

# The Inner Conflict of the Main Character in *Athirah* Novel by Alberthiene Endah: Overview of Literary Psychology

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## ABSTRACT

This study aims to describe: The form of the main character's inner conflict in the novel *Athirah* by Albertiene Endah and the attitude of the main character in dealing with his inner conflict. The data source of this research is the novel *Athirah* by Albertiene Endah with a number of 404 pages, which was published by PT Mirzan Publica, South Jakarta in 2013. The method of data collection was carried out by reading techniques, note.novel *Athirah's* and the main character's attitude in dealing with his inner conflict. The results of this study are as follows: - The form of the main character's inner conflict includes anxiety about the nature and behaviour of her husband, the presence of people third in the household, becoming the subject of gossip from the community, face his bitter life in polygamy, defending his love and family, crisis family economy due to the presence of a second wife, accused of destroying the family honey, a woman lives in the realm of no family planning, despair and cover-up heartache until the end of his life. The main character's attitude in dealing with his inner conflict includes being patient in dealing with all accusations in his honey's household, sincerity, namely letting his husband go to polygamy, trusting in accepting the trials he experienced, and the struggle of a bone woman in a polygamous life.

**Keywords:** *Inner Conflict, Main Character, Athirah Novel, Literary Psychology*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Literature is a personal human expression in the form of feelings, experiences, ideas, in the form of a picture of the life that can arouse enthusiasm and language as a tool, which is assembled to form writing. Language is the ability that humans have to communicate with other humans through signs or gestures.

Literary work is the art of language in which literary works are not born from mere emptiness, but are born from the imagination of the author. Literary work is a picture experienced in human life. Therefore, literary works with humans always have a relationship that cannot be separated from one another. The story that is built in a literary work is a picture of existing human life. Literary works are very useful for life because literary works can provide awareness to readers about the truths of life, even though they are described in the

form of fiction. Literary works can provide joy and inner satisfaction can be used as entertainment. Literary works are divided into three genders, namely; poetry, prose and drama.

In human literature and the problems of his life become the subject of the creation of the literary work itself. Many things can be observed in human life and one of them is conflict. In undergoing the process of human development, it is not uncommon for humans to experience obstacles and problems that lead to conflict.

novel *Athirah* Alberthiene Endah'stells about the conflict experienced by the main character. In terms of conflict, it is interesting because the topic raised is polygamy conflict. Polygamy conflicts cause chaos, even problems for every wife who does not want it to happen in her marriage relationship. This can result in psychological pressure or psychological pressure experienced by the main character. The problem experienced by

the main character who is described as a wife whose husband has another woman is a psychological pressure for the main character, so it is related to the title. Researchers will examine the inner pressure experienced by the main character in the novel *Athirah*.

In novel *Athirah's* many conflicts can be studied using a scalpel of literary psychology, both the problems experienced by the main character and the problems experienced by other characters, as well as the inner pressure experienced by the main character.

Based on the above explanation, the novel *Athirah* Albertthiene Endah's will be analyzed with a literary psychology approach. Thus, it aims to find out the psychology of the Main Character contained in it. Because definitively, the goal of psycholinguistics is to understand the psychological aspects contained in a literary work as well as in the process of making the literary work itself, as well as the content of the literary work that will not be separated from the psychological aspects.

## **2. THEORY BASIS**

### **2.1 Literature Psychology**

Literature refers to two senses, namely as literature and as the humanities, which is one branch of knowledge. We used within the framework of literature, literature is a work of art created by the author or certain community groups mediated language. Literature has a very broad understanding and in its development literature as science can synergize with other branches of science outside it. In this research, literature synergizes with psychology.

Psychology comes from the Greek word *Psyche*, which means soul and *logo* which means science. So, psychology means the science of the soul or the science that investigates and studies human behavior. Psychology is a science that researches and studies about behavior or activities that are seen as manifestations of human psychic life, or stimuli that affect the individual or organism. In this case, the behavior or activity is considered as an answer or response to the stimulation that hits it.

Between literature and psychology, both discuss humans. The literature discusses humans by presenting them in a complete text along with their accompanying character, characteristics, and personal life. Psychology discusses humans by studying through their nature or personality. Thus, an integral relationship can be found between literature and psychology, namely man and his

psyche. The relationship between literature and psychology in its development gave rise to a review in the field of literature called literary psychology.

Literary psychology is literary studies that are the centre of attention on mental activity either from a character in work literature, the author creates literary works, even reader as connoisseur literature. According to Endraswara [1], literary psychology is a literary study that views work as a psychological activity. The author will use creativity, taste, and work in his work. Literary works which are seen as psychological phenomena will display psychological aspects through characters if by chance the text is in the form of drama or prose.

According to Roekhan (in Endraswara, [1]) literary psychology will be supported by three approaches at once. First, the textual approach, which examines the psychological aspects of characters in literary works. Second, the pragmatic receptive approach, which examines the psychological aspects of readers as connoisseurs of literary works that are formed from the influence of the works they read, as well as the reception process of readers in enjoying literary works. Third, the expressive approach, which examines the psychological aspects of the author when carrying out a protected creative process through his work, both the author as a person and as a representative of the community. According to Semi, [2] the psychological approach is an approach that starts from the assumption that literary works always discuss events in human life. To see and know humans more deeply and further requires psychology.

Literary psychology research is an interdisciplinary research model between literature and psychology. Literary psychology does not aim to solve practical psychological problems. However, it focuses on the psychological aspects of characters in literary works.

Three ways can be done to understand the relationship between psychology and literature, namely (a) understanding the psychological elements of the author as a writer, (b) understanding the psychological elements of fictional characters in literary works, and (c) understanding the psychological elements of the reader.

### **2.2 Developmental Psychology** **Developmental**

Psychology is a field of psychology that studies human development and the factors that shape a person's behavior from birth to old age. Developmental psychology is closely related to

social psychology because most developments occur in the context of social interaction and are also closely related to personality psychology because individual development can shape the distinctive personality of the individual.

Developmental psychology is a branch of psychology that studies the development and changes in aspects of the human psyche from birth to death. The application of developmental psychology is used in various fields such as education and parenting, optimizing the quality of life of older adults, and handling adolescents.

### **2.3 Novel**

The word novel comes from Latin novellas derived from the word novies which means new. The American College Dictionary (in dance, 1994:830) mentions that the novel is a fictional prose story in a certain length, which describe the characters, movements, and real-life scenes that are representative of a plot.

Novels are works of fiction that offer an imaginary world and fantasia. A world that contains medel ideal life, world imaginary built through various intrinsic elements. By therefore, naturally, we discover fantastic imaginative novels which are sometimes beyond reason people and the world who try never been built from the author's mind from the results mediation between real subjects and existing imaginary.

## **3. RESEARCH METHODS**

The approach used to analyze data in this research is qualitative. The qualitative approach is carried out by describing the existing data and then followed by an analysis of the form of conflict, attitude main character and heroic elements in the novel *Athirah* by Alberthiene Endah.

Sources of data in the study are the novel *Athirah* by Albertiene Endah. The novel was published by PT Mizan Publica Jakarta.

The data analysis technique used in this research is descriptive qualitative analysis. The first step is to analyze the data following the principles of qualitative data, namely:

- a. Repeated reading, critical, creative in identifying data sources.
- b. Completing and classifying the results of reading data.
- c. Analyze all data in full based on the problem.
- d. Grouping words, sentences that contain forms of conflict and attitudes in dealing with inner conflicts.
- e. Describing data by reinterpreting data that

contains inner conflicts.

- f. Concluding data by reinterpreting data that has been identified and classified to find cohesion and relationships between data.
- g. Presenting the results of data analysis.
- h. Concluding the results of data analysis in the form of research reports.

## **4. RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

In the discussion of characters The main characters in the novel *Athirah's* are Emma, the object of research, namely Novel *Atirah* found several forms the form of inner conflict experienced Athirah's character in living his life. In this chapter, we will be presented with identification data to describe the inner conflict that being experienced by the main character. description Athirah's inner conflict is featured in every round the life of Athirah's character, namely (1) The Form of Inner Conflict Experienced Emma (TU) in the novel *Athirah*. (2) Emma (TU)'s attitude in dealing with inner conflicts in Alberthiene Endah's novel *Athirah*.

### **4.1 The Form of Inner Conflict Experienced Emma (TU) In Athirah Novel Anxiety About Dan's Nature Her husband's behavior**

The origin of the emergence of form Emma's inner conflict (TU) started from Emma (TU)'s anxiety about her husband's attitude and behavior recently changed, that is using too much hair cream and combing her hair more often. For example in the following quote.

"Your father has been strange lately, Jusuf. You see his movements combed her hair almost every hour. Using hair cream repeatedly until it smells good conspicuous. Often leave the house without skullcap." Emma pulled the curtains from ivory silk weaving with a very white stripe pattern soft. I saw something that wasn't seen. My mother is restless inside the apparent serenity he creates with great effort. "Did you see that, Joseph?"

[3]

From the data above shows that anxiety felt Emma (TU) on behavior her recent husband different. This raises the suspicion that Mr H Kalla is a glance at another woman. Emma (TU) asked her son Jusuf about the suspicion. Jusuf is just a teenager who doesn't understand things like that.

#### **4.1.1 The Presence of a Third Person in Household**

The subject matter of Being conflict in the

novel *Athirah* The is a conflict that usually occurs in a house stair, namely the presence of people third. As quoted below this.

"You heard Emma's cry after the morning prayer earlier?" Nur looking at us one by one with sharp. Ahmad is still small, not yet even 5 years old. He just stares see more of Nur's face complicated than the arrangement of silk threads before weaving.

"How do I know, you know my room is in ahead," I replied. "What is it?" "Me and Zohor heard the sound of her crying. Long time!" Nur's face is getting fuller wrinkle. Zohor my little sister. "Where is Father?" I started influenced by Nurain's words.

"That's him!" Nur quickly move his body. "Father love someone else."

"What's scarier than an immature child, hear his father love another girl? I hope Nur only joking. If yes, I will be angry briefly to him. Not enough is the sun in Makassar burn our skin? No need to be careful burned."

[3].

The data above shows that anxiety felt by Emma (TU) is not only an ordinary worry. However, fear what she had been afraid of actually happened, that her husband loved another woman. Now the presence of another woman in her husband's life, which woman's heart who can share her husband with another woman. This is the beginning of the problem which is pressure on Emma.

#### **4.1.2 Be the subject of gossip Public.**

"The third form of conflict" i.e. being the subject of gossip the surrounding community or even the people who are around them. Humans are social creatures where life is mutual dependent between individuals who with one another so that This conflict is one inner conflict experienced by the character main. "Many of our relatives have to know..." Nur's voice was low.

[3]

The data above shows that Nur told Jusuf about the news about his father who polygamy has been known by relatives, now not only become talk of neighbors but also close relatives and their distant relatives.

#### **4.1.3 Facing Her Bitter Life in polygamy**

"In the days around the wedding dad, Emma looks like she's struggling hard to lead himself into new chapter of life. He often stands in front of the

window, as if to escape the restlessness. His view empty and murky. As about running, but surrounded by a wall that tall."

[3]

The data above shows that the day after Mr Kalla's wedding, Emma (TU) looks like trying hard to face the reality of life that now she has to share her husband with another woman. Tough days now he has to go through the bitterness of life polygamy, sometimes he stood in front of jendela life lamenting what he must now go through the main character, his eyes are empty and cloudy it feels like he wants to run but, blocked by a high wall.

#### **4.1.4 Maintaining Love And His family.**

"So that's how it is, you always pray Fajr at the Grand Mosque beside and breakfast at our dining table, on chairs which he had been sitting on from the start. Emma was never absent to provide special dishes. Just like longing to see you, Emma also takes advantage of the morning to pay as much attention, Father. Prepare the table with a tablecloth clean silk and device eat what he has wiped with thoroughly. Side dishes arranged with look of love. None of us can touch it before the man Emma loves so much touch it."

[3]

From the data above shows that after all that was given Mr. Kalla against him, Emma (TU) keep trying to get love back, love that few days the past really hurt him but he's still trying to show how much she loves her husband very much. Now how is Emma (TU) able make the husband feel at home and linger in his house. The attention that Emma (TU) gives is in the form of cooking special meals and prepare tableware and decorate the dining table with tablecloths silk table. It is at the dining table that Emma (TU) tries to show affection, love for the husband even after bitterness the husband's polygamy, he keep giving attention and love unfortunately to the husband love first and last.

#### **4.1.5 Family Economic Crisis Because The presence of a second wife**

"Your father is starting to be afraid to give more money. Maybe family the new one needs more money."

[3].

From the data above shows that Mr. Kalla is now getting scared give more money to characters main and her children, however Emma (TU) is a

woman who have a broad mind so this makes Emma (TU) draw the conclusion that it might be because her husband's new family is more need. What a woman soft-hearted who is able to forgive and accept reality with tenderness.

#### **4.1.6 Accused of Damaging Family The honey**

"Someone sent a letter to Emma, it's very sharp. is do you think emma has been disturbing your household?" my mom looking at me with that look annoying. I raised my eyebrows. Really very strange question. Is do you think Emma has interfered father's household? Of course no. Emma's real life disturbed.

[3].

From the data above shows that someone sent a letter to Emma (TU) whose contents are very sharp, so Emma (TU) asked to the son of Jusuf whether Emma has disturbed the household Father? What an accusation very interesting, how he broke the household her new husband isn't home the stairs that had been damaged by the woman who is now the second wife her husband. Character life it's the main thing that has been damaged, not him which destroys people's lives. Cotton-hearted woman who can't live on this person's suffering now he is accused of destroying and interfere with the lives of others.

#### **4.1.7 A Woman Lives In Domain Without KB**

It was a tough year. Pregnancy Emma is getting bigger. She is climbing pregnant with suffering I can catch it. From his lips have no words notify pain.Nothing cry.But I know my whole body Emma is wrapped in grief."

[3].

The data above shows that that year was the year that difficult, Emma (TU) has a lot through a bitter phase of life. Now the woman who feels the pain life is polygamous now he must going through a new phase in life. The woman is pregnant, her pregnancy is now starting to grow pursue her pregnancy with suffering what he is feeling, but he lives it without without a word said the pain he was in feel. Without crying however actually his whole body is bandaged such deep sorrow. Life without family planning is the suffering that the main character must feel, now he is pursuing the start of her pregnancy growing up without a husband figure at the end of a long night and silent. The suffering now is not only polygamous but must continue to give birth

without contraception.

#### **4.1.8 Covering His Heart Wounds Until End of Life**

"Sometimes Emma recites the Koran at night day. Just relax. Smooth and very beautiful her voice. She's wearing a hood soft color, loose overalls and gloves. Then, sit down with your legs crossed on the bed with Siti Ramlah lay sweetly by his side. She looks steadfast without any problems."

[3].

From the data above shows that Emma (TU) keeps herself busy by worshipping Allah swt. From the data above Emma (TU) the is reciting and sitting on top bed with folded legs while looking at his son who was lying sweetly beside him, he too looks solid without any problems. Emma (TU) is a woman figure who able to hide feelings, his heartache so that no one knows their children or relatives who living with her

#### **4.2 Emma's (TU) Attitude in Facing Inner Conflict in Alberthiene Endah's Athirah Novel**

##### *4.2.1 Patience*

Emma (TU) proves that even though the problems persist came he accepted and acted all roles with patience, without any complaints. Patience shown by Emma (TU) in the face of such a situation complicated in such a way the following quote.

Emma smiled faintly. "That's pbeen the attitudeasti Emma, Joseph ...." He pondered for a moment. "It is just Emma didn't expect in life to be come across something like this. is does that mean Emma lost, Jusuf?"

[3].

From the data above shows that Emma (TU) shows her attitude to the conflicts that occur in his life, he never expected will come across something like this in his life. Emma (TU) is a woman with a big heart so you can run everything something that Allah has ordained Swt to him, he patiently accepts all kinds of tests in the household. He is a character to be imitated all women in this world.

##### *4.2.2 Sincere*

Sincerity is one Emma (TU) attitude in dealing with conflicts that arise in twists and turns of his life. Preferred attitude Emma (TU) is a way of life which he had to play. It is a polygamous woman without reason and without explanation, this thing

is a shock to his heart but Emma (TU) is a strong and principled woman so that he can face the problem. here it is the inner battle of an Emma (TU) does he have to act as a woman who is hurt by polygamous or he is sincere and rises become a mother who will fight for the future of her children, even though she has to face all kinds of problems in social life. As quoted as follows.

"Looking for a smart person. Really it is not Emma's person. My mother never believe in powers like that. He believes in prayer and remembrance as a bridge to God. Towards serenity. I think he has. quite peaceful with his faith very deep."

[3].

From the data above shows that Emma (TU) is not a person who believe in smart people or such powers, moreover it is polytheism against the God who created nature. He is more trusting prayer and remembrance as jembatan toward God, but he do it just want prove that the allegations thrown at him is not true, this is one way to make it can handle everything happened to him and was able rise from the fall. Letting go is the hardest thing but it takes time for someone can handle something.

#### 4.2.3 *Tawakal*

"It's okay, ma'am. Even if there is a quota I'm the one who's lost, Allah will surely replace it..."

[3].

From the data above shows that Emma (TU) handed over everything to the creator Allah Swt, God knows that which is good for her and if her husband is not fair to her she just surrender to God. And he believes that what is jatahnya if lost, God will replace it with more of what he should have received.

#### 4.2.4 *The persistence of women Bone in Continuing His Life*

The struggle of Emma (TU) in continue this life the battle of life what the character will go through main. This is the beginning of Emma's struggle (TU) is that in taking care of one's children yourself and start a business that arrives currently continuing to develop. As a woman who is in polygamy Emma's illness (TU) not his weakness, pain polygamy is a strength which makes Emma (TU) rise from his downfall. As explained in the following quote:

"Yes, she will seek the pINTAR." Zohra lay down in on the bed, lying staring at the ceiling. This little girl suddenly looks very mature. "Aunt

Sweet will take him. Gosh, Yusuf, why did Emma have to come smart people?" I was stunned. Looking for smart people. It's not Emma's personal. My mother never believed in powers like that. He believes in prayer and remembrance as a bridge to God. Towards serenity. I think he has quite peaceful.

[3].

From the data above, it is explained that Emma (TU) went to people smart. This is not a personal character main. The pain he went through bring it to its lowest point in life is surrender. Someone who doesn't believe power beyond the will of the creator, This is the biggest loss in his life that is to come people pintar. Pada this point Emma (TU) jatuh in grief. Life is a choice however all the life we don't want is a choice, I don't know how to live the choice which is our life. The bitterness of everyone's life have experienced it but not everyone has bitterness that same in life. In novels this is Emma (TU) teaching what is the meaning of life, which one everyone must feel pain heart whether it's surrounded or polygamous to the point of cracking household or divorce, however one thing to keep in mind that janganlah you let yourself you too dissolve in that sadness, hurry up rise up and live a new life who had been waiting forhim.

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