

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Semiotics is the study of signs and symbols and their use of interpretation. Usually, semiotic analysis studies the roles of signs and the part they play on a social and cultural scale. Semiotics is used to inform the reader of what interpretation he/she should make in regards to the sign. It includes the study of how meaning is constructed and understood.

Taufiqurohman (2016) stated in his journal, Semiotics as the knowledge on sign, has two principles, namely signifier and signified. According to Pierce as has been quoted by Pradopo (1995:121), based on the relation between the signifier and the signified, there are three kinds of basic sign, they are *icon*, *index* and *symbol*. *Icon* has a similar relationship between the signifier and the signified such as photograph with the man photographed. *Index* is the relation shows cause and effect like smoke beckons fire. Meanwhile, *symbol* shows arbitrary relations based on the convention of people generally. It is like language.

Common examples of sign include traffic light, there 3 colour of traffic light, each of the colors have their meaning. The emojis and emoticon used in electronic communication has so many variation to express the face of user when exchanges the message. In advertisement, there is a picture of the thing which advertised by a group of people as a sign of the image of the thing.

In literature side, there are many sign can be found, such in song and poem. Songs and poems have special characteristic in their lyric and verse. Song and poem generally conveys message and meanings.

Poetry as a kind of literary work is a reflection of poet's thought and feelings. Poems are like the fingerprints of the poet. They tell you what the poet was thinking, what frame of mind he or she was in. Poets are love with words. The gift of language makes of human, and poets make the fullest of it. We might call poetry language at its best: poets use its full potential, using more of it to better advantage than we usually do. They often seem to write a heightened sense of awareness, with a special intensity. Poetry mobilized the image-making capacity of language. It delights the ear and stirs our emotions. It has potential, if we let it, of making us more thoughtful human beings (Guth and Rico, 1997:469).

According to Jerome Beaty (2002: 43), A symbol is, put simply, something that stands for something else. The everyday world is full of common examples. Symbol in poetry are said to be those words that have a range of references beyond their literal signification or denotation. Poems sometimes create a symbol out of thing, action or event that has no previously agreed on symbolic significance.

As a unique media of communication, poem is created in a brief and concentrated form of language. Each poem contains different symbols with different meaning and function. All of these differences had given different ideas. Poem does this through an intricate pattern of words, and it offers language as highly organized as language as can be. No word is idle or accidental, each word

has a specific place within an overarching pattern. Together they create meaningful and beautiful words.

In this research we are going to show how words in poem play this role and how one word could be symbol and we are going to reveal the deep layers of Medya Hus's poems in Acehnese.

Acehnese displays exceptionally rich and distinguished poetic traditions. The various kinds and uses of poem are described in some detail. This is significant since virtually all acehnese written texts, which serves a wide range of functions in the life of Acehnese people, are in verse. Mostly the acehnese poems is not about love, however the poets prefer to write about the Aceh's culture and religion, because Islam is the dominant religion in Aceh.

We can find out what the poem tells about from the symbol. Some poets who used symbols in their literary works are Moehammadyah Husen or also known as Medya Hus is the one of famous poets in Aceh. He writes the poems since 1983, his works are often strange and highly imaginative. He writes the poems contain of symbols. He very interested in symbols, many of her poems show symbols that very meaningful in expressing her idea. Symbols for her are very important part to manipulate and create the special characteristic of her poems. However, he doesn't write poem about love, he prefers to writes about aceh's culture and religion as Dakwah.

The object of the study was a book from Medya Hus's book entitle '*Jameun Internet*', this book that contain of 18 poems. One of his famous poems is '*Akhlaq Mulia*', that mostly talk about religion (Islamic laws) that contain the symbols. Look at the sample of the last stanza:

Akhlaq tanyoe nyang mulia

Ciri ureung meu Agama

Nyo gop ikot hana hana karu

Jeut keu lampu dalam dônya

In that line tells us about the benefits of the people that has Islamic's knowledge. The symbolizer of '*lampu* (lamp)' is to indicate the light, but in that poem *lampu* (lamp) is one a pinnacle symbol of self-sacrifice to learn about Islamic's knowledge, in order to lead us in this world.

To support this research, there are some related studies to this research that have been made by other researchers. The first research related to this study was conducted by Rosmaidar & Fitriurrahmahi (2012) entitle '*Symbols In William Blake's Poetry Song of Experience*', in this research the researchers divided the types of symbols into two, conventional symbol and contextual symbol. In this research The occurency of contextual symbols is higher than conventional symbols. The second research was conducted by Fitriana (2010), the researcher analyzed the symbol based on figurative language and semiotics structuralism analysis. To do this research, the researcher used Roland Barther's theory. Mostly in this research talked about love in relationship. And the last, The third previous study is conducted by Andri (2010), in her research paper there are three kind of Kim Odonizio's poems constructed by the symbol as one kind of intrinsic element of poetry. The researcher found 3 symbols in *Varieties*' poem, in *First poem for You*'s poem was found 4 symbols, and in *What Do Women Want*'s poem was found 4 symbols. For doing this research, the researcher utilized triadic-theory of semiotic process which are proposed by Charles Sanders Peirce.

This research is to present the symbolic interpretations in Medya Hus's poems in Acehese. After interpreting the meaning of the symbols in Medya Hus's poems in Acehese, hopefully this research can be useful for the researcher, students and the other reader to be the reference about the symbols, especially in the poems. In order to the poems is not only the literary work that have the beautiful words in each verse, but also the reader knows about the exactly meaning of it.

B. The Problems of the Study

In line to the background of the study, the problems of the research can be formulated in questions form as follows:

1. What symbols are used in Medya Hus's poems?
2. Why are the symbols used in Medya Hus's poems?

C. The Objectives of the Study

In relation to the problems of the study, the objectives in this study are formulated:

1. To describe the meaning of symbols used in Medya Hus's poems
2. To elaborate the reason of symbols used in Medya Hus's poem

D. The Scope of the Study

The scope of the study deals with the subject matter of Medya Hus's poems in Acehese. This research conducts to describe the meaning of each symbols in '*Jameun Internet*' book by Medya Hus's poem in Acehese, entitled:

Jameun Internet, Rahmat Allah, Kayèe Syuruga, Meurunoe, Beudoh, Bèk Beu O, Akhlaq Mulia, Haba, and Duek. And focus on the symbols based on Charles Sanders Peirce's semiotic theory.

E. The Significant of the Study

Findings of the study are expected to be useful theoretically and practically.

1. Theoretically

The finding of this research are expected to enhance the knowledge about symbolic related to culture, especially Acehnese culture which is concerned on Medya Hus's poems.

2. Practically

- a) For the students, as reference to expand insight about symbol.
- b) For the readers, this research will enrich their knowledge and information about symbol.
- c) For the researcher who are interested in doing further study on symbol in order to be a reference or comparison.