

**THE MOTIVATION TO CHASE A DREAM OF MAIN CHARACTER IN
THE NOVEL *THE ALCHEMIST* BY PAULO COELHO (1988):
INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGY ANALYSIS**



**Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for Getting
Bachelor Degree in English Education Department**

by

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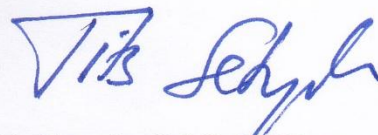
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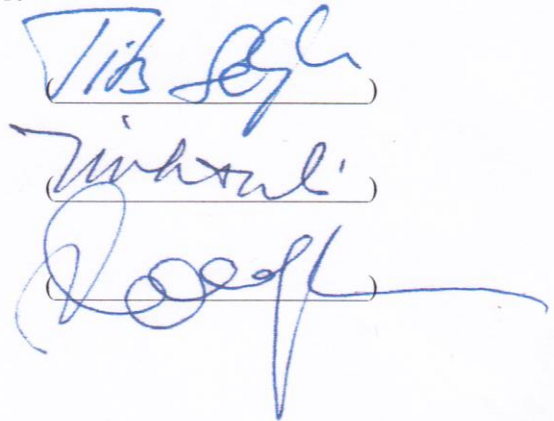
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THE MOTIVATION TO CHASE A DREAM OF MAIN CHARACTER IN THE ALCHEMIST NOVEL BY PAULO COELHO (1988): INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGY ANALYSIS

Abstract

This study discusses the main characters in Paulo Coelho's novel *The Alchemist*, Santiago. Although the title of this novel is *Alchemist* as one of the characters in the novel, this research focuses on another character's journey, Santiago, a shepherd who leaves his home to fulfill his destiny and to find buried treasure near the pyramids in Egypt. In reaching his dream, he must undergo various adventures and obstacles in the end he found the treasure. The method used in this research is qualitative method that is solved by using descriptive analysis. This study aims to describe the motivated character of Santiago to change his life and find treasures near the pyramids in Egypt. The theory used in this research is Alfred Adler's theory of personality psychology. Based on the theory personality is divided into six basic concepts namely inferiority feeling and compensation, finalism fictionalism, striving for superiority, social interest, style of life, and creative power or self. The results of this study indicate that the motivation from within Santiago that encouraged him to achieve his dreams, he found the treasure that had been there in his dream and he got a more valuable treasure that is increasing spiritual level.

Keyword : santiago, the alchemist, Paulo Coelho, Individual psychology.

Abstrak

Penelitian ini membahas karakter utama yang ada dalam novel *The Alchemist* karya Paulo Coelho, Santiago. Meskipun judul novel ini adalah *Alchemist* sebagai salah satu karakter yang ada dalam novel, penelitian ini fokus pada perjalanan karakter yang lain, yaitu Santiago, seorang penggembala yang meninggalkan tempat tinggalnya untuk memenuhi takdirnya dan untuk menemukan harta karun yang terkubur di dekat piramida di Mesir. Dalam meraih mimpinya, dia harus menjalani berbagai petualangan dan rintangan pada akhirnya dia menemukan harta karun tersebut. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif yang diselesaikan dengan menggunakan analisis deskriptif. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan karakter Santiago yang didorong oleh motivasi untuk mengubah hidupnya serta menemukan harta karun di dekat piramida di Mesir. Teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah teori Alfred Adler tentang psikologi kepribadian. Berdasarkan teori tersebut kepribadian dibagi menjadi enam konsep dasar yaitu inferiority feeling and compensation, fictionalism finalism, striving for superiority, social interest, style of life, and creative power or self. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa motivasi dari dalam diri Santiago yang mendorongnya untuk meraih mimpi-mimpinya, dia menemukan harta karun yang selama ini ada dalam mimpinya dan dia mendapatkan harta yang lebih berharga yaitu meningkatnya tingkat spiritualnya.

Kata Kunci: santiago, the alchemist, Paulo Coelho, Psikologi Kepribadian.

1. INTRODUCTION

This research is about individual psychology in *The Alchemist* novel by Paulo Coelho. There are some research that used *The Alchemist* novel as a primary data source and used different issue and theory to analyze this novel. Such as the research *The Life of Paulo Coelho is reflected in The Alchemist Novel* (Fajriani, 2009), the research *A psychological Study of Santiago in Coelho's The Alchemist* (Helena, 2004), and *The Principle of Islamic Faith in Paulo Coelho's The Alchemist in The Alchemist* (Fajar, 2010).

The *Alchemist* novel by Paulo Coelho made in 1988. This novel describes the steps to find the treasures. Many issue which raised in this novel. One of issue is motivation issue. But not many researchers who analyze motivation issue that contained in the novel.

In this novel, the researcher describes about the motivation to chase a dream of main character. Motivation is “encouragement” or factors that encourage someone to do something purposeful to influence his behavior to do something to achieve certain goals or outcomes (Ngalim Purwanto, 1988). There are factors that encourage a person to attempt in reaching a contentment. Those factors are achievement, recognition, advancement of the level of life etc. (Herzberg, 1966).

1.1 Individual Psychology

The definition of individual psychology is a science that attempts to understand the experience and behavior of each person as an organized (Adler, 1981). The main of the concept of individual psychology can be called as the system thought the comprehension of people. It is the particular value in social in the world such, education, organizational life, concealing, and psychotherapy and *self-help*. Adler (1997) suggests that humans act as a unit which has a full role in the management way to live together on the planet. There are six concepts of Alfred Adler's individual psychology theory, they are: inferiority feelings and compensation, fictional finalism, striving for superiority, style of life, social interest and creative power or self.

1.2 Motivation To Chase A Dream

Motivation is the result of a person's desire predicts outcomes and action that leads to the result what they want (Victor H. Vroom, 1964). (Djamarah 2008:20) argues about motivation with the following sentence: "Motivation is a change in one's personal energy that is marked by the emergence of feelings and reactions to achieve the goals". The existences of desire to achieve a desire, people are driven by their desires characterized by their feelings to make it happen and the feelings it stimulates the mind to act.

Motivation is a driving force for human actions or motive why someone does something. Motivation is also about why someone does and what goals they are willing is that they do so. According to Elida Prayitno (1989) theory of motivation is divided into three parts:

a. Theory of Needs

The theory of needs is the theory where man as a creature is not satisfied with the fulfilment of the requirements, they will feel less and want to meet other needs.

b. Humanistic Theory

Humanistic theory is conspiracy theorists who believe that there is only one motivation, the motivation which comes from each individual.

c. Theory of Behaviorism

Behaviorism theory argues that motivation is controlled by the environment.

2. METHOD

This research is qualitative method. It is using descriptive analysis. The object of this research is *The Alchemist* novel by Paulo Coelho (1988). This research is about analysis of individual psychology in the novel. The type of the study is library research. The type of data and the data source divided into two, primary data source and secondary data source. In conducting the study,

the researcher uses the technique of collecting data, as follows: (a) reading the novel repeatedly and understanding the content, (b) Reading some other resources to the novel, (c) giving marks to particular parts in the novel, which are considered important for the analysis, (d) taking notes for essential parts both in primary and secondary data sources, (e) classofying the data into categories and developing them into good unity.

3. THE RESULTS OF THE STUDY AND DISCUSSION

3.1 The Indicators of Individual Psychology

3.1.1 Inferiority and Compensation

Adler (in psychodynamic 2015:178) stated that the people are motivated by one key impetus; the impetus is the urge to overcome feelings of inferiority and to be superior.

In this novel the researcher found some inferiority and compensation of the main characters. The inferiority feeling in *The Alchemist* novel is caused by economic imperfection that experienced by Santiago. His parents are poor farmer in Andalusia and about religion of Santiago is imperfection. He thinks that knowing about God is not important; he just wanted to travel around the world.

3.1.2 Fitionalism Finalism

Fictional finalism is defined as “a subjective experience rather than an object reality. It gives direction to the individual’s striving (Cloninger, 2009).

Fictionalism finalism which the writer found in this novel is when Santiago wants to be a rich man by looking the treasures.

3.1.3 Striving for Superiority

Adler in Hjelle & Ziegler (1992: 143) defined striving for superiority as “fundamental law of human life a something without which life would be unlikeable. Adler believed that the striving for superiority is innate and that we are never free of it because it is

life itself'. Human being will strive to get the higher stage from the birth to the death. Striving for superiority is one struggle in *self-actualization* for perfect completion and striving to be superior. People will be striving for perfection of society as they strive for their own individual perfection.

Striving for superiority which the writer found in this novel is his struggles to get his treasures are by asking to a Gypsy about his dream. In his effort to be superior in his journey to find the treasures, he has to understand about universal language. The other aspect of striving for superiority in Santiago is showed when he gets the understanding about Soul of the World. Understanding soul of the world becomes an important aspect in his success of his journey.

3.1.4 Social Interest

Social interest is theory that “we humans are social creatures that we must consider our relationship to other and the larger sociocultural context in which we live if we are to fully understand ourselves” (Hjelle & Ziegler, 1992). Human being is social creature that cannot live without others. Human beings are blessed with universal social interest. This need is manifested in communication with others.

In this novel the researcher found social interest of main character. Santiago wants to get the treasures, so he communes with people who can help him to get it, social interest of Santiago is when Santiago joins with the caravan that can help him to go to Egypt. Next Santiago is also aided by the alchemist, the alchemist is very important role in helping Santiago finding his Personal Legend.

3.1.5 Style of Life

According to Adler in Hjelle & Ziegler (1992: 144) “the style of life encompasses the unique pattern of traits, behaviors, and habits which, when taken together, defines the flavor of person’s existence”. Style of life is the unique ways in which people pursue their goal. It compasses for the entire person. It includes not only the person’s goal, but also *self-concept*, feeling toward others and attitude toward the world.

Style of life which the writer found in this novel is the way of Santiago to be a rich man, so he does some effort to get his dreams and Santiago’s style of life is always wants to adventure and seek something new.

3.1.6 Creative Self

In Hjelle & Ziegler (1992:147), Adler also assumes that “each person is empowered with the freedom to creative their own *life-style*.” Creative self is a very important factor in an individual’s personality, because it is seen as the prime mover, the first cause of all behavior.

The researcher found creative self in this novel when Santiago has brilliant idea that is never thought by other people to develop his business. He works at crystal shop.

3.2 Indicators of Motivation of Santiago to Chase His Dream

3.2.1 Theory of Needs

Theory of needs is a need can be caused by an internal process but more than ten stimulated by environmental factors. In general, a need is accompanied by a certain feeling or emotion and it has a special way of expressing itself in achieving resolution (Murray, 1983).

In this novel the researcher found theory of needs is when Santiago wants to be a shepherd because he wants to be a rich man and give appreciation for his parents.

3.2.2 Humanistic Theory

Humanistic theory is conspiracy theorists who believe that there is only one motivation, the motivation which comes from each individual. Motivation is factors which come from within someone that generates, directs, and organize behaviour (Martin, 1992).

The researcher found humanistic theory in this novel is when Santiago learns about universal language. Universal language is a language without words that is used and understood by all creatures. The other aspect of humanism theory in Santiago showed when he learns about Soul of the World. Understanding soul of the world becomes an important aspect in his successful in his journey. Soul of the world is a place where all of creatures live in the entire world life in. If he understands soul of the world, he also can be the part of it.

3.2.3 Theory of Behaviorism

Singgih Gunarsa D. (2008) suggests that extrinsic motivation is the motivation which obtained from individual observations, advice, and encouragement from others.

Behaviorism theory emphasizes the formation of behaviors that appear to be the result of learning. Motivational behavior will occur when the consequences of behavior can thrill the individual's emotions, which is to be like or dislike.

Theory of behaviorism can be found in this novel is when Santiago gets information about his treasures by asking to a Gypsy.

3.4 DISCUSSION

Based on the individual psychology analysis above, the researcher sees the aspects of individual psychology in the novel when Santiago wants to reach his fictional finalism that is get the treasures. It consists of:

(1) fictional finalism, (2) inferiority feeling, (3) striving for superiority, (4) social interest, (5) style of life, (6) creative self.

As a human being Santiago wants to live happily. One way that he thinks he can be happy is to be rich, that is by looking for treasure. However, the perception of happiness has change; he thinks that happiness is not only of material but also of inner peace. Therefore Santiago has motivation and does a journey.

The inferiority feeling arises because of economic and spiritual imperfections. The economic imperfection is he comes from a poor family, but he wants to be rich. The spiritual imperfection is he does not really believe God, but he wants to be close to God.

The response of his inferiority feelings is he does many efforts to be superior. He struggles to be rich man by looking for treasures. He does everything to reach his personal legend. To make his journey easier, he has to learn and understand about universal language and soul of the world.

Santiago wants to be a rich man. So, the social interest of Santiago is he always communes with people who can help him to be rich.

Santiago style of life is about how to be rich that is by looking for treasures. He takes a long journey to Egypt to get the treasures. In addition, he also did anything; one of them is the way to be closer to God.

Santiago is a creative person. It has been proven when Santiago works in the crystals shop. He has a lot of idea and innovation to increase the income of the shop.

The psychological analysis above is showed about personality development of the major character. Santiago is influenced by his desires to reach his personal legend. His struggle to reach his personal legend reinforces his personality of Adler's Individual psychology to be connected to each other and to build a unity from Santiago personality through his great struggle to reach his personal legend.

According to Wellek and Warren (1962), psychology of literature means the psychological study of the writer, as type and as individual, or the study of the creative process, or the study of the psychological types

and laws present within works of literature or the effects of literature upon its readers or audience psychology. The relation between literature and psychology is literature can affect the feeling and personality of the readers. So, Paulo Coelho writes *The Alchemist* as one of literary work to show his condition at that time. He also wanted to give motivation to the readers to get into better situation with always struggle and have positive *self-concept* even though in bad circumstances.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis and discussion in the previous chapter, this study comes to the following conclusion. Firstly, based on individual psychology it can be conclude that is the novel, the author illustrated the psychological phenomenon in which a person of the major character. Paulo Coelho brought character in such a way to prove the struggle of Santiago to reach his dream influenced by his motivation. From his desire to reach his personal legend and his dream to find the treasures he struggles to reach it. His struggle to reach his personal legend and his dream to find the treasures reinforce his personality of Adler's Individual Psychology is connected to each other and builds a unity from Santiago personality through his great struggle to reach his personal legend and his dream to find the treasures.

Secondly, based on motivation, it can be concluded that in this novel, the author delivers a message that all about Santiago's struggle is driven by his motivation. Begin from his dream that he finds the treasures in pyramid in Egypt. He always thinks about it, and there is determination to reach it. Santiago wants reach it because there is motivation from Santiago. Since old time Santiago wants to be a rich man.

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