



Urban Communities' Knowledge Systems in Ika Natassa's Novels

Zulfadhli^(✉), W. S. Hasanuddin, and R. Syahrul

Faculty of Language and Arts, Universitas Negeri Padang, Padang, Indonesia
zulfadhli@fbs.unp.ac.id

Abstract. The purpose of this study is to describe the urban communities' knowledge system as depicted in Ika Natassa's Indonesian metropop novels. Literary research employing the content analysis method is this kind of research. The knowledge system of the urban community as a representation of society is the focus of this study, which employs the theory of sociology of literature to uncover cultural phenomena. According to the findings of this research, urban communities' knowledge systems in Ika Natassa's Indonesian metropop novels are comprised of: 2) social understanding; 3) understanding of space and time, and 4) aspects of education.

Keywords: System of knowledge · urban community · Ika Natassa · novel

1 Introduction

The novel shows a lot of common problems that people face in their lives that are very complicated. One of the literary works that demonstrate the singularity of Indonesian culture, which is closely linked to ethnic culture, is one of the well-known Indonesian novels. Patterns of thought, attitudes and behavior toward life, ethics and manners, actions and self-expression, views and orientations about nature and the environment, and even aesthetic insight have been ingrained in ethnic culture for a long time [1].

The space and presence of well-known novels are very important. Some people's attitudes toward culture and lifestyle are also influenced by popular novels. Popular novels are not only viewed as a channel for obsessions, aspirations, and ideologies by the community that is interested in them, but they also serve as a means of legitimizing the image of their ideal world [1]. In addition, Mahayana explained that popular fiction, which is a product of mass culture, naturally possesses the right to life. Because popular novels are presented and brought to life by their supporters, its birth and development have become a part of human culture. A social document that describes the lives of some people, popular literature is a component of social reality. As a result, it is crucial and necessary to study popular culture, including popular literature. In an effort to comprehend anxiety, obsessions, hopes, and dreams, as well as social development and change at the same time.

They have had a significant impact on a variety of social life issues and dynamics depicted in literary works, particularly popular Indonesian novels, in line with the

development of ideology, technology, science, and arts. In line with human development and their social environment, popular novels present increasingly complex, diverse, and universal issues.

The cultural and lifestyle aspects of urban society are one of the issues depicted in the well-known metropop novel. A modern society that resides in large metropolitan cities is referred to as urban society. [2] argues that, especially in terms of culture, urban communities are frequently associated with modern (advanced) society. The majority of people who live in modern societies adhere to cultural norms that are relevant to contemporary life. Modern people typically live in urban areas, which are referred to as urban communities.

Ika Natassa is one of the authors best known for writing popular metropop novels. Ika Natassa has written a number of metropop novels, including *Critical Eleven* (2015), *Divortiare* (2008), and *A Very Yuppy Wedding* (2007). These novels depict a variety of urban community life phenomena. The goal of this study is to talk about the cultural aspects of urban communities in Ika Natassa's books, particularly those that have to do with knowledge systems. In Ika Natassa's novels, the knowledge system is one important part that explains the cultural aspects of urban communities.

2 Methods

This study employs content analysis as a literary method. This study was carried out in stages. The first step in this research is a literature review in which references relevant to the problem under investigation are gathered from a variety of sources. The following steps are used to collect data during the second phase of this study: 1) reading the book that was the subject of the research; 2) locate aspects connected to the research issue; and 3) record the results of the identification. The data are analyzed in the third stage, and the discussion and results are made public in the final stage.

3 Result and Discussion

Humans, as social beings, have developed a knowledge system over time as they attempt to comprehend everything in their environment. The environment is the first part of the knowledge system; 2) social understanding; 3) understanding of space and time, and 4) the educational component. The following sections provide descriptions of the four parts that make up the knowledge system.

3.1 Knowledge of the Environment

The cultural context relies heavily on the knowledge system. An important part of the cultural aspect is having knowledge of various environments, including the social environment in which people interact with one another. Both the survival of groups and the community's behavior and attitudes are influenced by the social environment. The knowledge system on the environment's goal is to learn about the various conditions and situations that surround the social community so that a society that is sensitive to them

can be formed. Additionally, a life that is unpretentious, harmonious, and sensitive to the social environment will result. As a result, members of the community will be better prepared for the many possibilities that arise in their area. The following quote provides a description of the urban community's knowledge system in Ika Natassa's novels.

Two months after my little hero Aidan left and my body recovered, I returned to work, and in the midst of reading dozens of articles and books about finance and management and strategy that became my daily work, I started a big project. Personal project [13].

Our house, apart from being full of Legos and Ale coffee kits, is also full of my journals, magazines, and "serious" books, the curse of being a consultant who always has to keep myself up to date with the latest issues and knowledge [13].

The quote describes Ika Natassa's knowledge of the urban community in the book *Critical Eleven*. The quote talks about how Anya, who works as a consultant, keeps learning new things by reading a lot from different sources. Anya does this in an effort to comprehend the various challenges her clients face. Anya's success as a consultant depends on her ability to comprehend the various challenges her clients face. Knowledge of a variety of subjects is one indicator of a person's success in their respective fields of work for urban communities with established and prestigious professions.

It is possible to explain, based on this description, why the urban community in Ika Natassa's novels has a lot of knowledge, especially about the workplace. This is evident in how they perform their jobs in their respective fields. The urban community's knowledge is extremely supportive of their work. There are many different ways to acquire knowledge, including direct experience. An individual's mindset regarding how to behave and act in accordance with the rules is formed by the knowledge gained through direct experience. Knowledge can also be gained by reading a variety of references and sources.

3.2 Social Knowledge

Because they are social beings, humans are always in relationships with other people. The way the group interacts and participates in community activities is a form of culture. Social knowledge is a part of culture and is needed to build positive relationships between social groups in a society. The following quote illustrates how social knowledge is discussed in Ika Natassa's novels.

Like being pretentious and tolerant at the same time. In the simplicity of that choice and the complexity of the choosing process lies a fact we all know already: every choice we make has a domino effect. Choosing one thing will affect every little or big thing associated with that choice, including the people around us [11].

The quote from Ika Natassa's novel *Divortiare* provides a picture of social knowledge. The character Alexandra in this quote realizes that making the decision to have a relationship will have an effect on both oneself and other people. Alexandra is aware that the decision she has made will have an effect on how social life continues. Similarly,

when she made the decision to marry Beno. In the following quote, Alexandra expresses the same sentiment.

Of all the historical dogmas I've heard, I think the most correct are the words that humans are social creatures who cannot live without other people (who I forget, whether Plato, Socrates, or one of those Greek smart asses). Other people may have different opinions but I myself can at least be alone without other people [11].

Social knowledge also includes comprehending the circumstances of others who might be in a particular circumstance or who are dealing with a problem that necessitates the assistance of others. Social knowledge is social sensitivity to the challenges faced by others, as described in the following quote by Anya, the protagonist of Ika Natassa's *Critical Eleven*.

About a mother holding a plastic bag tightly against her chest, while still trying to stand up in the midst of the crush of other passengers in a commuter line car because inside the plastic bag there is something precious to her: a new doll for her daughter who has been waiting for her. at home, the result of saving weeks of overtime [13].

Anya explained the incident while she was on a commuter line, which is Jakarta's public transportation. Anya observed a mother with a sluggish expression but a scent of joy in her eyes. The mother was tightly holding a plastic bag to her chest. A doll she plans to make and give as a present to her daughter, who is waiting at home. After weeks of collecting her overtime pay, the mother bought the doll. Anya is aware of the mother's difficulties in obtaining funds to purchase a new doll for her daughter. Anya is becoming more aware of the fact that there are still people in Jakarta who live in simplicity despite the city's bustle. In the following quote, Anya puts this into perspective.

"For many of us, Jakarta is not a city. It's a book full of stories [13]."

Information about a person from a variety of social media platforms can also provide social knowledge. A person's knowledge of his or her social community, friends, or family will grow as a result of this information. The following quote exemplifies this.

Yes, he doesn't know about my and Ale's problems. We often do, don't we? Seeing a person or partner whose life looks really exciting, whether it's someone we know directly or just someone we follow through Twitter or Instagram, and we're quick to comment, "I want to be like you" or "I really envy you". Without us really knowing what a person's life is like [13].

According to this description, a sense of love, responsibility, and concern for others can be cultivated through social knowledge. Additionally, the social life of the community will be tranquil, modest, and harmonious as a result of this condition.

3.3 Knowledge of Space and Times

Humans' lives are significantly impacted by their understanding of space and time. This refers to how humans interpret and make use of time and space for survival. The following quote describes Ika Natassa's novels' knowledge of the space and time of urban communities.

The next minutes went by quickly. Time is the only thing in this world that is measured on the same scale for everyone, but has a different value for everyone. One minute is still worth sixty seconds, but the length of one minute is different from a person who is short of breath with an asthma attack, and who is in love [13].

The quote can be found in Ika Natassa's novel *Critical Eleven*. In the quote, Anya recognizes that while time is measured in the same way everywhere, its value varies by everyone. Each person has their own unique interpretation of time. Anya makes the analogy in the quote that a 60-s minute has different values for someone in love and someone with asthma. The way one uses their time is the difference.

Neeld said when it comes to when we can recover from grief, we need to distinguish between chronos time and kairos time. Chronos time is the time as recorded by the calendar, our past, present and future as measured by hours, days and years. When we can 'recover' from deep sorrow cannot be measured by chronos time, but should be measured by kairos time. Kairos time is the process we need to move our lives to the next stage, the stage when I can accept that this grief will never go away, but will no longer dominate my entire being, because life is like that and life must go on [13].

Times in a person's life are a mix of things that make them happy and things that make them unhappy. There are two dimensions to time. the dimension experienced when experiencing joy and the dimension experienced when dealing with sorrow. In this quote, Anya realizes that a person shouldn't get caught up in their grief but should keep thinking about how to move on to the next stage of life.

Because human life is influenced by knowledge of space and time, C. Kluckhohn considers space and time to be one of life's fundamental issues. As a result, understanding space and time will enable one to comprehend life's true nature.

3.4 Aspect of Education

In the novels written by Ika Natassa, it is said that education is one way that urban communities can raise their social status. Education can help urban communities achieve a particular position within their social group. The level of education received also affects the level of competition in the workplace.

The urban community depicted in Ika Natassa's novels is highly educated from an educational standpoint. The majority of them hold master's or doctoral degrees from various international universities. A number of the other figures are recent graduates of Indonesia's top universities. The following quote shows how Ika Natassa's novels show the educational aspects of urban communities.

“Avatar okay, very economical tweets, only followed by NFL accounts, Sport Illustrated, CNN... You really are your idol,” Tara mumbled to herself while scrolling through Ale’s Twitter account. “...Fast Company, Texas, A&M...wait he’s an aggie?” [13].

Ika Natassa’s novel *Critical Eleven* contains the above quote. The fact that Aldebaran attended Texas A&M University is explained in the quote. One of the best universities in the United States is Texas A&M University. Tara obtained this information from Aldebaran’s Twitter account. In the novel *A Very Yuppy Wedding*, Andrea and Adjie graduated from Stanford University in California.

When it comes to sending messages that aren’t important, I like to be annoyed with Firman who likes to suddenly appear on my desk and peek, then casually comment, “Yep, Dre. Both of you, went to college in America, but the dating style is still like Ujang Pantry” [11].

The urban communities in Ika Natassa’s novels are not only made up of people who have graduated from some of the world’s most prestigious universities, but they also come from some of Indonesia’s most prestigious universities. The following quote exemplifies this.

“We all study locally, Jeng. Together at UI,” answered Tania. “But this Andrea goes to Stanford.”

“Oh I see. Eh, if Mas Adjie is also a UI student? Because I can see that you two are very close.”

“Adjie and I are not in the same campus, Jeng. He’s in Trisakti” [11].

In the novels of Ika Natassa, the characters of the urban community are a group of people who are smart, educated, and also have the ability to make money. This is shown by the fact that Indonesian universities as well as some of the world’s most prestigious institutions are mentioned.

It is possible to come to the conclusion that urban communities in metropop novels are not only depicted as people who live in hedonistic style, glamor, and luxury but also demonstrate their existence through education. This conclusion can be drawn from the fact that metropop novels. In urban communities, education is an important part of social life.

4 Conclusion

The cultural system includes a significant component called the knowledge system. Humans can acquire and develop knowledge systems in a variety of ways. Understanding and responding to societal socio-cultural phenomena are influenced by the knowledge system.

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