

**CRITICISM TOWARD ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION IN JOSTEIN
GAARDER'S *THE WORLD ACCORDING TO ANNA* (2015):**

A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE



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APPROVAL

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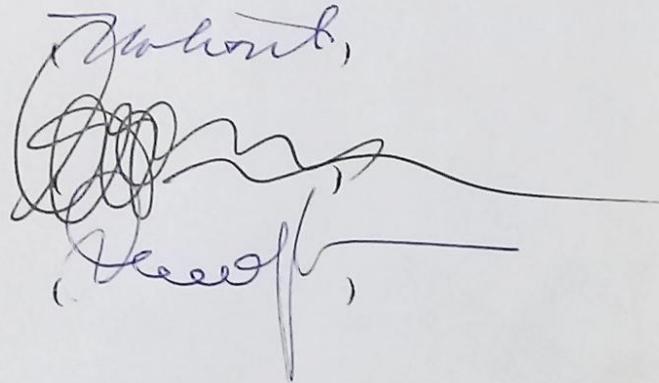
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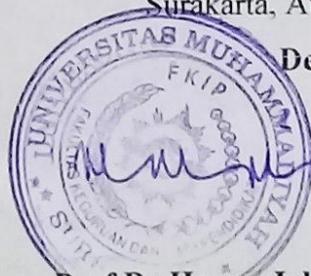
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**CRITICISM TOWARD ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION IN JOSTEIN
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Abstrak

Penelitian ini fokus pada analisis kerusakan lingkungan dalam novel *The World According To Anna* karangan Jostein Gaarder (2015) menggunakan perspektif sosiologi. Jenis penelitian ini adalah studi pustaka. Penelitian ini ditujukan untuk menganalisis indikator kerusakan lingkungan, ide – ide karakter utama dalam menghadapi kerusakan lingkungan, dan alasan terkait konsen pengarang terhadap isu- isu lingkungan. Peneliti menggunakan dua sumber data, data primer dan data sekunder. Novel *The World According To Anna* sebagai data primer. Buku lain yang berkaitan, jurnal dan internet khususnya website yang terkait dengan lingkungan Norwegia sebagai data sekunder. Terdapat 3 hasil penelitian terhadap novel ini. Pertama, terdapat 5 indikator kerusakan lingkungan meliputi punahnya keanekaragaman hayati, kelangkaan sumber energi, perubahan cuaca, berkurangnya hasil laut, dan kerusakan hutan. Kedua, terdapat 7 ide yang disampaikan oleh tokoh utama dalam mengantisipasi mengurangi kerusakan lingkungan yaitu menerapkan prinsip kesetaraan, menjadi pribadi yang inklusif dan berpikiran terbuka, mengikuti informasi terkait isu lingkungan terkini, menggunakan sumber energi yang dapat diperbaharui, mencintai lingkungan, mesin hijau, dan menciptakan komunitas pecinta lingkungan. Ketiga, pengarang konsen terhadap isu lingkungan dikarenakan; kondisi sosial Norwegia, latar belakang pengarang yang merupakan seorang filsuf dan intelektual dan juga environmentalist yang berkewajiban memiliki tanggungjawab semesta.

Kata Kunci : jostein gaarder, kerusakan lingkungan, sosiologi sastra

Abstract

This study concentrates on the analysis of environmental degradation in Jostein Gaarder's *The World According To Anna* novel (2015) by using sociology perspective. The type of the study is library research. The objective of this study is to analyze the indicators of environmental degradation, the main character's ideas in coping with it, and the reason of the author's concern in environmental issues. The researcher uses both primary and secondary data. *The World According To Anna* novel is the primary data. The secondary data are taken from related books, journals, internet especially environmental Norwegian sites. There are 3 results of the study. First, there are 5 indicators of environmental degradation: loss of biodiversity, the scarcity of energy resources, climate change, declining fishes resources, and destroying forest resources. Second, there are 7 ideas are stated by the main character in coping with environmental degradation. They are applying the mutual respect principle, being an inclusive and open-minded individual, updating information about the environment, using renewable energies, loving nature, the green machine, and creating the environment community. Third, the reasons of author's concern in environmental issues are the social condition of Norway, the author's background as the philosopher, an intellectual, and the environmentalist who must have cosmic responsibility.

Keywords : environmental degradation, jostein gaarder, sociology of literature.

1. INTRODUCTION

Studies about literary works are attractive. One of literary works that has powerful influence on the reader is a novel. *The World According to Anna* is a famous novel written by Jostein Gaarder in 2013. This work was translated into several languages and spread among the world. Several researchers have conducted the study about the novel by using different theories. Akbar (2016) studied the novel focusing on Anna's character as the environmentalist by using Individual Psychological Theory. He found a positive character on Anna's character as an enthusiastic, diligent, wise, and intelligent in conveying the idea of saving the environment. Hadiningsih (2016) concerned on the analysis of the interpretation of Anna's dream by using The Interpretation of Dream Theory of Sigmund Freud. Two previous studies focus on Anna's character. Meanwhile, Nisa (2017) also conducted a research concerning on a call for global warming. She pointed out the indicators of global warming, and the way of the author to raise a call for global warming by using Sociology Approach.

The previous studies mostly focus on Anna as the main character and the global warming issue. In fact, according to Wellek and Warren (1963) in *Theory of Literature*, literature is an expression or representation of human life through the medium of social creativity in language. Wellek explained that the relationship between society and literary works can be conducted by using the sociology of literature. According to Laurenson and Swingwood (1972) in *The Sociology of Literature*, the literature generally contains three principles: literary works as social documents, literary works as the reflection of the author's social life, literary works as a reflection of the reader's social life.

The World According To Anna is rich of social reflection of Norwegian society. Although, sociology of society and sociology of author about novel are rarely discussed. Both, the sociology of the society and the sociology of the author are important things that influence the content of literary work. *The World According To Anna* is a scientific novel which rich of environmental messages. Based on the phenomena above, the researcher will conduct a study to analyze two important aspects in the novel; sociology of society and sociology of the author. The study will be focused to find out (1) the indicators of environmental degradation, (2) the main character's ideas in coping with it, (3) the reason of the author's concern in environmental issue reflected in the novel.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

The type of study is library study. The material object of the study is Jostein Gaarder's *The World According To Anna* novel which was translated by Don Bartlet and published by Orion Book in 2015. The formal object focuses to examine the environmental degradation issues using sociology perspective. This research uses both primary and secondary data. The primary data is taken from *The World According To Anna* novel. The secondary data are taken from other related books, journals, internets especially Norwegian sites. The technique of collecting data are; reading the novel intensively, reading related books to get theories and more information, understanding the part of related of the work, writing the data correctly, and classifying the data into the group based on the categories of literary study. The technique of data analysis compares the environmental data are reflected in the novel with the real information in environmental and the author's social life.

3. RESEARCH FINDING AND DISCUSSION

3.1 The Indicators of Environmental Degradation

3.1.1 Loss of Biodiversity

Loss of biodiversity is the major indicator of environmental degradation describing in the novel. The researcher finds the repetition of extinction both flora and fauna. The novel describes in detail the extinct of mammals, amphibians, birds, fruit's trees and flowers. The loss of biodiversity is caused by human greed. Human uses them excessively as food and decoration. Human also destroy the major biodiversity habitat; rainforest and marine.

3.1.2 The Scarcity of Energy Resources

According to the novel, the scarcity of energy resources is caused by the human mindset. They assume energy resources especially oils and gas are cheap and no one belongs to them. As the result, the large exploitation is done in various places, including in the Arctic. Human often forgets if the energy resources will be used up. They will not have other energies resources. The scarcity of energy resources is illustrated when Anna dream in 2082, she meets a group of people cutting down the trees by using axes. The reason is they have no petrol. Petrol had run out and human life in the primitive condition.

3.1.3 Climate Change

The impact of climate change is felt directly by the human. The increase of CO₂ production and greenhouse gas emissions are the cause of climate change. The climate change is characterized by the rising temperature in all of the season. It impacts on the

melting of ice land, the rising of sea level, and tundra is warmer than usual. In the novel, the climate change result in the dry season is longer and some country is wiped by the sand. Climate change force people to move to other country and become refugees.

3.1.4 Declining Fishes Resources

The availability of food and drink determines whether the environment degrades or not. The researcher finds one of indicator of environmental degradation is declining fishes resources. The habitat of fishes both marine and freshwater are described in destroying condition. The factor is the technique to catch fishes. In the novel, the use of trawl and chemist explosion are the causes of fishes in danger.

3.1.5 Destroying of Forest Resources

The major habitat of biodiversity is rainforest. Destroying rainforest causes a bad impact of all organism. Cutting down the trees and use the rainforest for land wind for farm purposes make rainforest decrease over time.

3.2 The Main Character's Ideas In Coping With Environmental Degradation

3.2.1 Applying The Mutual Respect Principle

The simple way introduced by Anna is applying the mutual respect principle. According to the Oxford Dictionary, mutual respect is a concept that something or someone is good, valuable, and important. This concept requires the recent generation must give the same opportunity to the next generation. The human greed in using natural resources must be stopped. Human must choose the best decision for both recent and next generation.

3.2.2 Being An Inclusive and Open-Minded Individual

Good characters implied by the characters in the novel are being an inclusive and open-minded one. The character like Anna, Jonas, dr. Benjamin are inclusive and open-minded person. Their curiosity brings them to the important discussion about environmental issues. Although their profession is different, they give more point of view in responding the environmental issues.

3.2.3 Updating Information about Environment

The concrete evidence when people concern in environmental issues is updating information about the environment. One of the activities did by Anna is clipping the newspapers. Anna roles the activity of reading, collecting and saving the annual report of the Norwegian Red List. The online media also give more information. The

characters prefer to use the gadget for updating information in entertainment activities.

3.2.4 Using Renewable Energies

One of the solutions to face the scarcity of energy resources is using renewable energies. Using batteries and solar cells as good ideas in coping with the scarcity of energy resources.

3.2.5 Loving Nature

The key to save the environment is by loving nature itself. The consciousness of loving the environment can be constructed in human life. Anna, as the main character, is addressed the good behavior toward the environment. Walking in the forest and climbing mountains as the example activities that can make humans have a sense of belonging to nature.

3.2.6 The Green Machine

One of the great ideas in coping with environmental degradation is a green machine. It is a digital system imagined by Anna and Jonas to introduce the rare animals and plants. It appears on the digital screen before people do an online activity. The system will offer the video which can be selected by paying it. The money produced by the system is used to save the earth.

3.3 The Reason of Author's Concern In Environmental Issues

3.3.1 The Social Condition of Norway

The social life and the social condition of Norway give influence with the content of the novel. Norway, the country where the author lived has several factors in geographic, economic, political, and government policy factors. First, the geographic condition of Norway is about 23% of land is mountainous and the rest is coastline. The area is carved by deep glacial of 50,000 arctic islands. Norway is a rich country in its biodiversity, oil and gas resources. Second, the Norwegian economy is a producer of raw materials including wood and fish. Norway becomes the third largest exporter of crude oil and gases in the world. Oil and gas drilling in the Arctic have a direct impact on climate change and environmental degradation. Third, political factor, Green political party take part in Norway's national election but unsuccessful. The Norwegians prefer to choose the political party that concern in economic growth. Fourth, Norwegian government policy actually gives more attention to the environment. The government establishes The Climate and Environment

Ministry to manage the environmental problem. It means, environmental degradation is a serious problem in Norway.

3.3.2 The Author's Background

Beside social reality in Norway, another reason about the author's concern in environmental is from his own background. Gaarder is famous and intellectual philosopher, and environmentalist. His works, including *The World According To Anna* novel, reflect the background. Gaarder delivered a famous statement that a philosopher must have *cosmic responsibility*. His statement recognized by other philosophers and cited by the United Nation as an invitation to preserve the environment.

Not just deal with the statement, the author also an environmentalist leads Sophie Prize, an environmental movement. All of the ideas, critics, and the environmental movement are manifestation as an intellectual, philosopher, and environmentalist who has the consequence to take *cosmic responsibility*.

4. CONCLUSION

After analyzing the Gaarder's *The World According to Anna* novel by using sociological perspective, the researcher notes three points. First, the indicators of environmental degradation are described in the novel. Second, the main character's ideas in coping with environmental degradation. Third, the reason for the author's concern in environmental issues.

First, the researcher finds five indicators of environmental degradation described in the novel. There is loss biodiversity, is signed by much extinct fauna and flora. The scarcity energy resource is signed by the intensity of drill and using petrol also the production of gas emissions. Climate change as the most guilty of society because the impact is real. Fishes resource and forest resource as representative marine and land degradation.

Second, the novel offers the ideas and habits to cope with environmental degradation by several way roles in main characters. The ideas are applying the mutual respect concept between human and environment, being an inclusive and open-minded individual, updating information about environment, love nature through a part of it, creating a green machine as a source donation in saving the earth, also creating community concern in the environment.

Third, There are several reasons of author concern in environmental issues; one of the reason is the social and environmental condition of Norway. The country where the writer lived. So, the author exposes the condition of society among environmental degradation. The other reason is the author is a philosopher, intellectual and writer who concern environment. The author also an environmentalist leads Sophie Prize, an environmental movement.

All of the ideas, critics, and the environmental movement are manifestation as a philosopher, intellectual and environmentalist who has the consequence to take *cosmic responsibility*.

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