where there are lots of mosquitoes.
Second stanza	When I'm thirsty I drink from a rusty can.	People in prison will not have the proper equipment at home. Being faced with obsolete items is nothing new anymore.
	While cross-legged I wade through time. Regardless of hours, days and months.	A prisoner can only sit resignedly in the prison room, passing day by day until the day of his freedom.
	I was embraced by formless authority.	Depicting the prisoner's best reinforcement is the remnant of truth he has.
Third stanza	On every road there are mastodons and wolves. You are trapped in a circle.	A prisoner will always feel blamed, he is locked in a room, unable to do anything else.
	Princes spit on you from chariots.	Even officials who have power will continue to look down on prisoners.
Fourth stanza	Porridge in a tin plate. Pushed with your feet in front of you.	A prisoner always receives inferior and inadequate treatment.
	Consciousness is the sun.	The belief is that every time a prisoner opens his eyes, then morning is his time.
Fifth stanza	Patience is the earth.	Describes that prisoners must have patience that is like the size of the earth.
	Courage becomes the horizon	That the courage to serve a sentence in prison will lead a prisoner to freedom.
	And struggle is the implementation of words.	Refers to a prisoner who must hold firm
		his beliefs, and carry them out to survive in prison,

From the results of the study above, it can be seen that in the poem "Uncle Doblang" by W.S. Rendra has a signifier and a signified. This proves that the poem has been successfully studied and dissected using Ferdinand De Saussure's semiotic studies. The signifiers and signifieds in the poem "Uncle Doblang" are located in the verses of the poem, which shows that the lines of the poem have an implied meaning or message from the author to the reader.

▪ CONCLUSION

According to Saussure, semiotics is the study of signs contained in social relations in society, including the meaning and theory of the origin of the formation of a sign. Meanwhile, Saussure in 1966 paid attention to symbols. This is because words are the same as symbols. On the other hand, there is recognition from Saussure's followers that the real form of Saussure's sign is a signifier. Saussure was interested in the relationship between the signifier and the signified and between one sign and another.

The poem "Uncle Doblang" by W.S. Rendra, which was studied using Ferdinand De Saussure's semiotic studies, turns out to contain many signifiers and signifieds in it. With the various signs given by the author, poetry is not only considered a literary work as a medium of entertainment, but also a work that contains a certain purpose conveyed through signs by the author.

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