

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Literary work is the author's reflection on life and livings. It is combined with the power of imagination and creativity which are supported by experience and observation. According to Klarer (2004) in most cases, literary work is referred to as the entirety of written expression, with the restriction that not every written document can be categorized as literature in the more exact sense of the word. Furthermore, according to Goodman (2001), the literature includes forms of writing which are deliberately and creatively experimented with language to suggest images and ideas that engage the readers' imagination. Literature then can be said to creative writing by an author with aesthetic values which makes literature regarded as an art.

Songs can be categorized into literary works because it contain song lyrics that are included in poetry in literary works. The song as a universal and effective medium can convey the contents of the creator's ideas, messages, and expressions to listeners through lyrics, music composition, selection of musical instruments, and music performance. The ideas in the song can be in the form of expressions of love, protest against something, anger, anxiety, and so on which are arranged into something interest. Therefore, it cannot be denied that music seems to have become the main dish in everyday life, both for rural and urban communities.

In creating songs, the writer or creator seems to communicate. The

function of communication in the song is to provide information, to educate, and to entertain. The information in music is contained in the lyrics which will later become a song and spread to a wide audience with several media that will help its spread. Songwriters in writing song lyrics also consider several aspects, such as things related to issues experienced by the creator they want to convey.

The message or content of the song lyrics that the lyricist and songwriter want to convey seems to communicate to influence and invite people who listen to it to enter the musical atmosphere of the song. According to Semi (1986: 106), the lyrics are very short poems that appreciate emotions. Furthermore, Sylado (1983: 32) states the song can also be a musical arrangement that can be added to the lyrics (text) which lyrics express the feelings and thoughts of the creator in certain ways that are generally accepted. So, songs with lyrics related to the language field. Because of the nature of song lyrics such as language which can be a communication medium as a symbol or a mirror of social reality that is currently circulating. Lyrics can also be a reflection of the current social issues.

Song lyrics are a medium of verbal communication that has meaning, the right choice of song lyrics can have the same value as thousands of events, able to attract the attention of individuals who listen to the song lyrics. Lyrics are communicated through language. Language is a perfect medium to facilitate communication among people. It is a system of communication either spoken or written used and understood by a particular community or country to express thoughts and feelings. Language has also interpersonal functions to establish social relations. Edward Sapir defines, "Languages is a purely human and non-

instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions, and desires through voluntarily produced symbols". Indeed, language is an essential supporting media of verbal communication.

As communicative and contains messages and also positive values. The lyrics in the song must be able to talk about many things, not only about love but also social, religious, environmental, and also as a medium for discussion of criticism and also moral values on various things. Like the songs in Simalungun, for example, the lyrics of Simalungun songs are usually conveyed messages or moral values related to the activities of the village community in Simalungun.

Usually, in one region there are always values that are different from other regions. This value is usually called local value or local wisdom. Local values usually originate from wise behavior in a society that has been taught from generation to generation by our parents to us as their children. So that the value of local wisdom will differ from one region to another. Moral values are one part of local values. According to Elizabeth B Hurlock , the moral is an ethical norm, a concept of life upheld by most certain societies. Moral value is one of the messages that is often conveyed through song lyrics. Bertens (1997) says every value will get quality if it has a relation with other values. Moral issues become very important because of the increasing number of cases related to the bad morals of an individual or society. Therefore, for a long time ago, many songwriters indirectly conveyed moral messages through the lyrics of the songs they created. One example of a song that has moral values is a traditional song from Simalungun titled *Haroan Bolon (Marsialop Ari)*, which illustrates how

harmonious people are. The title of this song is also one of Simalungun dances or the names of torture called Tortor Haroan Bolon tells the story of a series of work processes in the field starting from seeding, seed planting, care, harvesting, until the process of pounding rice which is carried out cooperatively by the Simalungun's people.

There are many researchers and thesis that studying moral values in literary work, but most of them only analyzing on novel, movie, or poem. There are only a few researchers that studied moral values on song lyrics especially traditional songs, like Simalungun's song. So this study aims to analyze the moral value of selected songs created by Taralamsyah Saragih (*Haroan Bolon / Marsialop Ari, Parsirangan, Pamuhunan, Uhur Marsirahutan, Poldung Sirotap Padan, Padan Na So Suhun, Sitalasari, Doding Manduda, Parsonduk Dua, and Eta Mangalop Boru*). The song chosen is a song from the old songwriters Taralamsyah Saragih which is popular and still being played at every event and activity of the Simalungun residents.

B. PROBLEM OF THE STUDY

Based on the background of the study, the problems of the study are summed up into this following up:

1. What are the categories of moral values conveyed in Taralamsyah Sarigih song lyrics?
2. How are the moral values presented in Taralamsyah Saragih song lyrics?

C. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

Based on the problem of the study above, the objectives of the study are formulated as follows:

1. To find out the categories of moral values conveyed in Taralamsyah Saragih song lyrics.
2. To describe the way of presenting the moral values in Taralamsyah Saragih song lyrics.

D. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

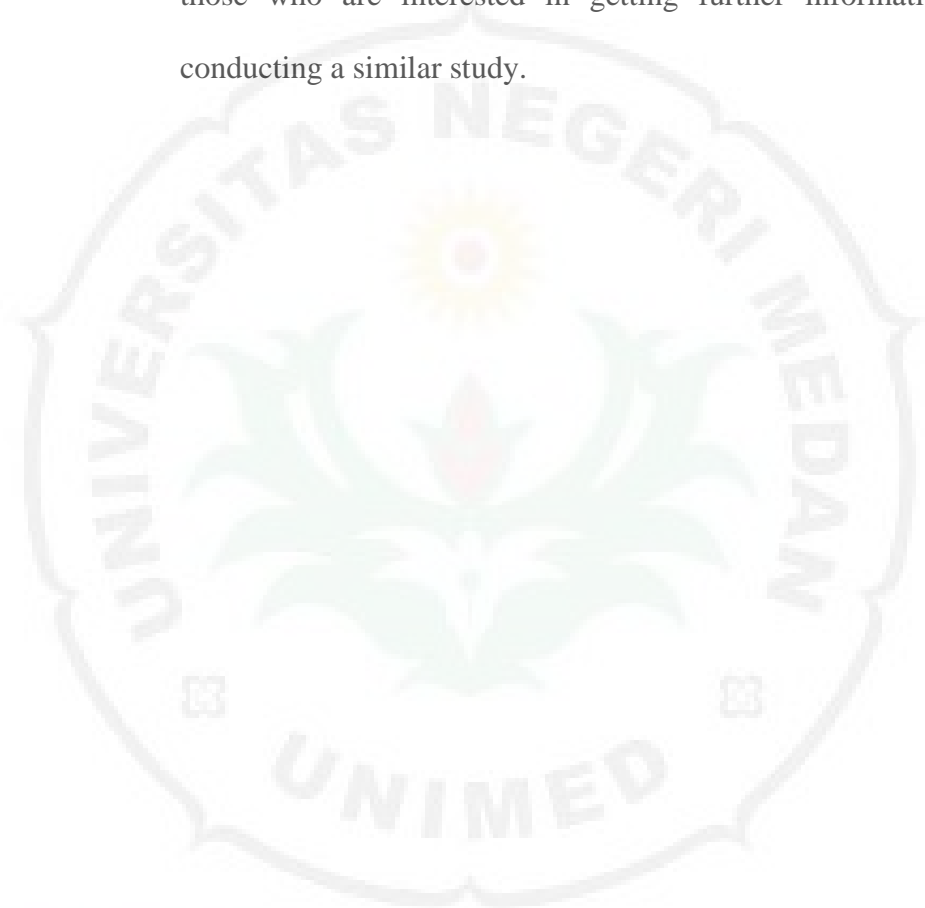
The analysis of meaning and moral value in the selected song lyrics created by Taralamsyah Saragih is the focus of this research. There will be ten songs used in the research *Haroan Bolon / Marsialop Ari, Parsirangan, Pamuhunan, Uhur Marsirahutan, Poldung Sirotap Padan, Padan Na So Suhun, Sitalasari, Doding Manduda, Parsonduk Dua, and Eta Mangalop Boru.*

E. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

1. Theoretically, this research is expected to give a valuable contribution to the theory of moral value.
2. Practically, this research are useful for:
 - a. English Teacher, this study is expected as a medium for writing practice and to be referenced for English teachers who are interested in teaching moral values.
 - b. Student. the research is expected to be referenced for students to

study moral values.

- c. Researchers, this research is expected to be the next reference for those who are interested in getting further information and conducting a similar study.



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