

Bedhi Luna: Uncovering Moral Values in Ngada Folklore

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Abstract. The problem in this study is what moral values are contained in the Bedhi Luna folklore of the Beja Village Community of Ngada Regency. This study aims to find and describe the moral values contained in Bedhi Luna folklore in Beja Village Community of Ngada Regency. The approach used in this research is a descriptive qualitative approach. To obtain the data, the researcher used the method of simak and cakap while the technique used was the technique of simak libat cakap and note. The data were analyzed using moral value theory. The result of this study shows that Bedhi Luna folklore in the Langa community of Ngada Regency contains individual or personal moral values and social moral values. Individual or personal moral values include (1) sadness value, (3) politeness value, (4) happiness value, and (6) responsibility value. While social moral values include (1) the value of friendship, (2) the value of love and affection, (3) the value of kindness, (4) the value of helping, (5) cultural values.

Keywords: bedi luna, moral values, folklore

1 Introduction

Value has the same meaning as value in English, which means price, appreciation, or interpretation. That is, the appreciation value attached to an object. The object in question is an object, thing, situation, action, or behavior. Value is something abstract. Values can only be thought about, understood, and lived. Values are also related to ideals, hopes, beliefs, and things that are inner. Assessing means weighing, which is a human activity that connects something with something else to make a decision [1]. Values are something that exists within a person. Effendy (2007: 376) emphasizes that values are views, ideals, customs, habits, and so on that give rise to an emotional response in a person or certain society. In a general sense, the term value is often used for things that show price or appreciation, use or usefulness, goodness or kindness, and so forth [2], [3]. In philosophy, values are related to logic, ethics, and aesthetics. Logic questions the value of truth so that from it, we can obtain rules for thinking coherently and correctly. Ethics questions the value of goodness, namely the goodness of human behavior; this value is aimed at humans so that goodness can be formed, and aesthetics questions the value of beauty, both natural beauty and the beauty of humans and their work [4], [5].

Morals are a condition of human thoughts, feelings, speech, and behavior related to good and bad values. Morals generally refer to the understanding of teachings about the good and bad of a person's behavior, which is accepted through actions, attitudes, obligations, character, and so on. A person is said to be moral if they have moral awareness; that is, they can judge good and bad things, what they should do and what they should not do. Morals themselves are

divided into good morals and bad morals. Good morals are all good behavior, and vice versa with bad morals.

Moral values mean something that consciously or unconsciously reflects the noble qualities of humans and fights for human honor and dignity. For example, someone's wealth and glory in the world are not everything; having the courage to fight for the rights and obligations of the weak. Morals are practical, meaning practical human behavior that can give rise to good and bad judgments according to general standards of humanity [1], [6]. Moral values are part of the values that deal with good and bad human behavior [4], [7]. Basically, a moral human being is aware of his actions by moral values. Moral actions are human actions that are carried out consciously, and those actions are in accordance with moral values. Moral actions are actions that uphold the values of the human person, human honor, and dignity.

Moral values are realized in moral norms. Moral norms, norms of decency, or what are called ethical norms, are rules or rules of life that originate from the conscience and are the embodiment of moral values that bind humans. Moral values are a reference for good and bad human behavior.

Moral values can also be found in folklore. Folklore is a story from the past that is characteristic of every nation, which has a diverse culture, including the rich culture and history of each nation [8]. Folklore is a fantasy story where the events do not really happen. Folk tales are presented orally by storytellers. Literary works, which also include oral literature, are structures that are born from an ongoing historical process that is lived and experienced by the community from which the literary work was born [9], [10]. Oral literature has a close relationship with the society where oral literature exists, both in relation to society in the past, present, and future. One example of a folk tale is *Bedhi Luna*, which tells the story of forbidden love between a man from the lower class and a woman from the upper class. This story comes from Beja Village, Ngada Regency. In this folk tale, there are many moral values that can be used as life lessons for its readers.

Therefore, researchers are interested in conducting research with the title "Moral Values in the Bedhi Luna Folklore in the Community of Beja Village, Ngada Regency". The specific aim of this research is to find and describe the moral values contained in the Bedhi Luna folklore among the people of Beja Village, Ngada Regency.

2 Method and Materials

2.1 Method

The approach used by the author in this research is a qualitative descriptive approach. According to [11], qualitative methodology is a procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people and observed behavior. The qualitative descriptive approach in the phenomenological paradigm seeks to understand the meaning (search for meaning) of events and their relationships with ordinary people in certain situations. In other words, this research tries to reveal the moral values in the Bedhi luna folklore. To obtain data related to this research, the researcher used an uninvolved observation method, in the sense that the researcher did not speak but only heard and listened to the Bedhi Luna folklore. The data collected in this research would then be processed or analyzed using the interactive analysis model developed by [12]; there are 4 (four) components carried out with this model, namely data collection, data reduction, data display, drawing conclusions, or verification.

2.2 Concepts and Theories

Moral comes from the Latin word Mores, which is a human term referring to humanity or other people in actions that have positive values. Morals are basic traits that are taught in schools, and humans must have morals if they want to be respected by others. Moral values are part of the values that deal with good or bad human behavior.

Moral creatures have a collective consciousness. Collective consciousness is the key to moral action. Things included in morals are manners, etiquette, and other societal norms. According to [13] and [14], morals are actions or behaviors that have been accepted in accordance with general ideas of knowing what is good and reasonable. The scope of morals is actually the same as ethics, namely about human behavior, except that ethics is general in nature, which is a normative theory, while morals are practical, namely human behavior, which can give rise to good and bad judgments according to general humanities standards. Moreover, [1], [15] argue that moral philosophy is an attempt to systematize knowledge about the nature of morality and what is required of us, borrowing Socrates' words about "How should we live" and why is that so?

Folklore is a story from the past that is characteristic of every nation, which has a diverse culture, including the rich culture and history of each nation [16], [17]. Folklore is dynamic, and it will experience changes, such as additions or subtractions, according to the passage of time. Therefore, we find various variations of folklore in different places. It is a joint property. There is no copyright issue in folklore. No one claims to be the author of a particular folk tale, so folk tales are anonymous [18], [19]. The theory used is the theory of value. Besides that, it puts forward value according to Scheler's opinion. Namely, a reality that is generally hidden behind other realities that are the bearers of value, such as an object that is red is a bearer of value. Apart from that, Hardywardoyo said that humans understand values not with their minds but with their hearts. Openness and sensitivity of the heart are the keys to understanding values. Values cannot be understood by thinking about values but by experiencing and realizing values, such as someone only understanding the value of love when they are loving, or someone understanding their friend with all their heart.

In the basic concepts of sociolinguistics, [20] and [21] talk about life values, which are values related to the needs of human life, both individual and group. This value includes the following values. (1) Value of Welfare. The value of welfare in this context is related to the fulfillment of human physical life needs, as contained in the sentence "we ask God to give us abundant results" and (2) The Value of Love. The value of love in this context is a value related to love between husband and wife. This value of love is contained in the sentence "wife and husband love each other," (3) Value Humility. What is meant by the value of humility in this context is a value related to human beings who view themselves as servants in the eyes of God. This value is contained in the sentence, "We are not worthy of your servants, Lord" (4). Value of Brotherhood. What is meant by the value of brotherhood in this context is the value that exists in someone who considers other people as brothers even though their ethnicity, religion, and race are different. This value is contained in the use of the phrase "we are the brothers who hope that our brother's soul will enter heaven, (5) Value of Harmony. What is meant by the value of harmony in this context is the value related to the life of the people, which is always safe, peaceful, of one heart and accord, non-hostile, and in solidarity. For example, the value of harmony is shown by the use of the meaning "Easter penetrates within us" and (6) Value of Loyalty. What is meant by the value of loyalty in this context is a value related to human loyalty to honor God forever.

According to [1], [22], the various moral values are as follows:

1. Individual or Personal Moral Values

Individual or personal moral values are moral values that concern humans' relationships with their own personal lives or the way humans treat themselves. These moral values are the basis or guide for human life, which is the direction and rules that need to be followed in their personal lives. Individual or personal moral values include: (1) the value of sadness is a feeling that is difficult or creates a feeling of difficulty. (2) the value of politeness is behavior that is very popular or liked by many people, and that is natural or basic. (3) The value of pride is the attitude of someone who feels satisfied with a desire that has been achieved or has been achieved. (4) the value of happiness is a state of mind that is characterized by intense or strong pleasure, satisfaction, or joy. (5) the value of responsibility is human awareness of intentional or unintentional behavior or actions within a person.

2. Social Moral Values

Social, moral values are moral values related to the social order between individuals and society or human relationships with other humans in social life. In carrying out these relationships, people need to understand the applicable norms so that the relationship runs smoothly or there are no misunderstandings. Social and moral values refer to all actions that create unity, strength, and peace in the economy of members of society. Social moral values include: (1) the value of friendship describes a behavior of cooperation and mutual support. (2) the value of love is a feeling of liking or affection for someone accompanied by compassion. (3) the value of affection is an attitude of mutual respect and love. (4) the value of hospitality is an orderly, good-natured attitude that exists in every human being. (5) The value of goodness is a good attitude that is desired and strived for and is a human goal. (6) the value of mutual help, which means helping each other or working together with people who need help. (7) the value of justice is a condition of ideal moral truth regarding a right, whether regarding objects or people. (8) the value of forgiveness is an attitude that does not hold grudges. (9) Beauty values are the qualities and characteristics of a person or an object that provide experience, pleasure, and satisfaction.

3 Results and Discussion

Moral values in the Bedhi Luna folklore consist of individual or personal moral values and social moral values.

a. Individual or Personal Moral Values

Individual moral values or personal moral values are moral values that concern humans' relationships with their own lives or the way humans treat themselves. These moral values are the basis or guide for human life, which is the direction and rules that need to be followed in their personal lives. Personal moral values are moral values or teachings related to the morals or ethics that exist within a person, whether good or bad moral teachings [23], [24]. Individual or personal moral values include:

1. The Value of Sadness

Sadness is a feeling that is difficult or causes distress. The value of sadness is contained in the quote below.

Data 1

Luna and her parents were dragged to the middle of the village to face the Meo family. The Meo family hurled abuse and insults at Luna and her family. Meo, who was beside his brother, accompanied by Sia and Rakas, could only cry without having to do anything.

Traditional elders and the community could only watch the incident; they were prohibited from interfering and speaking except for the Meo family.

In the data above, you can see the value of sadness, which is reflected in the sentence Meo, who was next to his brother, accompanied by Sia and Rakas, was only able to cry without having to do anything. This sentence shows the value of sadness where Rakas and Sia shed tears because they felt the sadness experienced by their friend.

Data 2

Her parents could only mourn Luna's sad fate and resigned themselves to their fate. Meo can only regret the mistake he made; his stupidity that night was letting Luna into his life and making her bear everything herself.

The value of sadness can also be seen in data 2, contained in the sentence. Both of her parents were only able to mourn Luna's sad fate; they also resigned themselves to the fate that existed; this sentence illustrates how sad Luna's parents are mourning the fate of their child because their child will be punished for having a relationship. Love with a girl from the upper classes.

2. Value of Politeness

Politeness is behavior that is very popular or liked by many people and has natural or basic values. The value of politeness is contained in the quote below.

Data 3

Luna and her parents knelt to beg forgiveness from the Meo family, but their mistake did not receive forgiveness. Meo's brother pulled Luna, then placed a bamboo hanging with a basket of animal dung and kitchen ash on Luna's shoulders. Luna was taken from the village to the mountain in the corner of the village. Throughout the journey, Luna was pelted with animal dung and kitchen ash by the local community.

In the data above, we can see the value of politeness in the sentences that Luna and her parents knelt to ask for forgiveness from the Meo family, but the mistakes they made did not receive forgiveness from the Meo family. This sentence shows the value of politeness because Luna, who was sentenced to death, did not put up a fight; she accepted it by politely begging for forgiveness without saying anything.

3. Value Happiness

Happiness or joy is a state, thought, or feeling characterized by intense or strong pleasure, satisfaction, enjoyment, or excitement. The value of happiness is contained in the quote below.

Data 4

They did not even care about the dark and cold night. The heat of the fire of love that burned in both of them beat the cold air that night. They met again under the moonlight. Luna expressed all her feelings to Meo. Meo accepted Luna's feelings with a flowery heart; the differences between the two seemed meaningless.

In the data above, there is a value of happiness, which is reflected in the sentence Meo accepts Luna's feelings with a flowering heart; the difference between the two seems meaningless.

The two lovebirds were so happy because they finally got to meet. When they met, they expressed their feelings and wanted to stay with each other.

4. Value of Responsibility

Responsibility is human awareness of their behavior or actions, whether intentional or unintentional. Responsibility also means acting as an embodiment of awareness of obligations. The value of responsibility is contained in the quote below.

Data 5

On the mountain, Luna's neck was tied with a rope connected to bamboo that Meo's brother had stuck into the ground. Luna was tragically hanged; her tears were streaming down, and she could no longer bear the pain she was suffering. In the final moments of death, he looked at Meo and his parents and said sorry.

The value of responsibility can be seen in Luna's willingness to bear all the consequences of her actions. The Ngada people's custom is that if they violate customs, they will be punished, so with responsibility, they accept everything without fighting back.

b. Social Moral Values

Social, moral values are moral values related to the social order between individuals and society or human relations with other humans in social life [7], [25]. In carrying out these relationships, people need to understand the applicable norms so that the relationship runs smoothly or there are no misunderstandings. Humans should also be able to differentiate between good actions and bad actions. These social, moral values include:

1. The Value of Friendship

Friendship describes cooperative behavior and mutual support between two or more people. The value of friendship can be found in the quote below.

Data 6

Luna doesn't understand why her best friend Ranu is so against her feelings. Ranu, who doesn't want Luna to get into trouble, explains that Meo is actually a girl from an upper-class family, so it's not appropriate for a man from a lower class to fall in love with her. Moreover, Luna comes from a lower-class family.

Data 7

Luna was very disappointed to hear her friend's words, but she still maintained her sincere feelings for Meo. Seeing Luna eager to fight for her love, Ranu is willing to introduce Luna to Meo. Ranu immediately informed Sia and Rakas of Luna's intentions, and then they began to arrange a meeting for Luna and Meo.

The value of friendship can be seen in the data above. Luna was disappointed to hear her friend's words, but she still maintained her sincere feelings for Meo. Seeing Luna eager to fight for her love, Ranu is willing to introduce Luna to Meo. Ranu immediately informed Sia and Rakas of Luna's intentions, and then they began to arrange a meeting for Luna and Meo, where Luna and Ranu were very close friends. Ranu helps her friend who wants to meet Meo; even though she has warned Luna not to have a relationship with Meo because of cultural customs, she still helps her friend Luna. Ranu tries in every way possible to bring the two together by contacting Meo's friend

namely Sia and Rakas, so they arranged a meeting for Luna and Meo.

2. The value of love and compassion

Love is a feeling of liking or affection for someone accompanied by compassion. Affection is an attitude of mutual respect and love for all of God's creation, both living creatures and inanimate objects, such as loving ourselves and each other based on a noble conscience. The value of love and affection can be found in the quote below.

Data 8

They did not even care about the dark and cold night. The heat of the fire of love that burned in both of them beat the cold air that night. They met again under the moonlight. Luna expressed all her feelings to Meo. Meo accepted Luna's feelings with a flowery heart; the differences between the two seemed meaningless. The small hut with a coconut leaf roof silently witnessed their love story that night. Under the moonlight, the two of them had a forbidden love affair. Her precious jewels had been stolen by the lover she fell in love with that night. Meo and Luna fall asleep to the lust that tarnishes the purity of their love.

The value of love is found in the data above, where there is a combination of love between Luna and Meo, who fall in love. This idea can be seen in the sentence where Meo accepts Luna's feelings with a flowery heart; the difference between the two seems meaningless. The small hut with a coconut leaf roof silently witnessed their love story that night. They do not care about the forbidden love between them, expressing their hearts to each other. Luna's affection for Meo was so great that she tried to meet and

3. The Value of Kindness

Kindness is an attitude that is desired, strived for and becomes a human goal. The value of kindness is found in the quotation:

Data 9

The long-awaited day had arrived. Ranu, Sia, and Rakas reunited the two on the riverbank. Luna and Meo were introduced to each other. Then Ranu, Sia, and Rakas left them to talk alone in a hut not far from the riverbank and watched them from a distance.

The value of kindness is illustrated in the sentence Then Ranu, Sia, and Rakas let them talk alone in a hut not far from the riverbank and watched them from a distance. Luna and Meo's friends were so kind that they let their two friends talk and meet. They did not want to disturb them, so they just watched them afar.

4. The Value of Helping

Helping each other means helping or cooperating with people who need help. The value of helping is found in the quotation:

Data 10

Luna was disappointed to hear her best friend's words but still maintained her sincere feelings for Meo. Seeing Luna eager to fight for her love, Ranu was willing to introduce Luna to Meo. Ranu immediately informed Luna's intention to Sia and Rakas; then, they began to arrange Luna and Meo's meeting.

The value of helping is seen in the sentence, seeing Luna eager to fight for her love. Ranu was willing to introduce Luna to Meo. Ranu, Luna's friend, is willing to help his friend by agreeing with Meo's friend so that Lua and Meo can meet.

5. Cultural Value

Cultural values are values that become customs and cultures that become rules to govern their society [26]. Cultural values are seen in the following data.

Data 11

What happened to Luna and Meo taught the Langa community a valuable lesson. After the incident, the elders decided that no woman from the upper range could have a relationship with a man from the middle or lower range. Centuries after the incident, precisely in this day and age, the rules that applied at that time began to be updated. Today in Bajawa City, especially in Langa Village, women from upper rang families can have relationships or marry men from middle or lower families.

The data above shows that in the Ngada culture of Langa Village, women from the upper range cannot marry men from the lower range or vice versa. Failure to do so will result in sanctions. If this happens, the marriage will be recognized by conducting a traditional family ritual at night called "Nuka Nua," the woman is paraded by throwing animal dung and kitchen ash and sacrificing a buffalo as her dowry.

The data above indicates that the various worthy of human life are complementary. Interconnected values from the disciplines of religion, literature, culture, and civic life all contribute to shaping the development of a well-rounded individual [24]–[26]. In social life, the interaction and interdependence of diverse values are the most important variables that highlight how humans interpret values across interconnected domains and interact with one another throughout the entire human life [26]–[28]. This notion has significance for explaining social, literary, cultural, and educational advances in society.

The interconnection of values in all fields enables humans to form relationships, fully understand the feelings of others, and engage in socio-cultural activities [29]. Folklore and societal conventions are the primary means of passing down culture and values to future generations. This paper explores how Bedhi Luna folklore enhances societal values in Beja village, Ngada district, Indonesia. Community folklore's social values influence societal norms and how people act in different roles.

4 Conclusion

Based on the findings presented in chapter four, the conclusion of this research is that the moral values contained in the Bedhi Luna folklore in the Langa Village community of Ngada Regency consist of individual or personal moral values and social moral values. Both values are passed down from generation to generation to strengthen the structure of social values of society in Beja village, Ngada district, Indonesia. The social values embodied in these local folktales affect the framework of society and regulate how people behave in their varied social positions in the real world at all times.

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