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# Analysis of Intrinsic Elements in the Novel *Anak-Anak Cahaya* by Ramaditya Adikara (Structuralism Study)

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**Abstract.** A novel is a prose literary work that tells about the problems in human life and is born from the author's imagination. The literary work that is the result of the author's heart expression that we often encounter is a novel. The novel contains building elements, namely intrinsic elements. The research method used is qualitative descriptive. The data collection technique used is the observation-note technique. The data source of this research is the novel *Anak-Anak Cahaya* by Ramaditya Adikara. The purpose of this research is to analyze the intrinsic elements contained in the novel *Anak-Anak Cahaya*. The results of this research are that the novel *Anak-Anak Cahaya* contains several intrinsic elements. The intrinsic elements found in the novel *Anak-Anak Cahaya* include theme, character, plot, setting, and mandate.

**Keywords:** novel, intrinsic elements, *Anak-Anak Cahaya*.

## 1. Introduction

In everyday life, humans certainly engage in social activities. Humans use language to interact with other humans. According to Franesti (2021), language is a tool in the form of a symbol system used by humans for communication in daily life. Hasbullah (2020) states that language is a vocal used for communication and is a sound symbol that has meaning. Lafamane (2020a) defines language as a symbol used by humans for communication. Aini (2019) describes language as a meaningful sound symbol used by humans to interact with each other.

Language is used to express human feelings. Authors use language to pour their thoughts into literary works. Lafamane (2020b) explains that a literary work is an expression of the author's heart that has human elements and artistic elements and is packaged in a coherent sentence sequence. A literary work is an expression of the author's heart that has artistic elements and contains life values. Saragih et al. (2021) define a literary work as a work born from the author's imagination about the depiction of human life. Arifin (2019) describes a literary work as the result of the author's imagination that is packaged in a work enjoyed by readers.

In literature, there is certainly structuralism. Structuralism is an approach that focuses on the intrinsic elements that build literature. Supriyanto, et al. (2023) define structuralism as a science

that examines the intrinsic elements that build a literary work. Structuralism as a science that examines the relationship of elements and structures that build a literary work. Dewi, et al. (2020) define structuralism as a literary approach theory that examines the intrinsic elements that build a novel. A literary work that is the result of the author's heart expression that we often encounter is a novel.

A novel is a prose literary work that talks about the problems in human life and is born from the author's imagination. Azis (2021) defines a novel as a long prose literary work containing a series of human life stories enjoyed by readers. Isnaini (2022) describes a novel as a complex literary work and contains a series of human life born from the author's imagination. Novel is a literary work that contains social, cultural, and moral values. Lubis (2020) describes a novel as a literary work that talks about human life consisting of intrinsic and extrinsic elements.

In a novel, there are two types of elements, namely intrinsic and extrinsic elements. Pramidana (2020) states that intrinsic and extrinsic elements in a novel are interrelated. The main focus in this research is the intrinsic element. Permana, et al. (2019) define the intrinsic element as an element that is in the novel including theme, language style, character, plot, etc. Ate & Lawa (2022) state that the intrinsic element is an element included in structuralism and contains plot, character, setting, mandate, theme, and language style. Sari, et al. (Sari et al., 2020) define the intrinsic element as an element that functions as a basic foundation for the formation of a novel.

Intrinsic elements in a novel include theme, plot, characterization, mandate, and language style. Natasha, et al. (2022) define the theme as the main idea that guides the creation of a novel. Melati, et al. (2019) define a character as an actor in a novel. Auliya & Damariswara (2022) define the plot as a series of events formed from the cause and effect of events in the novel. Language style is the style used by the author in writing a novel. Hakim, et al. (2021) define the mandate as the moral value that the author wants to convey to the reader.

This research aims to analyze the intrinsic elements contained in the novel "Anak-Anak Cahaya" by Ramaditya Dika. The novel certainly contains intrinsic elements that build the novel. The uniqueness of the novel "Anak-Anak Cahaya" lies in its main character, Rama, who is blind. Rama shares his exciting childhood experiences that contain educational values. The novel "Anak-Anak Cahaya" contains Rama's experiences along with his friends facing life challenges and learning a lot from handling a problem.

Several studies have analyzed the structuralism of the novel, including those by Cindy et al. (Cindy et al., 2021), Mamonto et al. (2021), Renmaur & Rutumalessy (2020), Harianja (2021), Puspita & Pratiwi (2022), Nuryanti et al. (2020), and Fatihah et al. (2022), Natasha, et al. (2022), Vitasari & Pasaribu (2020), and Sabban (2019) analyzed the theme in a novel. Hidayati et al. (Hidayati et al., 2021) analyzed the characters in a novel. Hakim, et al. (2021) analyzed the mandate in a novel. Laksmi (2020) analyzed the plot in a novel. Nababan et al. (2021), Andhini & Arifin (2021), and Payuyasa (2019) analyzed the language style in a novel. The similarity of research relevant to this research is that they all examine the intrinsic elements in a novel. The difference in research relevant to this research is the source of the novel.

## 2. Method

The research methodology employed in this study is qualitative descriptive, a method that is known for its rigorousness and depth (Darmawan & Suparman, 2019; Maulyda et al., 2021; Sagala, 2021; Thambu et al., 2021). This approach is designed to provide a comprehensive, detailed, and in-depth understanding of the subject matter. It is particularly effective when the goal is to interpret complex phenomena and describe them in a clear, understandable way. Unlike other research methods that merely present the results of the analysis, this method goes a step further. It provides descriptive explanations, making the findings more accessible and meaningful to a broad audience. This approach ensures that the research findings are not just a collection of data points, but a coherent narrative that provides a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

The primary technique used for data collection in this study is the observation-note technique (Cahyani, 2015; Hikmat et al., 2023). This involves the researcher meticulously reading the novel “Anak-Anak Cahaya” by Ramaditya Adikara, with a keen eye for detail. The researcher takes careful notes on parts of the story that exhibit intrinsic elements and educational values. This process ensures that no significant detail is overlooked. These notes are not merely a record of observations; they serve as the raw material for subsequent analysis. They form the basis of the researcher’s understanding of the novel and provide the foundation for the analysis.

The novel “Anak-Anak Cahaya” serves as the primary data source for this research. It is a rich reservoir of information, providing both the intrinsic elements and educational values that form the data of this research. The intrinsic elements refer to the fundamental components of the novel, such as plot, characters, theme, setting, and style. These elements provide a framework for understanding the structure and narrative of the novel. The educational values, on the other hand, refer to the moral, social, and cultural lessons that readers can glean from the novel. These values provide insights into the societal and cultural contexts represented in the novel.

To ensure the validity of the research data, a credibility test is employed (Darmawan & Suparman, 2019; Maulyda et al., 2021; Sagala, 2021; Thambu et al., 2021). This test is a critical part of the research process, as it assesses the trustworthiness and reliability of the data. It ensures that the data accurately represents the phenomena being studied and that the findings are a true reflection of reality. This process is crucial in maintaining the integrity of the research and ensuring that the conclusions drawn are based on accurate and reliable data.

Finally, the data analysis technique used in this research is qualitative descriptive. This involves interpreting the observed data to identify patterns, themes, and categories. The goal is to transform the raw data into meaningful insights, providing a deeper understanding of the intrinsic elements and educational values in the novel “Anak-Anak Cahaya”. This technique allows for a nuanced understanding of the novel, shedding light on its complexities and subtleties. It enables the researcher to delve deeper into the narrative, uncovering layers of meaning and gaining a richer understanding of the novel. This process is integral to the research, as it transforms the raw data into



a coherent narrative, providing valuable insights into the novel and its educational values (Juliani et al., 2021; Maulyda et al., 2021; Sagala, 2021).

### 3. Result and Discussion

The novel “Anak-Anak Cahaya” is a complex work of literature, rich in intrinsic elements that contribute to its narrative and thematic depth. These elements, which include theme, character, plot, setting, point of view, and mandate, are the fundamental building blocks that give the novel its unique identity and resonance (Dwiputra et al., 2023). They intertwine to create a compelling narrative that engages the reader and provides a deep understanding of the novel’s world.

The theme of the novel is a significant aspect of its intrinsic elements. In “Anak-Anak Cahaya”, the theme revolves around a family enveloped in a friendly atmosphere. This theme is not just a backdrop for the story; it is the heart of the narrative. It influences the characters’ actions, shapes the plot, and provides a lens through which the reader can understand the novel’s world. The theme of family and camaraderie is a universal one, resonating with readers across different cultures and backgrounds (Dwiputra et al., 2023). It speaks to the shared human experience of family and friendship, making the novel relatable and engaging.

The characters in the novel are another crucial intrinsic element. They are the ones who bring the theme to life, embodying the values, struggles, and triumphs that the theme represents (Dwiputra et al., 2023). Each character is a distinct individual with their own motivations, strengths, and weaknesses. They contribute to the richness and complexity of the narrative, adding depth and dimension to the story. The characters’ diverse personalities and experiences reflect the multifaceted nature of the human condition, making the novel a rich exploration of human nature (Dwiputra et al., 2023).

The plot of the novel, which is the sequence of events that make up the story, is intricately tied to the theme and characters (Dwiputra et al., 2023). It is through the plot that the theme is explored and the characters are developed. The plot provides the structure for the narrative, guiding the reader through the story and creating a sense of anticipation and engagement. It weaves together the various elements of the novel, creating a cohesive and compelling narrative that keeps the reader engaged from beginning to end (Dwiputra et al., 2023).

The setting of the novel, which is the time and place where the story occurs, provides the context for the narrative (Dwiputra et al., 2023). It influences the characters’ actions, shapes the plot, and contributes to the mood and atmosphere of the novel. The setting is not just a backdrop for the story; it is an integral part of the narrative, influencing and being influenced by the theme, characters, and plot. It provides a sense of place and time, grounding the narrative in a specific context and adding depth and realism to the story (Dwiputra et al., 2023).

The point of view from which the story is told is another intrinsic element of the novel (Dwiputra et al., 2023). It determines how the reader experiences the story, influencing their understanding and interpretation of the theme, characters, plot, and setting. The point of view can provide insight into the characters’ thoughts and feelings, create suspense, and shape the reader’s perception of the

narrative. It offers a unique perspective on the events of the story, adding depth and complexity to the narrative (Dwiputra et al., 2023).

The mandate of the novel, which is the author's purpose or message, is closely tied to the theme. It is the underlying idea or concept that the author wants to convey through the story. The mandate provides a deeper layer of meaning to the narrative, enriching the reader's experience and understanding of the novel. It reflects the author's vision and intent, adding a layer of depth and complexity to the narrative.

After reading the novel "Anak-Anak Cahaya", the researcher discovered the theme that served as the foundation for the novel's creation. The novel was born out of the author's childhood experiences, providing a personal and authentic touch to the narrative. These experiences, reflected in the theme, characters, plot, setting, point of view, and mandate, give the novel its unique identity and resonance, making it a compelling and engaging read. The researcher's exploration of these intrinsic elements provides a deeper understanding of the novel, shedding light on its complexities and subtleties. This analysis not only enriches the reader's appreciation of the novel but also contributes to the field of literary studies, providing valuable insights into the novel's structure and themes. This comprehensive analysis of the novel "Anak-Anak Cahaya" serves as a testament to the power of literature to illuminate the human condition and enrich our understanding of the world. It underscores the importance of a thorough and nuanced analysis in literary studies, demonstrating how a deep exploration of a novel's intrinsic elements can yield rich and meaningful insights.

- a. Rama is a boy who has a disability, he cannot see. He is an older brother of two siblings. Rama and his family just moved to the Jatiwaringin Asri complex. As a blind person, he has many obstacles in his life both in socializing and education. Rama meets his new friends in the complex. They color the darkness in Rama's life by going through exciting adventures and experiences. However, Rama also has to face other children who cannot accept his shortcomings.

The main idea contained in the novel begins with Rama's move to his new residence. He must be able to adapt to his new environment amid his limitations. Rama got good friends, they colored Rama's life. Rama can also realize his dream of being able to go to school like other children.

However, Rama often gets trials from other children who cannot accept his shortcomings. But he managed to overcome and face trials after trials by being patient and not running away from problems. Here are the main ideas in the novel "Anak-Anak Cahaya":

- b. Rama meets a chatty girl named Tika. Rama gets acquainted with the truth-defending troops who call themselves Google V. Google V consists of Agam, Wicak, Suyyud, and Deddy. Agam has a younger sister named Pitty. They help Rama when he is in trouble and is bullied by a child named Tintus and Chika. Rama and the others go through obstacles together and each obstacle they face certainly provides an extraordinary unforgettable experience and stores many life lessons.

Characterization is indeed a fundamental aspect of any novel. It is the process by which the author brings the characters to life, making them feel real and relatable to the readers. Characters in

a novel are typically divided into two categories: the main character (or characters), also known as the protagonist(s), and the supporting characters (Masduki, 2011).

The main character is the one who stands at the center of the narrative. This character plays a pivotal role in the story, driving the plot forward through their actions, decisions, and experiences. The main character is often the one with whom the readers identify the most. They are the ones who face challenges, overcome obstacles, and undergo significant changes throughout the story. Their journey forms the crux of the narrative, and it is through their eyes that the readers experience the world of the novel. The main character's actions and decisions shape the course of the story, and their personal growth and transformation often mirror the larger themes of the novel (Masduki, 2011).

On the other hand, supporting characters play roles that complement or contrast with the main character, thereby enriching the story. While they may not be at the center of the narrative, their contribution to the story is no less important. Supporting characters add depth and complexity to the narrative. They provide different perspectives, contribute to the plot, and help in the development of the main character. They can be friends, family, rivals, or even antagonists to the main character. Each supporting character has a specific role in the narrative, and their interactions with the main character add layers of meaning to the story. They help to flesh out the world of the novel, providing a richer and more nuanced picture of the story's context (Masduki, 2011).

Now, let's delve deeper into the main characters from the novel "Anak-Anak Cahaya":

- c. The main character in the AAC novel is Rama. Rama dominates many parts of the novel. He is the main character in the novel. Rama is described by the author in detail. Rama is a blind child born from a simple family. Rama is known as a good child, likes to help, has a patient soul, has an honest personality, and is brave. In addition, another main character is Anggo. Anggo is Rama's younger brother. He really cares about his brother, but he wants his brother to be an independent person amid his limitations.

In addition to the main characters, a novel also contains supporting characters who aim to support the main role. Here are the supporting characters in the novel "Anak-Anak Cahaya":

- d. Supporting characters or supporters in this novel include Rama's father and mother, Mr. Muslich, Mrs. Muslich, Iko, Ijul, Anna, Ms. Titiek, Tika, Tintus, Agam, Fyrman, Deddy, Ryan, Pita, Wicak, Kiki, Tony, Mr. Khatib, Suyyud, Wisnak, Kuncoro, Mrs. Nanik, Mrs. Dillah, and Chika. Rama's father and mother have good and wise characters, they teach good things to their children. Mr. Muslich and Mrs. Muslich are Rama's neighbors who are very kind and friendly. Iko, Ijul, and Anna are children of Mr. Muslich and Mrs. Muslich, they have good personalities and like to help. Ms. Titiek is a sister who helps Rama's mother take care of Anggo and Rama and clean the house. Tika is Rama's friend who is chatty but good-hearted. Chika and Tintus are Rama's friends who are mean and like to bully Rama. Agam, Fyrman, Pita, Deddy, Ryan, Suyyud are friends who always help Rama when he is in trouble. Mrs. Nanik and Mrs. Dillah are Rama's kind-hearted school teachers.

The setting of a novel is a multifaceted element that provides the backdrop for the story. It encompasses various aspects such as time, space, place, and atmosphere, each contributing to the overall narrative in its unique way. Far from being a mere passive background, the setting actively shapes the characters' actions, influences the progression of the plot, and contributes to the overall mood and tone of the story. It provides the context within which the story unfolds, adding depth and richness to the narrative (Yamin et al., 2021).

The time setting of a story refers to the temporal context in which the events occur. This could be a specific year, a particular historical period, or even a certain time of day. The time setting is instrumental in shaping the narrative, influencing the characters' actions, and driving the progression of the plot. It also plays a significant role in setting the mood of the story, with different times evoking different feelings and associations among readers (Yamin et al., 2021).

The space and place settings pertain to the physical locations where the story's events take place. This could range from a specific geographical location, a certain type of environment (such as a bustling city or a tranquil countryside), or a particular building or room. These settings provide a spatial context for the narrative, influencing the characters' actions and interactions. They also contribute significantly to the story's atmosphere, with different places evoking different feelings and associations (Yamin et al., 2021).

The atmosphere setting is another crucial aspect of a novel's setting. It refers to the emotional climate or mood of the story, often conveyed through descriptions of the environment, the weather, and the characters' emotions and reactions. The atmosphere setting provides an emotional context for the narrative, influencing the characters' actions and shaping the readers' perceptions of the story (Yamin et al., 2021).

Upon reading the novel "Anak-Anak Cahaya", the researcher identified the existence of a place setting, time setting, and atmosphere setting. These settings are integral to the narrative, providing a rich and vivid backdrop against which the story unfolds. They contribute to the realism and depth of the story, enhancing the narrative's engagement and immersion for the readers (Yamin et al., 2021).

Now, let's delve deeper into the specific settings that the researcher identified in the novel "Anak-Anak Cahaya":

- e. The setting of the place in the AAC novel is in the Jatiwaringin Asri complex, Rama's house, school, Agam's house, mosque, Tika's house.
- f. The setting of time in the AAC novel is morning, afternoon, evening, and night.
- g. The setting of the atmosphere in the novel is a family atmosphere and close friendship shown by the characters.

The plot of a story is its underlying structure, the sequence of events or incidents that make up the narrative. It is the backbone of the story, providing a framework within which the characters move and the action unfolds. The plot is what drives the story forward, leading the characters from the beginning of the story to its end. There are several types of plots often found in stories, each with its unique characteristics and effects on the narrative (Yamin et al., 2021).

A forward plot, also known as a linear or progressive plot, is one where the storyline moves in a chronological order from the beginning to the end. The events happen in a logical sequence, building up tension and suspense as the story progresses towards the climax, which is often the most intense point of the story. This type of plot is common in many genres and is often used when the author wants to keep the readers engaged and guessing until the very end. The forward plot creates a sense of anticipation, making the readers eager to find out what happens next (Yamin et al., 2021).

On the other hand, a backward plot is a plot that starts at the end of the story and then goes back to recount past events. This type of plot is often used in mystery or suspense genres where the outcome of the story is revealed first, and then the narrative slowly unravels the events leading up to that outcome. The backward plot can create a sense of intrigue and curiosity in the readers as they piece together the story from the end to the beginning. It provides a unique perspective on the events, allowing the readers to see the outcome first and then discover how the characters arrived at that point (Yamin et al., 2021).

A flashback plot is a plot structure that involves moving back and forth between the past and the present. The story often starts in the present, but then jumps back in time to a moment or a series of moments that are crucial to the current events. Flashbacks can provide important background information, reveal character motivations, or explain the origins of a current conflict. This type of plot is often used in stories that explore characters' memories or past experiences. It allows the readers to gain a deeper understanding of the characters and their actions (Yamin et al., 2021).

A mixed plot is a combination of the forward and backward plots. It involves a complex narrative structure that moves back and forth between different points in time. The story might start in the present, move to the past, return to the present, and so on. This type of plot allows for a rich exploration of characters and events from multiple perspectives and timescales. It can create a layered and nuanced narrative that engages the reader on multiple levels (Yamin et al., 2021).

Each of these plot types offers different ways to structure a narrative, and the choice of plot can significantly influence the pacing, tension, and emotional impact of the story. Understanding these different plot structures can provide valuable insights into the narrative techniques used by authors and enhance our appreciation of their storytelling craft. It allows us to see how the plot shapes the narrative, influences the characters' actions, and affects our experience as readers. By examining the plot, we can gain a deeper understanding of the story's structure and the author's narrative strategy (Yamin et al., 2021).

- h. In the AAC novel, the researcher identified that the author uses a mixed plot. This is based on the characters Mr. Parjo and Mr. Mantab who are in 2088, then tell the story of Rama in the past. After Rama's adventure story is finished, the story returns to the time when Mr. Mantab and Mr. Parjo experienced.

The mandate of a story, often referred to as the moral or the message, is a fundamental element that the author seeks to convey to the readers. It is the underlying principle, lesson, or moral truth that the author wants the readers to glean from the story. The mandate often reflects the author's

worldview, personal beliefs, and values, and it can profoundly influence the readers' understanding, interpretation, and emotional response to the story. It serves as the moral compass of the narrative, guiding the characters' actions and decisions, shaping the plot, and imbuing the story with a deeper meaning (Dwiputra et al., 2023).

In the context of a novel, the mandate often contains an invitation to do good, to act in a way that is morally right, ethical, and beneficial to others. This invitation is not just a call to action; it is a call to reflection and introspection, encouraging the readers to examine their own values, beliefs, and actions, and to strive for moral growth and improvement (Ishartono et al., 2022).

The researcher found several mandates in the novel "Anak-Anak Cahaya", each representing a different aspect of moral goodness. These mandates serve as guiding principles for the characters in the story, influencing their actions, decisions, and personal growth (Slamet, 2020).

One such mandate is an invitation to worship. This mandate underscores the importance of spirituality, reverence, and devotion, encouraging the readers to cultivate a sense of awe, respect, and gratitude for the divine. It invites the readers to engage in acts of worship, fostering a sense of connection with the divine, a deeper understanding of their spiritual selves, and a greater appreciation for the sacred and the transcendent (Slamet, 2020).

Another mandate found in the novel is the importance of honesty. This mandate emphasizes the value of truthfulness, sincerity, and integrity, urging the readers to be truthful in their words and actions. It highlights the importance of honesty in building trust, maintaining healthy relationships, and upholding social harmony. It reminds the readers that honesty is the foundation of all virtues, the cornerstone of moral character, and the key to personal and social well-being (Faruq et al., 2022).

The mandate of independence is also a significant theme in the novel. This mandate stresses the importance of self-reliance, personal autonomy, and individual responsibility, encouraging the readers to take charge of their lives, make their own decisions, and shape their own destiny. It promotes the idea of personal responsibility, urging the readers to be accountable for their actions, their choices, and their consequences. It fosters a sense of empowerment, resilience, and self-determination, inspiring the readers to strive for personal growth, self-improvement, and self-fulfillment (Wahidah & Adam, 2019).

Finally, the novel also includes a mandate of helping each other. This mandate highlights the value of cooperation, mutual assistance, and communal solidarity, urging the readers to support each other in times of need, to share their resources and abilities for the common good, and to work together towards shared goals. It fosters a sense of community, interdependence, and mutual support, reminding the readers that we are all interconnected, that our actions affect others, and that we can achieve more when we work together (Nugroho, 2022).

Each of these mandates adds a layer of depth, complexity, and meaning to the story, enriching the narrative, enhancing its thematic richness, and providing valuable insights into the characters' motivations, actions, and moral growth. They serve as moral compasses guiding the characters (and the readers) through the complexities and challenges of life, illuminating the path towards goodness,



virtue, and moral wisdom. They infuse the story with a moral dimension, transforming it into a powerful medium for moral reflection, ethical dialogue, and character education (Hasanah & Deiniatur, 2020).

#### 4. Conclusion

The novel “Anak-Anak Cahaya” contains intrinsic elements within it. These elements include theme, character, plot, setting, point of view, and mandate. The novel was born based on the childhood experiences of the author. The main idea in the novel begins with Rama’s move to his new residence. The main character in the AAC novel is Rama. Rama dominates many parts of the novel. In the AAC novel, the researcher identified that the author uses a mixed plot. The researcher found several mandates in the novel, among others, an invitation to worship, the importance of being honest, independent, and an invitation to help each other.

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