
An Analysis of Connotative Meaning in Joko Pinurbo's Poetry

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Abstract

This study discusses the connotative meaning contained in the poetry by Joko Pinurbo. This study uses the theory of Leech (1981) and Palmer (1976) about connotative meaning and aspects of meaning. In the research method, the data were analyzed based on the definition of the qualitative descriptive method. The poetries of Joko Pinurbo were analyzed from each word and couplet. Then, each word and couplet in Joko Pinurbo's poetries were classified as connotative meaning and found the connotative word's aspect meaning. After analyzing, the researcher explained the data found and concluded this research. As the result, there are 13 connotative words found in this research. Of the four aspects of meaning that have been mentioned in chapter two of Joko Pinurbo's poetries, the researcher found two kinds of aspects of the meaning namely, nine the aspect of the meaning of feeling and four the aspect of the meaning of intension.

Keywords: *Joko Pinurbo's poetry, Semantic, Connotative meaning,*

1. INTRODUCTION

Literature is a person's creativity in conveying an idea and feeling. Literature is also related to life experiences, the words used in literature are powerful, effective, and even captivating, and literature also provides entertainment and inspires facts hidden. According to Bressler (1994:7), literature is a work of imaginative or creative writing.

Some literary works include prose, poem, novels, short stories, poetry, and others are imagination and non-imagination literary works. Prose is a registered art form with a greater variety of rhythms. The poetry is a rhyme almost similar to poetry, but the presentation state is in an orderly and bound line. A novel is a fiction genre designed through written words representing human life that instructs or diverts both. A short story is a story that is written shorter than a novel and longer than a fable. Poetry is a literary work in the form of an

expression of the author's heart in which there are rhythms, lyrics, rhymes, and rhythms in each line. Packaged in imaginative language and composed of meaningful words, poetry contains its aesthetic value. Poetry has several types, namely old poetry, and modern poetry. One of the contemporary poets is Joko Pinurbo. He has produced various kinds of poetry since 1999.

Joko Pinurbo is a researcher from Indonesia. His poetry contains a lot of humor, irony, and narration. Joko Pinurbo has written a lot poetry books, including: *Celana (1999)*, *Di Bawah Kibaran Sarung (2001)*, *Pacar kecilku (2002)*, *Telepon Genggam (2003)*, *Kekasihku (2004)*, *Kepada Cium (2007)*, *Tahilalat (2012)*, *Baju Bulan (2013)*, *Surat Kopi (2014)*, *Selamat Menjalankan Ibadah Puisi (2016)*, *Malam Ini Aku Tidur di Matamu (2016)*. From some of his works, researchers are interested in examining Joko Pinurbo's poetry entitled "*Surat Kopi*."

From several books of poetry by Joko Pinurbo, the researcher are interested in the book "*Surat Kopi*." The researcher's interest in Joko Pinurbo's poetry "*Surat Kopi*" cannot be separated from the uniqueness of Joko Pinurbo's poetry. Joko Pinurbo's poetry has its uniqueness, namely poetry that is irregular and in the form of short story narratives and eccentric word choices, and his poetic attitude tends to be serious, critical, and philosophical. This makes his poetry very different from the works of other poets, such as Chairil Anwar, who has poetry with grooves. According to Anindita et.al (2019) stated, Joko Pinurbo's poetries are so touching, and sometimes full of absurdity, although that does not detract from their beauty. As one of the literary works, Joko Pinurbo's poetry is assumed to have many connotative meanings. This helps this study to find connotative meaning in poetry. This research analyzes the connotative meaning in Joko Pinurbo's poetry. This research identifies the aspect of meaning in connotative words, in Joko Pinurbo's poetry.

In this study, the researcher discusses the connotative meaning in the poetry by Joko Pinurbo. One of Joko Pinurbo's literary works examined in this research is a book entitled "*Surat Kopi*," published in 2014. This book contains 176 poetries by Joko Pinurbo that were written on Twitter from 2012 to 2014. Its contents are full of poetries that make us who read it dissolved. It feels like being invited to swim in a cup of strong coffee. Not intoxicating, it makes the soul's eyes widen. Coffee in Joko Pinurbo's creativity is also a kind of worship. There, life is celebrated and

reflected, ideas are linked and discussed, and everything can become the driving spirit for the way of human life.

The researcher hopes that the reader not only knows the word's denotative meaning but also has to know the connotative meaning and the hidden meaning of the connotative. The results of this research are expected to provide benefits and new information to readers about semantics, especially the connotative meanings in the book of poetry "*Surat Kopi*" by Joko Pinurbo.

The limitation of this study is that the current research focuses on connotative meaning. In contrast, the denotative meaning is supplementary data or support to find connotative meaning in Joko Pinurbo's poetry, which is packaged in the book "*Surat Kopi*." The researcher took seven poetries "*Surat Cukur*," "*Surat Kopi*," "*Surat Pulang*," "*Surat Libur*," "*Surat Kau*," "*Surat Sarung*," and "*Surat Kabar*."

This study uses the theory of Leech (1981) and Palmer (1976) to support this research. According to Leech (1981:8), meaning can be studied as a linguistic phenomenon itself, not as something outside language. According to Leech (1974: 40-41), connotative meaning is a communicative value that has an expression based on what is referred to, in addition to purely conceptual content. According to Palmer (1976:1) that "Semantics is a technical term used to refer to the study of meaning." Aspects of meaning, according to Palmer (1976) there are four aspects namely, the aspect of the meaning of feeling, the aspect of the meaning of intension, the aspect of the meaning of sense, aspect of the meaning of tone. From four aspects of the meaning from Palmer (1976), the researcher found two kinds of aspects of the meaning namely, the aspect of the meaning of feeling, and the aspect of the meaning of intension.

From the background above that, the formulation of the problem in this study is what kind of connotative meaning in Joko Pinurbo's poetries? And what kind of aspect of meaning in connotative words in Joko Pinurbo's poetry?

2. METHOD

This research is based on the poetry texts by Joko Pinurbo. The data taken is more in the form of poetic texts that must be found out the meaning of these words. From some data that has been found or temporary data, it was decided that this research uses research based on the qualitative description to reveal the hidden meaning behind the diction used by Joko Pinurbo in his poetry. The data were taken from Joko Pinurbo's poetry. This point is the technique of the researcher to collect the data. Data analysis is critical in researching something. In the research method, the data were analyzed based on the definition of the qualitative descriptive method. The poetries of Joko Pinurbo were analyzed from each word and couplet. Then, each word and couplet in Joko Pinurbo's poetries were classified as connotative meaning and found the connotative word's aspect of meaning.

3. DISCUSSION

The researcher focuses on connotative meaning in Joko Pinurbo's poetry. To search the connotative meaning using the KBBI (Indonesian Dictionary). The aspect of meaning is searched through the connotative word.

The findings consist of two parts. The first discovery is about connotative and denotative as supporting data. The second is to conclude the aspect meaning in the connotative word of the poetry.

3.1. Kinds of connotative meaning in seven poetries from Joko Pinurbo's book "*Surat Kopi*"

The connotative word in "*Surat Cukur*"

There are two connotative words found in "*Surat Cukur*" poetry incouplet 1 in the fourth line "*Aku ingin membuat **garis merah** di lehermu*" (I want to make a red line on your neck). There is the phrase "**garis merah**" which has a connotative meaning of incision in the neck.

In couplet 3 in first line "*Sebagian rambutku sudah jadi **rambut salju***" (half of my hair has become snowy hair). There is the phrase "**rambut salju**" which has a connotative meaning of gray or white hair.

The connotative word in "*Surat Kopi*"

There is one connotative word found in "*Surat Kopi*" poetry in

couplet 4 in the first line “*Di mata kutelah lahir mata kopi*” (In my eyes, coffee eyes have been born). There is the phrase “*mata kopi*” which has a connotative meaning of sparkling eyes when he sees coffee.

3.2. Kinds of the aspect of meaning found in Joko Pinurbo’s poetry

After finding the connotative words, the researcher classifies the aspect of the meaning of the connotative words in Joko Pinurbo’s poetries.

Tabel 1. the aspect of the meaning of the connotative words

The aspect of meaning	Title of the Poetry	Connotative words
The aspect meaning of feeling	“ <i>Surat Cukur</i> ”	“ <i>Rambutsalju</i> ”
	“ <i>Surat Kopi</i> ”	“ <i>Mata kopi</i> ”
The aspect meaning of intension	“ <i>Surat Cukur</i> ”	“ <i>Garis merah</i> ”

3.3. Kinds of connotative meaning in seven poetries from Joko Pinurbo’s book “Surat Kopi”

Couplet 1 “*garis merah.*”(red line)

In the poetry “*Surat Cukur,*” there are four stanzas consisting of three and four lines, respectively. In the first stanza on the fourth line, it reads “*Aku ingin membuat garis merah di lehermu*” (I want to make a red line on your neck). This line contains the phrase “*garis merah*” in KBBI, “*garis*” means a long stroke while “*merah*” means a primary color similar to the color of blood. The expression “*garis merah*” has a connotative or implied meaning. Based on semantic science pioneered by Leech (1981), this connotation is the hidden meaning behind the explicit. Based on this knowledge, the researcher concluded that the phrase “*garis merah*” has a connotative meaning an incision in the neck made by a barber. This connotative phrase is also interpreted as a barber's action to scare or worry customers who want to shave and not move a lot so as not to get hurt or cut by the knife. The denotative meaning of this phrase is means scribbles using ink. This statement is also

supported by the previous introduction, "*pisaucukurnyasambilmencengkeramtengkukku*" (His razor gripped the nape of my neck), which makes the reader understand that the phrase describes an incision and not a scribble of ink.

On the other hand, a similar study conducted by Armawansyah (2016) and Pratiwi (2020) with other objects stated that connotative meaning is an additional sense implied or associated with a word because not everything written and discussed has real meaning. However, it also has implied meanings that support the researcher's statement that "*garis merah*" is a connotative word.

Couplet 3 "*rambutsalju*" (snowy hair)

In the poetry "*Surat Cukur*," there are four stanzas consisting of three and four lines, respectively. In the third stanza in the first line, it reads "*Sebagian rambutku sudah jadi rambut salju*" (half of my hair has become snowy hair). In this line, there is the phrase "*rambutsalju*" in the KBBI "*rambut*" a feather that grows on the human skin "*salju*" means white water vapor droplets are like cotton that freeze in the air and fall to the earth. The phrase "*rambutsalju*" has a connotative or implied meaning. Based on the semantic science pioneered by Leech (1981) stated that this connotation is the hidden meaning behind the explicit. Based on this knowledge, the researcher concluded that the phrase "*rambutsalju*" has a connotative meaning of gray or white hair due to old age or genetic factors. This phrase describes a person waiting for the barber to age. This proves that someone is still loyal to the barber and is willing to wait until his hair turns white, and the denotative meaning is snowy hair. This statement is also supported by the previous introduction, "*Setelah itu aku tak pernah lagi melihatnya*" (After that I never saw him again), which makes the reader understand that the phrase describes that the barber disappeared until he was old or gray.

On the other hand, a similar study by Jayanti (2019) and Novitasari (2018) with other objects stated that connotative meaning is the communicative value an expression has by what it refers to. Connotative is an implied meaning of a word that makes the word have more than one meaning. This supports the researcher's statement that "*rambutsalju*" is a connotative word with an implied meaning.

Couplet 4 "*mata kopi*" (coffee eye)

In the poetry "*Surat Kopi*" there are seven stanzas, each consisting of two, three, and four lines. In the fourth stanza in the first line, it reads "*Di mata kutelah lahir mata kopi*" (In my eyes, coffee eyes have been born). In this line, there is the phrase "*mata kopi*" in the KBBI "*mata*" which means the sense to see and "*kopi*" means a drink made from coffee grounds. The phrase "*mata kopi*" has a connotative or implied meaning. Based on the

semantic science pioneered by Leech (1981) stated that this connotation is the hidden meaning behind the explicit. Based on this knowledge, the researcher concludes that the phrase "*mata kopi*" has a connotative meaning of sparkling eyes when he sees coffee which is a form of his love for coffee which makes him have a taste for coffee. Because in the verse there is a sentence "*Di waktu kecilakuper nahdiberi Ibu cium rasa kopi*" (When I was little, my mother gave me the smell of coffee). So, it can be concluded that the description of this phrase is a form of love for coffee so that his eyes light up when he sees coffee. The denotative meaning is his eyes emitting coffee.

On the other hand, a similar study conducted by Fauzan,(2020) and Jayanti (2019) with different objects stated that connotative meaning is the communicative value expressions have by what refers to. The meaning of connotation is subjective and is the result of interpretation when the sign meets the feelings and values of the culture of the reader. This supports the researcher's statement that "*mata kopi*" is a connotative word that has an implied meaning.

3.4. The aspect of meaning found in Joko Pinurbo's poetry

3.4.1. The aspect of the meaning of feeling

The aspect of meaning from Palmer (1976) contained in the connotative word "*rambut salju*" in "*Surat Cukur*" poetry is an aspect of the meaning of feeling. Because this verse describes the feeling of staying happy even though you have to wait until old. Based on Joko Pinurbo's life, he wants to express the happiness of old people to stay happy even though they have to wait for uncertain things.

The aspect of meaning from Palmer (1976) contained in the connotative word "*mata kopi*" in "*Surat Kopi*" poetry is an aspect of the meaning of feeling. Because there is a feeling of love for coffee and an interest in coffee from a young age that makes his eyes sparkle when he sees coffee. Based on Joko Pinurbo's life, he expresses his love for coffee through this poetry, and through this connotative word, it is also seen that Joko Pinurbo likes coffee.

3.4.2. The aspect of the meaning of intension

The aspect of the meaning from Palmer (1976) of the connotative word "*garis merah*" in "*Surat Cukur*" poetry is the aspect of the meaning of intension because having a purpose or threat to kill by making an incision in the neck. This will makes people afraid to shave their hair at the barber. In this connotative word, Joko Pinurbo wants to show that in his childhood he was afraid of barbers because of his trauma with barbers who scared him. But in this poetry according to Anindita et al., (2019), Joko Pinurbo wants to convey a message to children who are still afraid to have their hair shaved that barbers are not that scary this relates to Joko Pinurbo's childhood.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings and discussion, this research concludes that Joko Pinurbo's poetry contains many ambiguous sentences or phrases that contain connotative meanings. Connotative is the implied meaning behind the explicit. In the seven poetries that have been analyzed, there are 13 connotative words in them and various aspects of the meaning contained behind these connotative words. Of the four aspects of meaning that have been mentioned in chapter two of Joko Pinurbo's poetries, the researcher only found two aspects of meaning in the poem, namely nine aspects of the meaning of feelings and four aspects of the meaning of intension. Joko Pinurbo's poetry contains simple but ambiguous figures of speech. From these figures of speech, there are many hidden meanings behind the explicit ones. Joko Pinurbo's poetry can reflect the social conditions of the people around him in a simple but with many meanings. Connotative provides diction variations in forming sentences.

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