

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

Education is a learning process in shaping the creativity, character, and moral values of each person. Education is very important for humanity. So that everyone who is educated can increase their knowledge and become a foundation that must be built as well as possible so that they can be independent and more responsible. According to Herbart education is the formation of students to the wanted educators who are termed Education. Ki Hajar Dewantara (1961: 471) argues that education is all the efforts of parents to children to support the progress of their life

Furthermore, moral values are important values for children to know so that they can distinguish between good and bad things. Teaching moral values to children through folklore is considered more effective because it's understandable and grasps the moral messages that are implied. Morals, character building, and folklores are still closely related. Because folklore has ethical teaching values that are very useful for the process of forming the next generation of the Indonesian nation. Moral value and character building must be applied to early childhood, because in this modern era there are still many children who lack ethics and courtesy. This is due to a lack of application and understanding of moral values themselves.

According to Lasso (Setiadi 2006: 110), human value is the foundation or motivation in all his behavior or actions. In line with Lasyo, Darmodiharjo (in Setiadi, 2006: 117) states that value is something that is useful for humans both physically and spiritually. While Soekanto (1983:161) states values are an abstraction of one's personal experience with others. Character education is the process of implementing character truths to learners.

Megangawai (in Arifin and Barnawi: 2012: 23) defines character education as a job that teaches children to make wise decisions and apply them to daily life. Thus, they can contribute to the environment. According to in simple terms, folklore is a traditional creation that has been passed down from generation to generation and becomes the cultural identity of a particular community. Folklore is something that is considered a common property (Brian A. Prastyo, 2009). State the previous research of journal “The Value of Character Education in Andai - Andai Folklore and its application in the study materials of elementary school literature in Indonesia”, “The Need for Character Education”, “Character Education and Students Social Behavior” and “Ecocritism Values in The Indonesian Folklore Timun Mas” to support the topic.

There are several values in character education by the expressed. Among them Zubaedi (2011:74) mention eighteen values of character education as listed in the following tablee.

CHARACTER EDUCATION VALUE		CHARACTER EDUCATION VALUE	
1	Religious	10	Working Hard Spiritual
2	Honesty	11	Love the homelands
3	Tolerance	12	Reward Achievement
4	Discipline	13	Friendly/Communicative
5	Hard Work	14	Peaceful
6	Creativity	15	Like to read
7	Independent	16	Care for the environment
8	Democratic	17	Social Care
9	Curiosity	18	Responsibility

Based on the fact that folklore has many benefits in the world of education, one of which is that it can increase moral values for character building students. One of them is the folklore "Timun Mas" from Central Java. This folklore has some learning materials for students.

The purpose of this research is to introduce the younger generation that each region has a historical story. According to the author's analysis of Timun Mas, some intrinsic elements and values have been studied, found many positive things that are very interesting to be applied and exemplified from the moral messages of this folklore.

Researchers used descriptive qualitative, where the researcher wants to give a detailed explanation of the elements in the folklore according to the situation and conditions, to develop the values contained in the story and build moral values and characters in education. In collecting data, researchers conducted a literature study in the library of North Sumatra.