

# Digging the Value of The Heritage of Culture in the Story “A Piece of Wood for The Lord”

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## ABSTRACT

This study discusses the value of life in the short story "A Piece of Wood for God" in relation to everyday human life. The focus of this research is to understand the contents of a short story including the value of the values that are in it, their relationship to human life and the environment. The purpose of this study is to explore our understanding of the short story will be more focused and deeper that begins with questions. These question questions can be grouped starting from literal, interpretative, integrative, critical and creative understanding. This study uses a qualitative research paradigm procedure. The results of the study show that reading short stories is not just about getting entertainment, indirectly the readers get social, moral, cultural and religious values.

**Keywords :** *values, culture, short stories, Kuntowijoyo.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Reading has a very important role in human life, especially in the era of information and communication as it is today. Reading is a window to the world, by reading all information can be captured and digested quickly and easily. Reading is a bridge for anyone who wants to achieve progress and success. Therefore, reading is a skill that is very important and must be owned by everyone, especially for students.

Benefits obtained by students if they can become good, effective and efficient text readers. Students will have the ability to obtain information both in general information and specific information, which is related to the subject matter. This study chose high school level with the consideration of high school students the level of maturity or intellectual development of children already at the level of formal operations. According to Piaget [1][2] the level of formal operations (11-14 th) the characteristics of children include: the pattern of thinking has been systematic and includes complex processes not limited to concrete objects. Children are also able to solve problems by thinking hypothetically, deductively, rationally, abstractly, and reflective in evaluating information.

The ability to read well can be used to enjoy a variety of information through print media, electronic media and also enjoy literary works, especially short story texts. who can add insight and increase their sensitivity to the beauty of artwork. In addition, by reading short stories, it

turns out that they also get values that we can hold on to life in society in relation to social, moral, cultural and religious aspects.

## **2. METHOD**

This study uses a textual approach which means researchers use elements of language in a discourse. This study can be categorized as a qualitative research paradigm procedure because it depends more on the interpretation of researchers[3]. The analysis technique uses an interactive work model that consists of three components, namely data reduction, data presentation, and verification [4]. Analysis is also carried out by interpreting the mode of cultural symbols contained in the text of the discourse. The data collection used in this study is the library method. The data source is a short story by Kuntowijoyo, quoted from: Kuntowijoyo "A Piece of Wood for God" in Forbidden to love Flowers, Jakarta, Paradise Library 1992[5]. The data in this study are short story text. The validity of the data is tested through triangulation [6].

## **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The results and findings of the study will be explained deductively, starting from the presentation of the short story text entitled "A Piece of Wood for God" by: Kuntowijoyo, grouping questions that include literal, interpretative, integrative, critical and creative questions that are used to test. Then, the description in the form of life values from the contents of the short story.

### **3.1 Text of short story script**

The house is located on the edge of the hamlet, far from the neighbors. No one will see him lying until any time. Behind the house is a small river. The garden sloped until it touched the edge of the river. Trees fortify the yard. How hard it works! If the wife is at home, she will be told to bend along the garden. Seriously. Wood! Wood is gone! How dirty is our garden! He must get up quickly, if he does not want to get drenched in his wife's water. Work is indeed necessary, he knows. Only his wife is too talkative. He who is as white as his hair is still considered as lazy.

I'm not lazy, thought the old man. I am their grandson who likes hard work. I'm diligent, from toe to tip! He sucked deep pipe cigarettes. But prove it, grandfather, he suddenly thought. Yes, saying it's easy. Evidence is difficult. However, he did not know what work could be done at a time like this. Say, for example, firewood. Firewood has piled up in the kitchen. He himself piled it up. Or sweep the page. In vain, nobody will see his house. His house is quite protected from people's eyes.

Suddenly he rose. "For god's sake," he exclaimed, "woe is time!" He remembered. Despite doing something. Lying idly is not a good Muslim job. He had heard, the villagers were building new surau. Many people have provided materials. Wood, tiles and limestone have been collected. Madrasa children look for stones and sand into the river. Is it appropriate for him, a Muslim for life only to be lazy? Not. Serve you in the way of God with your wealth and soul! He is nervous. If his wife at home he can reach a consensus. All of his wealth, namely money for food, is all with his wife. For him only enough food ingredients were left until his wife came home. What will be donated for the construction of God's house? Is it because his wife is not at home he will miss the opportunity to do charity? Of course not. The old man thought. Actually, his mind can

also be clear, only the habit of getting a damper from his wife has made him afraid to think. Thinking was troublesome for an old man like him.

So, he stands. Let go of the views of the whole nature, the house, and the yard, call it the whole world and get off the porch. The sun's heat plays on the leaves which are agile by the wind. Every now and then a beam of light falls on his back, stinging. He was happy. Enjoy the habit of walking tiptoe, stepping over vegetable plants. His wife cursed if he was at home. He was always fussy when he saw him walking between the vegetable plants. Even though he himself regulates the plants. Behind the house is a river. The calm flowing water is very charming. Where is the chance to visit his wife for a long time at home! He never tired of playing in the river. Just because of his wife's ban, he is no longer friendly with water. Will catch a cold later. Also he no longer hooks. Fishing is work for lazy people. Sometimes his wife told him to look for fish not with a hook, but with nets he stopped. In front of him stood a jackfruit tree. The tree is dead. The wood is quite large. Embedded near the edge of the river. The top has dried, no leaves remain. Nice! This wood is appropriate for the construction of Surau. The wood is shiny yellow. No need for paint or polish. Refiners may, just a little. And he will cut down the wood himself. Easy. The wood is broken until it breaks. The skin is peeled. Driven into the river. He transports it through the river. From the banks of the river only need a wheelbarrow to get to the place where the surau was built.

His wife won't know everything. After he came home, he knew, what work had been done by her husband! How happy he will be, a godly old woman. We will donate the wood for the construction of the house of God, my wife. The wife will be happy, praise gratitude. At the last moment of their lives, they still had time to do good deeds.

Yes, he himself planted the tree. He himself watered the river water. How fertile first. His father would order him to climb if the jackfruit had been ripe fruit. The death of the tree need not be regrettable. The tree will be placed in a respectable place. God's house. Every day, people will praise the greatness of God and his apostles. That's a good ending for a wood! Much better than entering the stove. Moreover, the stove of an infidel who cooks unclean rizki! It was natural, he planted the tree first by saying the name of God first. A jackfruit tree planted with his hands, and cut with his hands! He will prove with real objects, once in his life he can also contribute to God.

Quoted from: Kuntowijoyo "a piece of wood for god" in being prohibited from loving flowers, Jakarta, paradise library, 1992.[7]

### 3.2 The values of life contained in the short stories are as follows.

**Table 1** Values-Values of Life in Short Stories

<b>Value of Life</b>	<b>Description</b>
Moral value	the value of life related to the behavior, morals or moral (good and bad) of human beings with one another. Moral values also contain the teaching of moral aspects. Moral values, among them respect and devotion to parents, honest, patient, sincere and decent.
Social Value	the value of life related to the behavior, morals or moral (good and bad) of human beings with one another. Moral values also contain the teaching of moral aspects. Moral values, among them respect and devotion to parents, honest, patient, sincere and decent.

Culture value	the value of life related to the behavior, morals or moral (good and bad) of human beings with one another. Moral values also contain the teaching of moral aspects. Moral values, among them respect and devotion to parents, honest, patient, sincere and decent.
Religious value	the value of life related to religious life. Examples of religious values are the way to worship God and his belief system.
Political Value	the value of life related to the turmoil of governance in an area. The turmoil is the background of the story. The setting of political events is one of the nation's historical documents.

### 3.3. Cultural Value in the Short Story of Wood for God

In this short story of Wood Piece for God, we find values of human culture that are related to God, nature, society, environment and ourselves[8]. The following will discuss the cultural values contained in the short story piece of wood for God

#### a. Cultural Value in Human Relations with God

In the short story "A Piece of Wood for God" the cultural value in human relations with God that stands out is obedience to the figure of the grandfather who is told as a Muslim who obeys the rules / hadith of his religion. This can be proven in the following Excerpt,

"... He suddenly got up. "For god's sake," he exclaimed, "woe is a waste of time!" He remembered. Despite doing something. Lying idly is not a good Muslim job. He had heard, the villagers were building new surau. Many people have provided materials. Wood, tiles and limestone have been collected. Madrasa children look for stones and sand into the river. Is it appropriate for him, a Muslim for life only to be lazy?

#### b. Cultural Value in Human Relations with Nature

Humans use nature as one source of life. In short stories "a piece of wood for god" nature is used by humans to grow crops, rivers to find fish (fishing / fishing. The family and grandfather's livelihoods besides farming, he sometimes also searches for fish in the river behind his house. Such conditions can be known from the following quote ,

"... So, he stands. Let go of the views of the whole nature, the house, and the yard, call it the whole world and get off the porch. The sun's heat plays on the leaves which are agile by the wind. Every now and then a beam of light falls on his back, stinging. He was happy. Enjoy the habit of walking tiptoe, stepping over vegetable plants. His wife cursed if he was at home. He was always fussy when he saw him walking between the vegetable plants. Even though he himself regulates the plants. Behind the house is a river. The calm flowing water is very charming. Where is the chance to visit him for a long time if his wife is at home! He never tired of playing in the river. Just because of his wife's ban, he is no longer friendly with water. Will catch a cold later. Also he no longer hooks. Fishing is work for lazy people. Sometimes his wife told him to look for fish not with a hook, but with a net.

... Yes, he himself planted the tree. He himself watered the river water. How fertile first. His father would order him to climb if the jackfruit had been fruitful ...

#### c. Cultural Value in Human Relations with Society and the environment.

In this short story there are values that show human relations with society such as helping. This is reflected in the attitude of the people who want to help the people in their surroundings selflessly. This is evident from the following quote,

"... He has heard, the villagers are building new surau. Many people have provided materials. Wood, tiles and limestone have been collected. Madrasa children look for stones and sand into the river.

..... He is nervous. If his wife at home he can reach a consensus. All of his wealth, namely money for food, is all with his wife. For him only enough food left until his wife came home.

#### d. Cultural Value in Human Relations with Ourselves

Djarmis [9] expresses cultural values which and group them into several relationship patterns. Humans are individual beings who are also social creatures. Manusia as a personal creature has things to determine life views, attitudes, and behaviors that distinguish from other individuals according to their ideals, needs, and emotions. In the life of the individual being faced with the choice of selfishness or choosing the importance of others. The choice given by the individual depends on self-control. In this short story "A Piece of Wood for God" there are cultural values related to oneself. Among those values is

- 1) The value of submission and laziness that can be seen from the figure of Grandpa who surrender in accepting the wife's behavior towards her. How hard it works! If the wife is at home, she will be told to bend along the garden. Seriously. Wood! Wood is gone! How dirty is our garden! He must get up quickly, if he does not want to get drenched in his wife's water. Work is indeed necessary, he knows. Only his wife is too talkative. He who is as white as his hair is still considered as lazy
- 2) The value of obedience that can be seen from the attitude of Grandfather who suddenly rose and exclaimed "for god's sake" when he remembered the hadith that read woe that was a waste of time! " behind the house while thinking and looking for everything what could have been donated to Allah's house, until finally he found a dead jackfruit tree and was taken to contribute to the construction of a mosque.
- 3) Skill value of this can be seen from the skill of Grandfather in taking wood and driving him to Surau with the help of river water, This is evident in the following quote, ... And he will cut down the wood himself. Easy. The wood is broken until it breaks. The skin is peeled. Driven into the river. He will transport it through the river. From the banks of the river only need a wheelbarrow to get to the place where the surau was built.
- 4) Reflection value.  
The value of contemplation can be seen in the attitude of the grandfather who was contemplating himself and his wife's attitude to him. This is evident in the following quote,  
... Is it appropriate for him, a Muslim for life only to be lazy? Not. Serve you in the way of God with your wealth and soul! He is nervous. If his wife at home he can reach a consensus.  
... I'm not lazy, thought the old man. I am their grandson who likes hard work. I'm diligent, from toe to tip! He sucked deep pipe cigarettes. But prove it, grandfather,

he suddenly thought. Yes, saying it's easy. Evidence is difficult. However, he did not know what work could be done at a time like this. Say, for example, firewood. Firewood has piled up in the kitchen. He himself piled it up. Or sweep the page. In vain, nobody will see his house. His house is quite protected from people's eyes. ... His wife won't know everything. After he came home, he knew what work he had done for him! How happy he will be, a godly old woman. We will donate the wood for the construction of the house of God, my wife. The wife will be happy, praise gratitude. At the last moment of their lives, they still had time to do good deeds.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The conclusion of this study is that cultural values in the short story "A Piece of Wood for God" found cultural values, namely relationships (human beings with God, human beings with nature, human beings with society and the environment and humans with themselves). cultural values in human relations with God is obedience to the figure of grandfather as a Muslim who obeys the rules of his religion, when he remembers the hadith containing Muslims will be harmed if he wastes time. Cultural Value in Human Relations with Nature is that Humans use nature as a source of life, nature is used by humans to grow crops, rivers to find fish (fishing / catching. Cultural Value in Human Relations with Communities and the environment are values that show relationships) human beings with society such as, help. Cultural Value in Human Relations with Self. Humans are individual creatures as well as social beings. Humans as personal beings have feelings to determine life views, attitudes, and behavior that distinguishes from other individuals in accordance with his ideals, his needs, and his emotions In the life of personal beings faced with the choice to be selfish or choose to prioritize the needs of others, the choices given by these individuals are very dependent on self-control.

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