

## **LEARNING MOTIVATION OF CHARACTERS IN LASKAR PELANGI BY ANDREA HIRATA**

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### **ABSTRAK :**

Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian deskriptif kualitatif yang bertujuan untuk mengetahui tingginya motivasi belajarsiswa yang ada di desa terpencil, Belitong. Dalam novel Laskar Pelangi banyak pesan tersirat maupun tersurat tentang tingginya motivasi dan semangat belajar dari sepuluh siswa SD Muhammadiyah Belitong. Dalam pembelajaran faktor motivasi mempunyai pengaruh penting. Motivasi merupakan salah satu faktor yang sangat menentukan hasil belajar peserta didik, ini yang menjadikan perilaku untuk bekerja atau belajar dengan penuh inisiatif, kreatif dan terarah. Siswa yang memiliki motivasi belajar tinggi, akan selalu berusaha untuk lebih baik dan ingin selalu dipandang sebagai siswa yang berhasil dalam lingkungannya.

Kata kunci: *siswa, motivasi belajar, desa terpencil*

### **ABSTRACT :**

This research is a qualitative descriptive study that aims to find out high motivation of student in learning in remote villages, Belitong. In the LaskarPelangi novel There are many implicit and explicit messages of high motivation and enthusiasm for learning ten students of SD Muhammadiyah, Belitong..Motivation has an important influence in learning. This is one of the factors that greatly determines student learning outcomes, in this case makes the behavior to work or learn with full of initiative, creative and directed. Students who have high motivation to learnwill always try to be better and want to be succeedin their environment.

Keywords: *student, learning motivation, remote village*

## INTRODUCTION

Literary works are a reflection of people's lives. These are inseparable part of them because the works are the product of civilization, and the author is a member of that society (Yarno, 2009). Thus, literary works are social realities which are processed by the writers. Social reality is a reality that is experienced and embedded in life. That reality which is given a vision and adjusted to his imagination, so that the world contained in literary works is not the real world of reality. The reality in literature is not an objective reality, but reality which has been interpreted, namely reality as a social construction.

The world of literature develops according to life and changing times. Literature books increase not only in number, but also in style and nature, differences in thought, style, shape and problem. These are also seen in the history of the development of literature from era to era. There are special characteristics in each generation that are interesting to be read both in terms of theme and style of storytelling. Now a days, teen-themed novels, love, have sprung up in circulation. Themes that are so sell but less educating for the readers in general. But of the many, there are still some novels that not to be tempted by the theme and try to provide other themes that are nicely packaged, so that it makes a quality reading (Hadi, 2010).

The *Laskar Pelangi* novel is one of Indonesia's most popular novels. Its presence is also a reflection of the life of Indonesian people, especially the Belitong community. *Laskar Pelangi's* novel inspired many people, especially with regard to the educational message contained (Yarno, 2009). It is a phenomenal novel because of its moral values and education, which rarely have by other works. *Laskar Pelangi* is an extraordinary story about the children of the outskirts of Belitong Island. In the book, Andrea (the writer) tells the spirit of poor village children that learn in all limitations. They went to school barefoot, shirts without buttons, the roof of the school that leaked when it rained, and blackboards that were perforated and had to be patched with posters of Rhoma Irama.

In the *Laskar Pelangi* novel, there are many implied and explicit messages about high motivation and enthusiasm for learning from ten students of Muhammadiyah Belitong Elementary School. The students are marginal students but they hold on to keep their schools in whatever situation. Even they lack of adequate school uniforms, shoes, and bags. In fact these are not a barrier for the ten students in getting an education, and their enthusiasm is still great.

As humans, everybody needs education the process of to developing individual skills in people's attitudes, and behavior. It includes the social process in which the individual is influenced by the organized enviromental conditions, such as home or school, so that they can achieve self-development and social skills.

In the context of learning, the motivational factor has an important influence. Motivation is one of the factors that greatly determine student learning outcomes, in this case, it makes the behavior to work or students learn with full of initiative, creative and directed. Students, who have high motivation to learn will always try to be better and be seen as students who succeed in their environment. Meanwhile students who do not have the motivation to learn, they will not show seriousness in learning, so the learning outcomes are not satisfactory. For example, the higher of the learning motivation of students the higher the learning outcomes they get, and vice versa (Muhammad, 2017). (Gagne, 1974) states that learning is a set of cognitive processes that change the nature of the stimulating environment, bypassing information processing and becoming new abilities. Gauge theory shows that learning is influenced by three main components, namely external, internal and learning conditions.

In addition motivation is also important in determining student learning outcomes as well as how many students learn from teaching and learning activities during class. This research is focused on the educational motivation and knowing how motivation in students can affect the quality of student learning.

Based on the background above the formulation of the problem is as follows: How learning motivation can affect students in remote villages, Belitong so as to cause a high sense of learning in Laskar Pelangi Novel. The purpose of this study is to know students' motivation to learn from remote villages. This research focuses on how the characters in the novel have learning motivation so that they are able to achieve their individual goals.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

In this research, the writer uses descriptive qualitative method to analyze the data. Research document analysis or content analysis is a research carried out systematically notes or documents as data source (Hardani et al., 2020). The steps taken by the author in conducting this research are first to read the novel to be analyzed, secondly to formulate research problem or research question to be examined, thirdly to collect data by means of note-taking techniques or noting things that support the formulation of the problem and data analysis. The data analysis used in this research is by using scripts in the novel and analyzing in descriptive form.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

Researchers found a problem in the field of education where an educational source which is a place for students in studying must be threatened to be dissolved because of the lack of students and the absence of an increase in the number of students each year.

From the results of the analysis conducted by the authors, high motivation to learn from students despite the limitations of their conditions and infrastructure, do not make students desperate or lazy to have learning in addition, they are persistent in pursuing education. Besides the learning motivation that appears in this novel is the implementation of students' persistence in traveling quite a distance by cycling, walking to get to school and studying together.

Learning motivation is seen from the other side, namely when Muhammadiyah elementary school students, Belitong must take part in a quiz competition with the Timah PN school, Belitong which is the best school in the village and only well-off families can attend there. However, this limitation did not make the students' enthusiasm to compete with other schools. With persistent intentions they made a thorough preparation accompanied by Mrs. Muslimah the students practice and study every day to prepare it.

*"...Persoalan klasiknya adalah kepercayaan diri. Inilah problem utama jika berasal dan lingkungan marginal dan mencoba bersaing. Kami telah dipersiapkan dengan baik oleh Bu Mus. Beliau memang menaruh harapan besar pada lomba ini lebih dan beliau berharap waktu kami karnaval dulu. Bu Mus pontang-panting mengumpulkan contoh-contoh soal dan bekerja sangat keras melatih kami dan pagi sampai sore. Bu Mus melihat lomba ini sebagai media yang sempurna untuk menaikkan martabat sekolah Muhammadiyah yang bertahun-tahun selalu diremehkan..."* (laskar pelangi; 268)

*"...The classic problem is confidence. This is the main problem if it originates from a marginal environment and tries to compete. We have been well prepared by Mrs. Mus. He did put great hopes in this race more and hoped when we were carnival first. Mrs. Mus hurriedly collected examples of questions and worked very hard training us from morning to evening. Mrs. Mus sees this competition as the perfect medium to raise the dignity of the Muhammadiyah school which has always been underestimated for years..."* (laskar pelangi; 268)

From the data above, it is clearly stated that the role of a teacher in education is very important especially in preparing students for a competition that is not easy for them. The spirit of a teacher in increasing student motivation is able to influence their struggle in competing fairly and honestly.

According to (Suprihatin, 2015) fostering student learning motivation is one of the techniques in developing the ability and willingness to learn. Motivating students in learning by connecting learning experiences with student motivation. Teachers should pay attention with the student's motivation problem They should try to be able to increase students' motivation

to learn, especially for those who have difficulty in learning. This can be done by using various efforts that can be done by the teacher.

Motivation is the change in energy in a person which is marked by the encouragement that comes from themselves to achieve a goal. It makes individuals have the effort, desire and drive to achieve learning outcomes that learning outcomes are a reflection of one's ability to master the subjects taught. High learning outcomes are a symbol of the success of a student in his studies. Students who have high learning outcomes show a high level of mastery ability on programmed subjects, and vice versa. (Muhammad, 2017). Motivation can be defined as the process in which activity directed at the goal being investigated and motivation consist of intrinsic and extrinsic types (Riswanto & Aryani, 2017).

Theoretically referred to as achievement or often called learning outcomes are one's abilities caused by stimuli originating from the external environment and cognitive processes carried out by students. Gauge in this case believes that learning is influenced by factors in students and factors outside the students themselves where they interact. In addition learning consists of three main components of surface conditions that stimulate the environment in which he is in the learning process, the conditions that describe the inner state of students themselves and students' conscious processes, and learning outcomes that describe verbal information possessed by students, intellectual skills, motor skills, students' attitudes and skills are aware. Internal conditions will interact with surface conditions during the learning process and interactions, it will be the result of learning (Riswanto & Aryani, 2017)

According to (Muhammad, 2017) the discipline of psychology, motivation is a concept that is used to explain the forces that exist and work on the organism or individual who becomes the driver and director of individual behavior. Conceptions of theories about motivation can be categorized into three main approaches, namely: (1) biological approaches, (2) behavioristic approaches, and (3) cognitive approaches. Biological approach in the *LaskarPelangi* novel can be seen from how a Mrs. Muslimah has emotional closeness with students since they first entered the school. While the behavioristic approach be seen from the novel is an increase in knowledge from students about the knowledge that has been conveyed by the teacher in the classroom. And the last is the cognitive approach in the novel here is the skill of a teacher in focusing students' attention in class so that no one is left behind in learning. Besides that a small class with a quota of ten students is also a thing that helps in the learning process.

*"...Kami memiliki enam kelas kecil-kecil, pagi untuk SD Muhammadiyah dan sore untuk SMP Muhammadiyah. Maka kami, sepuluh siswa baru ini bercokol selama sembilan tahun di sekolah yang sama dan kelas-kelas yang sama, bahkan susunan kawan*

*sebangku pun tak berubah selama sembilan tahun SD dan SMP itu...*(laskarpelangi; 21)

“...We have six small classes, in the morning for Muhammadiyah Elementary School and in the afternoon for Muhammadiyah Middle School. So we, these ten new students have spent nine years in the same school and the same classes, even the composition of the peerage has not changed during the nine years of elementary and middle school...” (laskarpelangi; 21)

“...*Bu Mus adalah seroang guru yang pandai, karismatik, dan memiliki pandangan jauh ke depan. Beliau menyusun sendiri silabus pelajaran Budi Pekerti dan mengajarkan kepada kami sejak dini pandangan-pandangan dasar moral, demokrasi, hukum, keadilan, dan hak-hak asasi—jauh hari sebelum orang-orang sekarang meributkan soal materialisme versus pembangunan spiritual dalam pendidikan...*”(laskarpelangi; 30)

“...Mrs. Mus is a teacher who is smart, charismatic, and has a long-term outlook. He compiled the Budi Pekerti syllabus and taught us early on the basic views of morals, democracy, law, justice, and human rights - long before people today fuss over materialism versus spiritual development in education...” (laskarpelangi; 30)

From the quotations, it was found that, it becomes evidence that the approach taken by Mrs. Muslimah is able to provide a good assessment of students towards her, which without an approach to students they will not be able to reward teachers as a source of external enthusiasm.

In the novel *Laskar Pelangi* it is very visible how this intrinsic learning motivation grows in students. From the results of this analysis the students have a high desire to learn and how Ikal, Lintang and her friends are willing to take a journey that is not easy to get to school. Moreover, Lintang's trip to get to school must pass through a forest trail and meet a crocodile every day and wait for the crocodile to pass.

“...*Pagi ini Lintang terlambat masuk kelas. Kami tercengang mendengar ceritanya. “Aku tak bisa melintas. Seekor buaya sebesar pohon kelapa tak mau beranjak, menghalang di tengah jalan. Tak ada siapa-siapa yang bisa kumintai bantuan. Aku hanya berdiri mematung, berbicara dengan diriku sendiri. Lima belas meter...*”(laskar pelangi; 67)

“*Buaya sebesar itu tak ‘kan mampu menyerangku dalam jarak ini, ia lamban, pasti kalah langkah. Kalau cukup waktu aku dapat menghitung hubungan massa, jarak, dan tenaga, baik aku maupun*

*buaya itu, sehingga aku dapat memperkirakan kecepatannya menyambarku dan peluangku untuk lolos...* (laskar pelangi; 67)

“...This morning Lintang was late for class. We were stunned to hear the story. "I can't cross. A crocodile the size of a coconut tree won't move, blocking in the middle of the road. Nobody can ask for help. I just stood still, talking to myself. Fifteen meters..." (laskar pelangi; 67)

“...A crocodile of that size wouldn't be able to attack me at this distance, it was slow, it would definitely lose a step. If enough time I can calculate the relationship of mass, distance, and energy, both me and the crocodile, so I can estimate the speed reaching me and my chances of escaping..." (laskar pelangi; 67)

This novel explains the struggle of a student fatherly to go to school to study, the obstacles through Lintang is not easy when he is worried about coming late to school or he is determined to fight the crocodile but must accept more dangerous consequences. Motivation to learn that appears here is a soul that never gives up to achieve goals with various obstacles does not become an obstacle for those who live it.

It is uncommon for him to arrive at school even when following the quiz contest he must be willing to bet time to get to PN Timah Elementary School, Belitong.

Lintang is known to be a smart kid in the field of mathematics, even though her parents are only fishermen but this does not reduce her motivation to study, she was able to win the quiz competition and get awards and add trophies to her school. Curls is one of the smart students in his class. He always gets two ranks and has a heavy rival in his studies, namely his own best friend, Lintang, who always occupies the first rank in his class. Curls has a high learning motivation, especially in the field of literature, not infrequently he always makes poetry and always helps his classmates to learn, this is seen when Mrs. Muslimah does not rustle in class in a few days Ikal who became a temporary teacher by leading joint learning in her class.

From the result of the analysis of motivation researchers came from the support of a teacher, Mrs. Muslimah as the only female teacher who is most admired by all students for their patience in guiding them. Mrs. Muslimah is also a source of energy for students in facing their lack of confidence in facing competition in competitions with other schools and fully supports students to perform in annual festivals that require students to display their creativity.

“...Kenyataan inilah yang memicu pro dan kontra di antara murid dan guru Muhammadiyah setiap kali akan karnaval. Beberapa guru menyarankan agar jangan ikut saja daripada tampil seadanya dan bikin malu. Mereka yang gengsian dan tak kuat mental seperti Sahara jauh-jauh hari sudah menolak berpartisipasi. Maka sore ini,

Pak Harfan, yang berjiwa demokratis, mengadakan rapat terbuka di bawah pohon fillicium. Rapat ini melibatkan seluruh guru dan murid dan Mujis. Beliau diserang bertubi-tubi oleh para guru yang tak setuju ikut karnaval, tapi beliau dan Bu Mus berpendirian sebaliknya. Suasana memanas. Kami terjebak di tengah..." (laskar pelangi; 166)

"...It is this fact that triggers the pros and cons among Muhammadiyah students and teachers each time they will carnival. Some teachers suggest that they should not just participate rather than appear sober and embarrassed. Those who are proud and not mentally strong like Sahara have refused to participate in advance. So this afternoon, Mr. Harfan, who has a democratic spirit, held an open meeting under the tree fillicium. This meeting involved all teachers and students and Mujis. He was attacked repeatedly by teachers who did not agree to take part in the carnival, but he and Bu Mus had the opposite opinion. The atmosphere heats up. We are stuck in the middle..." (laskar pelangi; 166)

"...*"Tabahkan hati kalian, keluarkan seluruh kemampuan!" ledak Bu Mus memberi semangat kepada kami, para mamalia. Pak Harfan sudah tidak bisa bicara apa-apa...*"(laskar pelangi; 180)

"...Break your hearts, bring out all your abilities! " Mrs. Mus's explosive cheers us, mammals. Mr. Harfan could not say anything..." (laskar pelangi; 180)

Simply put, the greater the determination of a teacher in building the identity of all students, then they will also share the enthusiasm to make that determination an invaluable gift. This is evidenced by the above quote in the novel.

Mrs. Muslimah, with all her simplicity, managed to maintain the motivation of learning of the students of SD Muhammadiyah, Belitong, even though there was only one class in the school for five years of the school year. The external learning motivation that grew in the *LaskarPelangi* novel was also seen when their school had to be threatened with being shut down because they did not have additional students for five years, but a Mrs. Muslimah insisted on refusing and persevering encouraging all students to continue to learn and reach their goals.

The last component that influences learning motivation is learning, where these are interrelated. After the interests and feelings require education from students, the teacher also has an equally important role in determining the success of an education. A professional teacher is absolutely necessary in his function as a source of knowledge. In addition, a teacher should have attitudes that indicate teacher training so that it reflects the true character of the teacher. This is illustrated through the figures of Mrs. Muslimah and Mr. Harfan

in carrying out the mandate of being a teacher. They succeeded in bringing their students into successful human beings and apart from the classic problems that have been raised above.

### **Internal Condition**

Internal conditions that influence learning motivation in this novel are the interests, talents, motivation, and attention of students in learning activities. From the analysis of the *Laskar Pelangi* novel here researchers found that there was an influence from the internal conditions that exist in characters such as, for example, a Lintang who incidentally is a coastal child whose distance from home to school is very far and must take turns with his father to look after his younger siblings. But this did not become an obstacle for him because what was in Lintang was how he got a good education to achieve his goals, he also became the first student in Muhammadiyah Elementary School, Belitong.

Not far from Lintang, Ikal was a child of a factory worker who wanted to go to school to study and gather with other new friends. Armed with a strong intention to learn, he did not care about the ridicule of his father's colleagues who called it going to need a factory or a coolie in the area. One of the internal conditions that influence a person is motivation which has an important role in encouraging someone to make changes and encouraging them to do the stages to achieve the target they expect.

*"...Aku juga merasa cemas. Aku cemas karena melihat Bu Mus yang resah dan karena beban perasaan ayahku menjalar ke sekujur tubuhku. Meskipun beliau begitu ramah pagi ini tapi lengan kasarnya yang melingkari leherku mengalirkan degup jantung yang cepat. Aku tahu beliau sedang gugup dan aku maklum bahwa tak mudah bagi seorang pria berusia empat puluh tujuh tahun, seorang buruh tambang yang beranak banyak dan bergaji kecil, untuk menyerahkan anak laki-lakinya ke sekolah. Lebih mudah menyerahkannya pada tau ke pasar pagi untuk jadi tukang parut atau pada juragan pantai untuk menjadi kuli kopra agar dapat membantu ekonomi keluarga. Menyekolahkan anak berarti mengikatkan diri pada biaya selama belasan tahun dan hal itu bukan perkara gampang bagi keluarga kami..."*(laskar pelangi;11)

"...I also feel anxious. I was worried because I saw Bu Mus who was restless and because of the burden of my father's feelings running all over my body. Even though he was so friendly this morning, his rough arm around my neck gave a rapid heartbeat. I knew he was nervous and I understood that it was not easy for a forty-seven-year-old man, a mined laborer with a lot of salary and a small salary, to give his son to school. It's easier to hand it over to the morning

market tauke to become a grate worker or to a beach skipper to become a copra coolie in order to help the family economy. Schooling children means being committed to fees for a dozen years and that is not an easy matter for our family..." (*laskar pelangi*;11)

Internal conditions from the economic side of the family also affect how a motivation persists in the presence of economic obstacles. But in this novel it is evident that economic difficulties do not destroy the enthusiasm of students.

### **External Condition**

External conditions are closely related to internal conditions which influence each other. Internal conditions are situations where the outside influence of the individual. This condition appears in life in the *LaskarPelangi* novel as a support for learning activities and as a complement to the storyline.

External conditions that affect learning motivation in this novel are in terms of family environment, family economic situation and also the school environment. A simple family environment that supports changes in learning is a supporting factor that can influence student motivation. A calm environment and in harmony with the feelings of students can increase the willingness to learn as well, this is very influential on students' psychological learning. The support of parents of *Laskar Pelangi* novels is very large in supporting their learning at school or at home.

Another factor is the family economy which in this novel the economic conditions of the families are very far from being able to speak, there is a factory worker, a coolie, even a fisherman who must be willing to go down to sea for the sake of the results to be sold in a market which sometimes results are not erratic. However, low economic conditions do not dampen students' motivation to learn such as Ikal, Lintang, Mahar and other friends. They still study hard as if they do not care about the economic pressures that their families experience. This is good for students so they stay focused on how to achieve their goals.

The school environment is another important thing considering that all learning activities are carried out at school so that the pleasant conditions of school and supporting student learning can help the success of teaching and learning activities. In this novel, it is told how school conditions are very simple and far from fancy but very supportive of all student needs in learning. Even for the exam they had to join the Timah PN Elementary School, Belitong because of the lack of facilities and also the number of students that did not exceed 10 students. Similarly, when students feel safe and comfortable in school even though the school environment they live in is far from comfortable, students have a special feeling when they can enjoy with their peers. This is experienced by all students of SD Muhammadiyah, Belitong they are always

cheerful and help each other in all things. Feeling unsafe at school is a significant barrier to learning. Students who feel unsafe at school are more likely to stay home from school or skip class because of concerns about their safety, and when they go to school they are less likely to participate in class to develop in their learning. Conversely, when students feel safe at school, they can focus more on student learning, significantly safer and more socially supportive. (Gietz & McIntosh, 2014)

### **Learning**

Teachers are the key to student success and a lot of research has been done to measure the relationship between teacher quality and student achievement. The impact of teacher quality on student achievement is undeniable. However, what are the characteristics of effective teachers, what kind of training ensures qualitative teaching, what are the different ways to ensure sustainable professional development are key areas that need to be explored. A large amount of research has been conducted on the relationship between teachers and high-achieving students (Patnaik & Davidson, 2015). The role of motivation in student learning is caused by the motivation of students to carry out any task to achieve goals. Motivation increases the speed of work and someone does everything to achieve goals. In education motivation influences student success. (Ramli, 2014)

Simple but very high learning also appears in the Laskar Pelangi novel where simple learning with minimal facilities can bring them students to win a quiz competition held once a year, with opponents from high schools, SD PN Timah. Surely this is inseparable from the role of a Muslim woman who gives careful and thorough teaching. The success of students with minimal conditions is able to show the reader that limitations are not a barrier in learning. Effective learning and promoting an emotional approach can help students in their learning activities, this approach is applied in the learning style of SD Muhammadiyah, Belitong. This is able to help students who are difficult to catch the lesson, just as Harun is a special need students who need more attention. With this approach Harun can follow the learning well.

### **CONCLUSION**

In learning process many things are needed to encourage students' motivation. The teacher's role as the role models for students in developing their knowledge is also needed in achieving learning outcomes where one's abilities are caused by stimuli originating from the external environment and cognitive processes carried out by students. Some things that support students in the learning process and maintain their learning motivation namely, the teacher is able to create a joyful learning atmosphere, the teacher must be able to optimize activities in learning, create variations of learning methods for

students so that they are able to follow the development of learning in their environment.

From this rainbow lascar novel, we can understand how a learning motivation can influence learning activities and the teacher's role in growing that motivation. The role of Ms. Muslimah in growing, developing, and being a role model for her students is one of the efforts of a teacher in helping students to achieve their goals.

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