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## PERSONALITY OF THE CHARACTER "I" IN THE SHORT STORY "OREZ" BY BUDI DHARMA: LITERARY PSYCHOLOGY STUDY

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Abstract	Article Information
<p><i>This research aims to describe the psychological aspects of personality experienced by the character "I" in the short story "Orez" in the short story Orang-Orang Bloomington by Budi Darma which describes fear and awareness. The research method used is a qualitative descriptive method. The technique used in this research is the technique of reading and taking notes from the short story "Orez", a collection of Bloomington People's short stories. The researcher read the short story "Orez", a collection of Bloomington People's short stories, then recorded data that included the psychological aspects of the character "I". The data taken in this research is through paragraphs of the short story "Orez" Orang-Orang Bloomington by Budi Drama. This research uses Sigmund Freud's theory which consists of the elements Id, ego and super ego. The interesting object of the research update is that this research reveals the psychology of the parents of the character "I" (Orez's father). The results of this research are a description of the psychological personality side of Id, ego and super ego experienced by my character in the short story "Orez" in the short story collection Orang-Orang Bloomington by Budi Darma.</i></p> <p><b>Keywords:</b> Short Stories, Psychological, Sigmund Freud, Oob</p>	<p><i>Received:</i> Sept 13, 2024</p> <p><i>Revised:</i> Sept 15, 2024</p> <p><i>Accepted:</i> Sept 17, 2024</p>

### INTRODUCTION

The role of literature in people's lives is very important because it has a fundamental influence on the development of human character, such as wet water, mixing cotton and cloth, and hot fire. Literary works have the power to shape a person's character. In children's education, literature plays a role in encouraging language development, cognitive and emotional aspects, as well as helping personality development.

A literary work is an expression of an author's ideas and thoughts expressed in written form, reflecting human life through the events that occur. Even though it originates from the

author's imagination, literary works still contain values or messages that can be gleaned by readers. When appreciating a literary work, we try to understand it through the characters or traits played by each character (Wicaksono 2014, p. 2).

Basically humans consist of psychological and physical aspects. Literary psychology focuses on psychological phenomena, so that literary writers continue to develop new ideas when creating literary works. The influence of the environment has a big influence on the results of literary works, always being its characteristic, from the beginning to the end of the story. In this regard, there are also references to psychology in literary works. Therefore, the study of literary psychology can help researchers explore previously unexplored patterns in literary works, thereby increasing the integrity and complexity of the literary work itself.

Humans are the source of literature and psychology, so that within humans a connection can be found. Psychology and literature are two related aspects, different but complementary because they relate to the same thing. Literature is a creative work that is fictional and involves elements of imagination. Literary works that are considered psychological phenomena will reveal psychological aspects through characters if the text is in prose form. Additionally, these fictional characters exhibit a variety of personalities and behaviors that relate to human psychology and actual conflict experiences. Literary psychology is the study of literary works which are believed to reflect psychological processes and activities (Minderop, 2013). When considering a psychological work, what needs to be understood is the author's psychological involvement and his ability to present fictional characters struggling with mental problems.

Based on the genre, literary works are divided into three types: prose, poetry and drama. Of the three literary genres, the author only focuses on prose. One example of prose is the short story. In the short story, there are a number of moral values conveyed. Humans tend to take actions that are in line with the values they believe in. Short stories are literary works that express various values and highlight social phenomena that occur in society.

Short stories in modern Indonesian literary works have an important role in human life, such as depicting humanitarian situations, emotional or social sensitivity, intelligence and spiritual well-being. This is in line with Sumardjo's (1988: 16) view that short stories as an art form function to clarify, deepen and enrich people's understanding of life. As a form of literary work, short stories are a view of life in which events and behavior are experienced or carried out by people (characters).

As in the short story "Orez" in the short story anthology *Bloomington People* tells the story of a man, deciding to marry a woman named Hester Price even though the woman's father, Stevick Price, had warned him about the misfortune that awaited them in the future. All of her children, except Hester, were born deformed and died. So, there is a possibility that Hester gave birth to a disabled child. The baby was born safely. However, Orez, the baby's name, had defects in his head, arms and legs that were bigger than his body size. Not only is Orez's body flawed, but Orez's behavior is also flawed. Because of Orez, his parents had to change jobs and apartments many times. His father thought of ending Orez's life like

Ibrahim slaughtered Ismail or Ishaq. He remembered his late father-in-law's advice to pay attention to the happiness of living creatures so they can survive and forget about things that cannot survive. Psychoanalysis focuses on the development of human nature, so psychoanalysis is an important tool for analyzing the characters in literary works. In Budi Dharma's short story "Orez" in the Bloomington short story anthology, the theory of psychoanalysis allows the author to more easily explain the psychology of the character Saya who is the focus of the study. The psychoanalytic approach is directly related to the analysis of character traits in literary works.

According to Ratna (2009: 342-344), the main goal of literary psychology is to understand the psychological elements contained in literary works. Research in the field of literary psychology can be carried out in two ways. The first approach is to understand psychological theory and apply it to the analysis of literary works. The second approach involves first selecting a literary work as the object of study and then identifying psychological theories that are considered relevant to the analysis of that work. Therefore, literary psychology can be considered as a literary science that considers literary works as the result of the mental activity of the author, who uses imagination, emotion and creativity in the creative process. Readers' reactions to a literary work are also influenced by the reader's individual state of mind. Literary psychology is interesting because it reveals human problems that reflect inner images. This not only shows a person's thoughts in a literary work, but can also reveal other people's emotions. Basically, all writers often include personal experiences in their work, which are often shared with others.

There are several previous studies that are considered relevant, namely research written by Ririn Setyorini in 2017. The second research was written by Naidi Pertiwi Rahayu, Rizki Sri Lestari, Citra Anjani, and Dida Firmansyah in 2018. Then the third research was written by Aria Bayu Setiaji in 2019. There is a difference between previous research and the research being studied now, namely the difference in the object, which is the object being written now which is an update, namely Analyzing the psychological aspects of Inner Conflict in My Character in the short story "Orez" in the short story collection *Orang - Bloomington People : A Psychological Study of Literature*. There are similarities with previous research, namely in the theory which uses Sigmund Freud's theory which includes the Id, Ego and Superego.

## **LITERATURE REVIEW**

Literary psychology as defined by Freud consists of three main parts: Id, ego, and superego. Human behavior is shaped by the interaction process between these three elements. The id is a fundamental and primitive part of the personality that contains repressed natural instincts and desires (Freud, 1991: xl). The id is disorganized and not bound by norms or morality. ID cannot be distinguished between true and false. His principles of behavior are based on the desire to experience pleasure and avoid discomfort. (Susanto, 2012:61). The ego is the part of the personality whose mission is to guide individuals in interacting with real

objects and functions in accordance with the principles of reality (Koswara, 1991: 33). According to Freud (1991: xl), the ego arises from the separation of the self from the id through interaction with the external environment. As the only part of the mind involved in interaction with the outside world, the ego functions as the decision maker or executive part of the personality (Feist, 2017: 31). The superego is the part of the personality that contains evaluation values and norms regarding morality (good and bad). The superego operates according to idealistic principles which conflict with the id's satisfaction principles and the ego's realistic principles (Alwisol, 2011: 16).

The relationship between literary works and psychology lies in the view that literary works are considered as manifestations of psychology that display various psychological aspects through characters in the form of prose and drama. Poetry, on the other hand, reflects psychological symptoms through the use of different sentence and line structures. Psychology and literature are not entirely new things. This is because literary works need to bring their characters to life by providing psychological aspects that can be explained psychologically. Great writers bring aspects of human psychology into their work, whether they realize it or not. This is reflected in the characters in the story who are the focus of the story shown (Wellek and Warren, 1989: 41).

Personality psychology is a branch of psychology that focuses on the study of individual human characteristics and the factors that influence their behavior. This field investigates the relationship between memory and observation and individual developmental processes, as well as individual adaptation to the environment. The main goal of personality psychology is to collect information about human behavior. The second goal is to encourage individuals to live holistic, integrated and fulfilling lives, and the third goal is to encourage individuals to achieve their full potential through changes in their supportive psychological environment. (Mindelop, 2013:8).

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This research uses a qualitative descriptive method. The technique used in this research is the technique of reading and taking notes from the short story "Orez" in the Bloomington People short story collection. The object used is the short story "Orez" in the Bloomington People short story collection which focuses on the analysis of my character which is studied using literary psychology studies. The theory used is Sigmund Freud's theory which covers the Id, Ego, Superego. The purpose of this research is to describe the psychological side of the character's personality experienced by my character in the short story "Orez" in the short story collection Orang-Orang Bloomington by Budi Darma.

## **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

### **Findings**

In a story, both the main character and supporting characters should have certain characteristics that shape their personality. The short story *Orez* by Budi Darma describes the main character very strongly. According to Sigmund Freud's theory, the main character's personality can be explained by psychological concepts such as id, ego and superego. Below is a classification of the main character's personality aspects in the short story *Orez* by Budi Darma.

#### **1. Id**

The id is an important part of the personality structure that is present from the beginning of life and is the core of a person's personality. This part operates in the subconscious mind and has no direct connection with reality. The id mechanism is to avoid all forms of discomfort and try to satisfy desires and needs in order to achieve pleasure and comfort, just for the sake of pleasure, without considering whether it is good or bad for the individual. In Sigmund Freud's theory, the "id" is part of the personality structure and is related to a person's basic instincts and drives. The id is not bound by social rules or morality. This is the source of our basic desire to experience pleasure and avoid pain. The id functions on the principle of immediate pleasure, without regard for consequences or moral considerations.

*"Our first baby aborted and was declared dead. What the baby looked like, whether it was intact or not, and so on, I was afraid to ask, and indeed Hester prevented the doctor and his staff from telling me. The second baby suffered the same fate, as did the third baby".* (Orez, p. 70)

In the quote above, the "Id" part of Freud's theory is reflected in my character, namely fear or reluctance to find out about the death of a baby. The main character in my character who tells the story is afraid to ask what the dead baby looked like, and Hester, namely his wife in the story, stops the doctor and his staff from telling this to the main character in my character. These reactions may be related to the primitive drives of the id, and the fear and reluctance that arises from the subconscious drive to avoid confrontation with existing reality, which can lead to the extreme sadness or discomfort experienced in my characters.

*"Indeed, I want to be a good father, or more precisely, a responsible one."* (Orez, p. 75)

In the quote above, the "id" can be seen as an expression of a strong desire to be a good or responsible father. Although this expression suggests a positive and responsible desire, the urge to be a good father figure can also come from uncontrollable instincts that arise from a lower level of consciousness. The urge to become a responsible father can be understood as the result of a deep natural urge originating from the id part of a person.

## **2. Ego**

In reality, the ego plays a role in controlling the id's instinctive impulses. Its function is to satisfy the id's desires through reasonable and socially acceptable behavior. According to Freud (2006), the ego plays an important role in the decision-making process in all aspects of personality, and influences from the external environment also influence it based on the principles of existing reality. Because the ego can operate consciously, unconsciously, and subconsciously, and is located between the conscious and unconscious areas of the personality structure, the ability to make decisions can be based on all three states. In Sigmund Freud's theory, the "ego" is part of the personality structure and acts as an intermediary between the instinctual drives of the "id" and the moral rules and internal values of the "superego". The ego tries to maintain a balance between individual needs and environmental demands.

*"Suddenly I remembered Hester's story about her father's behavior when he went on a rampage cutting down trees with his sword." (Orez, p. 83)*

In the quote above this section, the element of "ego" is seen in how my character reacts to the memory of Hester's father's behavior in cutting down a tree with a sword. If my character suddenly remembers this story, the ego will act as a regulator of the response to the memory. The ego evaluates and interprets these memories realistically, trying to understand the emotional response in a more controlled way and adapting it to the situation at hand. The ego maintains a balance between the subconscious drives of the id, and the superego. In the context of the quote above, Hester's sudden response regarding the memory of her father's actions reflects the role and function of the ego in mediating and regulating my character's response to past memories.

*"I knew that I was not a prophet, therefore Orez did not surrender and did not turn into a sheep, but ran away and remained Orez." (Orez, p. 84)*

In the quote above in this sentence, "I know that I am not a prophet," shows a realistic self-image in which my character realizes that. This happened because the ego assessed the situation and realized the fact that my character did not have the qualities or abilities of a prophet. In this context, the ego is a rational entity that recognizes the fact that my character does not have special characteristics or abilities, therefore his son named Orez will still be Orez and will not turn into a sheep as in the prophet's stories.

## **3. Superego**

The superego is part of the personality structure and is based on moral and idealistic principles. Its function is to maintain moral standards and aspirations by using various tools such as religion, education, cultural norms, and values originating from the family and social environment. In this way, the superego becomes the standard for determining right and wrong. In Sigmund Freud's theory, the "superego" is a part of the personality structure that functions by internalizing norms, rules and moral values transmitted by the environment,

such as family, society and culture. The superego acts as a moral guardian, maintaining the individual's moral standards and ideals.

*"Because of that, I was warned to take good care of Hester. "Love his soul as you love your own soul, and love his body as you love your own body." (Orez, p. 66)*

In the quote above, the statement in the sentence, "Because of that, I was warned to take good care of Hester," shows the influence of the superego. The following quote "Love his soul as you love your own soul, and love his body as you love your own body." also reflects the values of caring and respecting others, and emphasizes moral messages. The moral values in this quote may be related to the role of the superego. The superego plays an important role in determining the moral rules and values taught by society and the environment, namely in this case caring for and respecting other people with the same love and affection as love and affection for oneself. Therefore, this quote reflects the influence of the superego which drives my character to act in accordance with existing moral values. Namely taking good care of Hester as one should care for and respect others as my character cares for and respects himself.

*"I know that Orez never asked to be born, therefore he has the right to live. I know that he, if he could think, would not want a life of disability. Because it is already disabled, no one can change Orez." (pg 84)*

In the quote above, the superego is found in an attitude that shows a strong moral understanding and judgment regarding a person's right to life and circumstances. The statement "I know that Orez never asked to be born, therefore he has the right to live" reflects the basic human recognition of the right to life. Then in the sentence "I know that he, if he could think, would not want to live disabled. Because he is already disabled, no one can change Orez." This reflects strong moral considerations regarding Orez's condition. This shows my character's concern for the quality of life that a non-disabled Orez would want, if he had normal thinking abilities. In this context, this sentence reflects the influence of the Superego which emphasizes moral values such as respect for Orez's right to life and concern for Orez's condition, which is destined to be disabled. These values are reflected in the attitude of my character who shows empathy, moral wisdom, and awareness in accordance with the principles obtained from the Superego.

## **CONCLUSION**

In the short story "Orez" by Budi Darma, the main character is presented with characteristics that reflect psychological concepts from Sigmund Freud's personality theory, namely id, ego and superego. The following is the conclusion of the analysis of the main characters in the story. The id in the main character is reflected through subconscious drives which may be related to fear or reluctance to face painful realities, as well as a strong desire to be a good or responsible father. These drives may originate from primitive instincts and needs rooted in the id part of the personality. The main character's ego is seen in regulated

responses to past memories or situations that cause emotional reactions. The ego plays a role in interpreting situations realistically and regulating emotional responses in a more controlled manner. The main character is able to assess reality and recognize limitations or situations that do not match expectations. The superego of my character in Orez's short story is that there are moral values, such as compassion, concern for other people, and respect for one's right to life and circumstances, reflected in the main character's thoughts and actions. The superego influences characters to act in accordance with the moral standards and values taught by their social environment. In conclusion, the character of the main character in the story "Orez" reflects the complex interaction between the id, ego and superego in shaping his behavior and responses to situations in the story. This analysis highlights how Freud's personality theory can be used to understand and explain character characterization in literary works.

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