

## **PHILOSOPHICAL VALUES OF THE CHARACTERS KUDU LEMPANG AND PANANGAN IN WAYANG SUKURAGA**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*Wayang is a traditional Indonesian art that has existed for a long time. In the art of wayang, there are philosophical values contained both in the puppet characters and in the story. Therefore, this study aims to discuss the philosophical values contained in the sukuraga puppet characters. Where in this study the characters to be discussed are the Kudu Lempang and Panangan characters. This research uses qualitative research methods using qualitative analysis, data collection used by interview. In this study there are 2 philosophical values contained in the kudu lempang and panangan characters. The philosophical value of wayang dukurahs is more centered on how humans should use their limbs in accordance with their nature as God's creation.*

**Keywords: Puppet, Value, Philosophical, Character**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Wayang art is one of the traditional Indonesian arts that has been familiar with the community from the past until now. In Wayang art, there are usually philosophical values contained, both philosophical values in the characters and philosophical values in the story. Wayang Sukuraga is a puppet art that is included in the category of contemporary puppets because it brings up stories and characters that are unique and different from other types of puppets. Sukuraga is taken from two words "*Suku*" and "*Raga*". *Suku* is a part or member, and *raga* is the body. Wayang Sukuraga is a limb puppet whose characters and names are taken from parts of the human body. Sukuraga was created by Efendi and introduced to the public around 1997 through a program on a local television station. He combines several arts in his work, namely Fine Arts, Music, Theater, and Literature.

Wayang Sukuraga has great appeal. Studying Wayang Sukuraga will lead people to know the philosophical values conveyed in the wayang. Wayang Sukuraga through its performances teaches about how we should use our limbs. How should our hands, feet, eyes, and five senses be used in functions that are in accordance with religious teachings. Each character depicts the roles and habits of humans in life which are depicted with parts of the human body itself.

Each character in wayang sukuraga has a different philosophy. The lack of understanding about the philosophical values of wayang sukuraga characters causes the younger generation to think that these values are something ancient. Therefore, Efendi wants to convey these philosophical values through each character in wayang sukuraga, especially in the *Kudu Lempang* and *Panangan* characters.

The problem to be studied in this study is how the characteristics of the Kudu lempang and panangan characters in the sukuraga puppet and how the philosophical value of the kudu lempang and panangan characters. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to describe the character of Kudu Lempang and Panangan in wayang sukuraga and to find out how the philosophical value contained in the two characters. Therefore, the author decided to take the research title Philosophical Values in Kudu Lempang and Panangan Figures in Wayang Sukuraga.

## **THEORITICAL STUDY**

### **Philosophical Value**

Humans cannot be separated from the rules or values of life. Value is everything about good or bad, value is also everything that is of interest to humans as subjects (Rasyiddin, 2016). Meanwhile, Philosophy comes from the word Philosophy which is defined as an attitude of a person who is aware and mature in thinking about everything in depth and wants to see from a broad and comprehensive perspective with all relationships.

According to Septa (Turzillo et al., 1994) Philosophical Value is a belief about the way of behavior and the ultimate goal that individuals want, and is used as a principle or standard in life contained in the worldview of a person or group of people which is the basic concept of an aspired life. Meanwhile, according to (Rasyiddin, 2016) philosophical value is the search for truth about the essence of value and universal.

The philosophical values contained in puppet stories always invite people to do good and avoid evil, and instill in the community the spirit of "*amar ma'ruf nahi mungkar*" (Setiawan, 2020).

### **Characters**

A character is an actor in a story. Each character has a different disposition or character The term "character" refers to the person, the actor of the story, for example as an answer to the question: "Who is the main character of the novel?", or "How many characters are there in the novel?", or "Who are the protagonists and antagonists in the novel?", and so on (Nurgiyantoro, 1995).

The traits attached to a character are reflected in the character's thoughts, words, and views on something. Thus, this trait can distinguish one character from another. Characters are usually human, but there are also characters in the form of animals or objects that are told like humans. Sometimes authors deliberately insert traits, behaviors and moral values found in humans into these fictional characters (Ariana, 2016). However, in presenting the character, the author often reveals the role implicitly, so not all readers understand the meaning of the character's way of thinking in literary works (Irenius et al., 2022).

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

This research uses qualitative methods, using qualitative descriptive analysis. According to Sugiyono (2019: 18) qualitative research methods are research methods based on the philosophy of postpositivism, used to research on natural object conditions, (as opposed to experiments) where the researcher is the key instrument, data collection techniques are triangulated (combined), data analysis is inductive or qualitative, and qualitative research results emphasize meaning over generalization.

Data collected using interviews. So it can be concluded that this research is descriptive, namely research that describes information data based on reality (facts) obtained in the field. The method clearly explains how the author conducted the research. The methods should clearly

describe the research design, replicable research procedures, explain how to summarize and analyze the data.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **A. Wayang Sukuraga Character**

Wayang Sukuraga has 9 puppet characters, namely Ma Ata, Irungna, Panangan, Ceu Pil, Mulutna, Pina, Vagi, Kang Joed, Kudu Lempang. All the puppet characters are taken from human limbs. The names are taken from the Sundanese language. The characters that will be discussed are Kudu lempang and Panangan

#### **1. Kudu Lempang**

Kudu lempang is one of the characters in the wayang Sukuraga show. The name Kudu Lempang is taken from Sundanese which means you have to walk. So the Kudu lempang character is a character who has a physical foot. The kudu lempang character has a physical form of puppets that is different from other wayang Sukuraga characters. Because this kudu lempang character has a physical form that resembles a lumping horse. However, the difference between Kudu lempang and lumping horse is the head. Kudu lempang has a head shaped like a foot, while the lumping horse has a head shaped like a horse.

In the Wayang sukuraga story, the Kudu lempang character has good and bad traits. His good nature is that he likes to walk to the place of knowledge, and his bad nature is that sometimes his feet are always lazy when invited to do good and prefer to go to a bad place. In addition, each character in the Sukuraga puppet has a different character and traits. Kudu lempang is known to be a character who likes to walk, taking people to where they want to go. Kudu lempang will feel very happy if invited to walk towards goodness such as going to the mosque. Conversely, Kudu lempang will feel sad if he is used for bad things by humans, such as going to a club to get drunk.

#### **2. Panangan**

Panangan is a character in the Sukuraga wayang. The name Panangan is taken from Sundanese which means hand. So this Panangan character is a character who has a physical hand. Panangan figures have the same physical form as other wayang Sukuraga characters. Panangan figures have the same physical form as puppets in general, but what distinguishes them is that Panangan figures have hands, feet, and heads that are shaped like hands.

In wayang sukuraga, Panangan characters are divided into two characters named Leungka and Leungke. Leungka stands for Leungen katuhu, in English leungka means right hand, while leungke is Leungen Kenca, in English means left hand. The two hand figures each have different tasks and functions. The right hand is usually given more tasks than the left hand.

Panangan figures have good and bad traits. The good trait is to give and help fellow humans, and the bad trait is to steal and be light-hearted. Panangan will feel very happy if given the role of a character who always gives. On the contrary, Panangan will feel sad if he is given a role to take other people's rights.

### **B. The Filosofical Values contained in Wayang Sukuraga**

Referring to the previous theoretical study, the discussion of philosophical value will use Septa Damayanti's definition of philosophical value. Philosophically, wayang sukuraga was born

or inspired by the Qur'an in Surah Yasin verse 65. Where in the verse it is told that on the day of reckoning the man will be locked his mouth, which will testify is his deeds. Then when the mouth is locked other limbs such as feet, ears, hands, eyes will replace the lips to testify or speak for what the human being did during his lifetime. And these limbs will tell the truth without the slightest lie. The creator of wayang Sukuraga, Fendi, has a statement that becomes the philosophical value of the character in wayang Sukuraga, namely that humans are likened to puppeteers and the sukragra or limbs are the puppets. From Efendi's statement, it can be concluded that humans are leaders where humans can organize and control all their limbs while the limbs are their troops, who can obey the leader or human as the controller.

## **1. Philosophical value of Kudu lempang character form**

The kudu lempang character has the shape of a lumping horse but of course the two characters have differences. Kudu lempang has a head in the shape of a human foot. The creator of wayang sukuraga, Efendi, has his own reasons why he chose the foot as the shape for the kudu lempang character.

### **Kudu lempang has a human foot-shaped head**

According to Efendi, the shape of the foot on the kudu lempang character has a philosophical meaning that if we have ideals or desires, we must walk. Because the function of the feet in living creatures is to step, carrying the owner's body anywhere. But the feet cannot just move by themselves without orders from the brain. The foot will walk anywhere according to the command of its owner.

This can also be seen from the name, Kudu lempang, which means that we should not just stand still in the sense that we cannot just stand still without making efforts to achieve these desires. If we just stand still without doing something, it is impossible for our wishes to be achieved, we must try to control and command our feet to move and run in order to achieve our wishes and goals.

### **Kudu lempang shaped like a horse**

The Kudu lempang character has a different shape from other wayang sukuraga characters. Kudu lempang is shaped like a horse and has a tail. The philosophical value that can be taken from this form is that every time we will step to pursue our hopes, we will always be faced with obstacles. We must run as fast as a horse to achieve the desired goals or dreams, no matter how far and how many obstacles we will face we must not give up.

## **2. Philosophical value of Panangan character form**

The panangan character is one of the characters in wayang sukuraga. The creator of wayang sukuraga, Efendi, made the panangan character in the same shape as a human hand.

### **Hand-shaped head**

The Panangan character has a hand-shaped head. The philosophical value of this is that the hand can be controlled by the brain located in the head. The hand can only move if the brain gives orders to the hand. Hands cannot move on their own without being commanded. Therefore, the good and bad actions performed by the hands are orders from the brain. So it can be concluded that if we are going to do something by using our hands then we should rethink whether the action is good or bad.

### **Hand-shaped Legs**

Besides having a hand-shaped head, the panangan character also has hand-shaped feet. So the philosophical value can be taken, namely that the hand can act as a foundation for life like a foot. This means that hands can generate sustenance only with the skills they have. Usually people will rely heavily on the feet to find sustenance, but besides the feet the hands can also do it. With

the skills possessed by one's hands, one can use the hands as a source of sustenance and use them for good.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the above results, it can be concluded that Wayang Sukuraga contains philosophical values found in its characters, especially the forms of Kudu lempang and Panangan characters. These philosophical values are closely related to human daily life. Efendi takes these philosophical values based on the Qur'an Surah Yasin verse 65. The philosophical value of wayang sukuraga is more centered on how humans should use their limbs in accordance with their nature as God's creation. Wayang sukuraga teaches about how we should use our limbs according to religious teachings. Maintain and respect ourselves by controlling our limbs properly. The author's suggestion is that readers can apply the philosophical values contained in wayang sukuraga, not just knowing but also applying and practicing these values in life. In addition, the author hopes that this paper can make readers able to shape their character based on the philosophical values contained in wayang sukuraga.

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