

POLITICAL ACTIVIST COMMUNITY IN LEILA S. CHUDORI'S NOVEL *LAUT BER CERITA*

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Abstract: In the process of democratization in a state, the position of university students is decisive. Every student must be responsible to the society, able to see what is happening and to provide the best solutions to the societal problems as well as being a mouthpiece from the common people to the government, nation and state. In addition to developing their cognitive abilities, students are required to participate actively in everything that is social in nature to foster a social spirit in the community. This picture is reflected in the political activist community in the novel *Laut Ber cerita* by Leila S. Chudori. The research was conducted using a literary sociology approach related to the author's relationship with society and texts revealing problems in society. The focus of the research is related to the disclosure of social phenomena. Holistically, a qualitative descriptive research method is implemented. The data source is the novel and data collection is based on documentation techniques, obtained from the novel in the forms text referring to the attitudes of the students in their struggle for reform in all areas of public life and also based on the content analysis techniques with an objective approach. The results of the study show that the attitudes reflected in the political activist movement are social awareness, hard work and tolerance.

Keywords: *hard work; social awareness; tolerance.*

INTRODUCTION

Literary works express social problems that are never separated from human life through genres such as novel, poetry or drama (Sharma, 2020; Beavoir & Fleming, 2020; Peacock, 2019). In this

study, the object of the research is a novel entitled *Laut Ber cerita*, by Lelia S. Chudori. The substance of the storyline in the novel is related to a group of students who are struggling to restore people's rights to express opinions and conduct any activity

criticizing the government; such an activity is always labeled subversive activity by the ruling government. The activists also struggle to provide information to all levels of society about the need for rearrangement in the country's social, cultural and economic systems (Pattiwael, 2019). The author, in producing the novel, is inspired by a true story, a dark political event of the state in which students from all over the regions perform massive demonstrations demanding changes, known as the reform movement. Various assumptions and opinions emerge from the society, especially the research community regarding the factors causing the reform movement, including the monetary crisis, social inequality to the issue of racialism; However, whatever the factors that spark the riots, the incidents take the tolls and are considered a crime against humanity because there are indications of genocide. In general, people think that this event is a black page of the state's history (Sirot & Atmaja, 2020).

Leila Salikha Chudori is a journalist of Tempo magazine. The novel, published in 2017, has the themes of struggle and social awareness. Set in the 90's and 2000's, the novel is able to bring its readers to break through the past and look back at the events of the time, reminding the readers of the reformation era which is full of bitterness and injustice for the defenders of the people. The novel is a historical fiction genre, (Andani *et al.*, 2022) and the writing is based on the existing facts. The novel is also supported by the data from the real life of the society, especially the activist community through interviews directly conducted by the author; besides, the author also conducts in-depth research related to the characters of the existing figures, places and events that have passed. The process of making such a novel is what makes this novel seem alive.

The novel of 379 pages has a very realistic visualization and character atmosphere, especially in the part where the activists are inhumanely tortured. The novel contains a moral message because it contains knowledge about social justice, democratic principles, and the history of movements to support the new order. The novel also leaves readers with speculations keeping the readers amused. The dictions are easy to understand as there are no foreign terms presented. There are three types of setting throughout the storyline, place setting, time setting, and social setting. The place setting refers to *Rumah Hantu Sayegan, Rumah Susun Klender, Rumah Orangtua Biru Laut, Terminal Bungurasih and Desa Blangguan*. The time setting is connected with

Sunday afternoon and evening time. The social background in this novel is about outlook on life. The first-person point of view is used. This can be seen by the use of the word 'I' referring to the main character named *Biru Laut* narrating the storyline in detail supported by other main characters.

The research focus is related to the attitude of activists in carrying out their mission and vision. Suffering, hardship and tyranny from the rulers trigger the social awareness of the activists. Social awareness is their very significant attitude and this attitude is their starting point to become political activists. Social awareness is an effort that can be achieved through the process of interaction and is supported by education (Abbagnano & Fulvi, 2021). Social awareness is constructed by self-awareness or self awareness becomes the basic structure as a systematic support within it (Abouk & Heydari, 2021; Mooney *et al.*, 2021; Pattiwael, 2019). The activists have awareness on the problems faced by the society. The social awareness they have is also supported by the attitude of hard work, working earnestly and sincerely, without expecting anything in return. The next attitude is tolerance, behavior to respect other and respect the differences that exist, either between individuals and groups. The existence of this attitude in them gives a sense of peace, security, serenity, comfort, and firmness in all their actions. These three attitudes, social awareness, hard work and tolerance are interrelated and make the activists stronger and more confident in their struggle.

The sociology of literature approach is used in this research with the consideration that the focus is related to the attitudes of the characters depicted in community of the novel and these attitudes also appear or are raised for the benefit of the society; furthermore, the substance of this novel is also a reflection of reality events, meaning that even though this novel is written based on reality, literary works in general are also a reflection of the reality of people's lives. (Mukhsin, 2022). A research in the sociology of literature focuses more on the relationship between the author and social life, both in terms of form and content. The research method used in this study is descriptive qualitative to reveal social phenomena in the form of attitudes, actions and activities of the characters in the novel. The qualitative descriptive data analysis technique is a research method that utilizes qualitative data and is presented descriptively. Holistically, the research is supported by respective concepts and theories.

There are basically two approaches to literary

works, namely intrinsic and extrinsic approaches. The novel elements raised in terms of content, are theme, plot or plot, character, language style and characterizations; while extrinsic elements derive from external influences contained in literary works such as sociology, politics, anthropological philosophy and others. The approach to social aspects is termed literary sociology using text analysis to find out the structure to understand more deeply the social phenomena outside of literature and in this context it is related to the understanding the political attitudes of the activists in the novel *Laut Bercerita* (Victoria, 2021; Tisya *et al.*, 2020; Suri *et al.*, 2022; Hawa *et al.*, 2019).

Sociology of literature has developed quite rapidly since the existence of the paradigm that literary works must function the same as other cultural aspects and literary works must be understood as an integral part of the communication system of society as a whole. In this context, sociology and literature actually deal with the same problems; as with sociology, literature also deals with humans in society as an effort to reform the society (Widjayanti, 2019). Thus, literary works can be considered as an attempt to recreate the social world, namely human relations with family, environment, politics, state, economy, and so on which are also matters of sociology (Meiliana, 2019). Sociology can provide a useful explanation of literature, and one might even say that without sociology, an understanding of literature is incomplete. Literary work is unique because it is a combination of the author's imagination and complex social life. Literary works are a mirror of human social life because the problems described in literary works are problems that exist in the author's life environment (Mursalim, 2019; Faruk, 2020). This is where the two meet again and implies that there must be interdisciplinary interaction in studying a literary work.

There are three aspects in the sociology of literature approach to a study of literary works: the author, the text, and the readers (Damono, 2020; Faruk, 2019). The author's aspect relates to the author's profession and literary institutions. The issues studied include the economic basis of literary production, social background, the author's status and ideology which can be seen from the author's various activities outside of literary works; In other words, the author's aspect focuses on the author as the creator of the texts. Authors as creators of literary works are social beings whose existence is bound by their social status in society, the ideology they adhere to, their position in

society, as well as their relationship with the readers. The aspects of literary works are related to social problems that exist in society and regard literature as a reflection of reality. The reader aspect relates to the relationship between text and the readers with a focus on the impact of literary works on the readers or society. These three aspects become a unit and are implemented in this study. Leila S. Chudori as the author becomes the inspiration for the production of the novel *Laut Bercerita*. As a journalist, she is called to dig up the dark events that once happens, the crimes against humanity. Furthermore, the novel reveals a series of storylines that are in accordance with the author's ideology, namely uncovering social facts as material for reflection, moral education and at the same time entertainment. The novel wins various awards and people are very enthusiastic to read it, including the academicians; this proves that the novel has a great influence on society.

The portrait of the political activist community refers to the attitude of the activists towards the country's political situation and they see various inequalities in various lines of social life in the community and this has become a trigger for them to shout slogans whose contents lead to reform in all aspects of community life. Their attitude becomes the topic of discussion in this study.

An attitude shows judgments, feelings, and actions towards an object. Different attitudes occur because of the understanding, experience, and considerations that have been experienced by someone in an object. Therefore, the results of attitudes towards an object can be positive or negative. Attitudes are patterns of behavior, tendencies or anticipatory readiness, predispositions to adapt to social situations, or simply, attitudes are responses to conditioned social stimuli (Vamvaka *et al.*, 2020; Amodion, 2019).

Readiness in question is a potential tendency to react in a certain way when an individual is faced with a stimulus that requires a response (Kurniawan *et al.*, 2019; Corneille & Hutter, 2020; Otto *et al.*, 2019; Koch *et al.*, 2019; Bechler *et al.*, 2021; Jin *et al.*, 2020). Manifestations of attitude cannot be seen immediately, but must be interpreted first as behavior that is still closed (Mazana *et al.*, 2019). Operationally the notion of attitude shows the connotation of appropriate reactions to certain stimulus categories and in practical use, attitudes are often confronted with social stimuli and emotional reactions (Cheung & To, 2019).

The attitude component consists of three aspects:

The cognitive aspect, related to symptoms regarding thoughts. This aspect is in the form of processing, experience, and individual beliefs and expectations about certain objects or groups of objects. This aspect is based on knowledge, beliefs, or thoughts on the information, which is related to the object.

The affective aspect, a tangible process related to certain feelings, such as fear, envy, sympathy, anti-certainty, and so on which are directed at certain objects.

The conative aspect, the form of a tendency to act on an object, for example the tendency to help, distance oneself, and so on.

These three aspects are reflected in the attitude of the activists; starting with the cognitive aspects that produce social awareness and become the starting point for the formation of an activist community; affective aspect, they are very affected by the social condition of society which is lacking and full of clashes and difficulties, especially in the economic field; conative aspects that result in their actions against the government (Charlesworth & Banaji, 2019).

Social awareness is a person's mental representation of himself and others. Social awareness relates to one's awareness of social situations experienced by oneself and others, so that individuals can become aware of things that are happening around them. Each individual has his own habit or style in paying attention to information obtained from his social environment. This shows that the cognitive system that each individual has is different from one another and can influence their social awareness in social interaction. Apart from the cognition system, social awareness can be influenced by goals and motives. These goals and motives reflect the social information needed by a person (Afrina *et al.*, 2021).

There are three dimensions in social awareness: tacit, focal and content. Tacit awareness is a person's perspective or from the perspective of someone seeing other people around him, divided into self-perspective and other people's perspective. Focal awareness is a perspective on objects that are seen or felt by the senses. Focal awareness is divided into two parts, the perspective of oneself as an object and also the perspective of others as objects. Awareness content is based on a visual or visible appearance perspective from an observable social environment and an unobservable experience (Wieser, 2022).

Living as a social being needs to have social awareness within each individual. Social awareness is described as a condition in which individuals have more ability to channel empathy. Thus, the individual is able to perceive social signals and things that commonly occur in society. With social awareness, individuals will be better able to accept the perspectives of others, be sensitive to their surroundings, help others without expecting anything in return, and be able to hear and accept the opinions of others. The existence of social awareness that is embedded in each individual will create a social environment that is in harmony with the goals of social awareness. The aim is to form a society to live together without differences and without harming one another. Life is to think about one another because everyone has rights and obligations (Appio *et al.*, 2019; Jagers *et al.*, 2019).

Hard work is an attitude of never giving up to do something, never complaining and always trying even though there are many obstacles but still trying to achieve it. An individual who shows sincerity and a strong will to try to get the work done is a characteristic of hard work. The attitude of hard work appears as a form of strong motivation and a clear future orientation. Someone who likes to work hard is certainly not easy to give up in all things.

Hard work should not be misinterpreted for negative purposes because real hard work must be based on honesty and fairness to achieve positive goals (Cameron *et al.*, 2019). A person, even though he will do hard work, must also understand his own abilities; a person is not allowed to do something beyond his ability because the results will not be optimal; there are limitations that must be understood to do something. Every individual has to work hard because actually life is a struggle; someone who does not take advantage of the potential he has cannot achieve success (Autor, 2019). Hard work should also be supported by smart ways of thinking which include planning, formulation and evaluation of work. Everything that will be done must be well planned, then followed by taking appropriate steps or actions and followed by an evaluation, both of oneself and of the work to be carried out (Stockl *et al.*, 2022; Li & Bates, 2019).

Life has such a great diversity. Even within one family one can find such diversity. Diversity can occur because of differences between one person and another. Tolerance is a modern concept to describe mutual respect and cooperation between groups of people with various differences (Ardi *et*

al., 2021). Therefore, tolerance is a very important attitude because it is an act that respects the diversity of backgrounds, views and beliefs. Understanding plurality should not be limited to the level of discourse, but must be realized in life in form of tolerant attitude and behavior. Tolerance means the attitude of allowing disagreement and not rejecting opinions, attitudes, or lifestyles that are different from their own. The attitude of tolerance in its implementation is not only carried out on matters related to different spiritual and moral aspects, but also must be carried out on broad aspects, including different ideological and political aspects. Discourses of tolerance are usually found in ethics and dissent. In the ethics of differing opinions there is a discourse not to impose one's will in forms and ways that are detrimental to other parties.

Tolerance and non-violence are born from high self-esteem. The key is how all parties perceive themselves and others. If his perception emphasizes negative dimensions and is less appreciative of others, it is likely that his tolerance will be weak, or even non-existent. Meanwhile, if the perception of self and others is positive, then what emerges is a tolerant attitude in dealing with diversity. Tolerance will appear in people who understand pluralism in an optimistic-positive way (Kuzmenko, 2020; Yuen, 2023; Muzafarovna, 2020). While at the theoretical level, the concept of tolerance presupposes a foundation of shared values so that the ideal that any ideology can coexist side by side must be realized (Velthuis *et al.*, 2021).

Activist community is a vehicle where a group of people with the same mission and vision fight for something that is considered important for the benefit of society. In this study the activist community consisted of university students who are very concerned about social, cultural and political conditions that develop inconsistently with the expectations in society. The activist students fight for opinions that they think are right to be guarded, and become opposition for things that are not in accordance with their ideals (Moorman, 2020). Not infrequently they even bravely take risks for escorting actions and reconcile the parties being escorted. Actually, the activists are ordinary students who study in universities, but because of their concern for the environment, they go outside the academic sphere; they join the community to take a role and participate in fighting for justice through escorting cases in all aspects, whether economic, social, cultural, or political. They also sacrifice their

energy, thoughts, time and even college for something that they think must be upheld, namely justice. This gives a different color and makes the activist have more value in terms of social care (Ovtchinnikov *et al.*, 2019).

The status as students also allows them to take an active role in social problems that may occur. In addition, being an activist also brings other benefits, including broadening relationships, experience, and knowledge that sometimes cannot be obtained in the classroom. The form of escorting the activists is not only limited to actions and demonstrations; but it can also be done with other intermediaries, including discussion and consolidation activities, opinion writings for escorting cases, and humanitarian action by holding donation events (Jasko *et al.*, 2019).

The world of academia and that of activism cannot simply be merged into one discourse, even though they are connected to each other. The academic world clearly contributes to the world of activism. It is undeniable that the educational process in tertiary institutions makes the students more mature and critical in seeing their environment, but the direction of these two groups is different. The scientific world focuses on the search for knowledge. Meanwhile, the world of activism is the one of political struggle. One seeks, another struggles. The basic movement of the scientific world is starting from doubt and ending with truth. Skepticism gives birth to truth, to then be tested again. The working method of a scientist is to find the truth, question it, and then test it. Even a scientist may start a research or action with doubts and end with doubts. But the activist paradigm is certainly very different. An activist fight for the values, ideals, ideology, truths he adheres to without a doubt. An activist, starts something with certainty and ends it with certainty. Never for a moment will he back down and hesitate. Precisely true activists will really hate the attitude of doubt as once in doubt, it means questioning the existence of the values espoused. Doubt, for an activist, is tantamount to betrayal of the movement.

METHOD

The research uses descriptive qualitative research to obtain an empirical description of the attitudes of activists in their struggle to bring about reforms in social and political conditions as depicted in the novel *Laut Bercerita* by Leila S. Chudori. Descriptive qualitative research aims to understand phenomena about what is experienced by the research subjects such as behavior, perceptions,

motivation, actions and others by describing texts in a special natural context (Harrison *et al.*, 2020). The data source in this study is a novel *Laut Bercerita* by Leila S. Chudori, published by Kepustakaan Popular Gramedia in 2017.

In this study the data generated are in the forms of quotation text. The data collection is carried out using the documentation and literature method with steps such as reading carefully and thoroughly the research sources while carrying out analytical work (Hafsa, 2019). The reading techniques are carried out by: reading carefully and thoroughly the entire contents of the novel; marking certain parts that contain elements of the portrait of the political attitudes of activists; describing all the data that have been obtained from these steps (Fabregues *et al.*, 2021). The data analysis technique used is the content analysis method, a research technique to make replicable inferences, and validate the data by paying attention to the context. Furthermore, the resulting data are not in the forms of numbers but in text. Checking the validity of the findings is carried out to prove whether the research being carried out is truly scientific so that the research results could be justified.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The faltering economy and worsening social conditions in the society lead to protests from the people, especially the university students. This makes people's trust in government decrease. The students and the society take to the streets in massive demonstrations. Students are the driving force behind demands for reform in all areas of social life. They are political activists who dare to oppose the government. Their role is very important in dealing with issues in society, mobilizing the community and government to create positive changes in the context of the state. In their struggle, activists reflect a courageous and consistent attitude and are full of sincerity, including:

Social awareness

Data 1

"Banyak sekali orang-orang yang diangkat menjadi pahlawan di masa Orde Baru ini, yang mungkin suatu hari bisa saja dipertanyakan apa betul mereka memang berjasa dan berkontribusi. Tetapi kau benar, dalam perjuangan definisi antara pahlawan dan penghianat harus jelas. Suatu hari pahlawan atau bandit tak boleh hanya ditentukan karena kekuasaan rezim." (Chudori, 2017, p.31)

The data above illustrates how important it is for people to be careful in viewing social situations; people must understand that because of the interests of a group, anyone can be appointed and awarded a hero, whereas in reality people who are awarded service stars or honors as heroes are actually vaillins; this is conveyed by Bramantryo, a political activist who came from the academic community.

Bramatyo always has an open mind and is sharp about whatever he sees around him; he is easily moved to think, including the problem of traitors and heroes. A country that has a history of independence that is not easy to gain, are surely filled by many people who have sacrificed and at the same time, many traitors try to thwart this success. It is not easy to gain independence; many have to be sacrificed, from property to life and many lose their lives in their struggle to gain independence and many of them re not recorded in the nation's history. They are the true heroes; while there are also groups of people who take advantage of the situation, they do nothing, but can be appointed as national heroes. This is the injustice that the activists see. Their social awareness immediately arises and they move to uphold the truth. The problem of heroes and traitors is one of the many cases of injustice in this country.

Bram wants to say that we have to be careful, because people in power can manipulate facts. Many who actually make sacrifices and fight for the welfare of the Indonesian people are even considered traitors because they do not submit and obey the government. But on the contrary, people who only want to take advantage, take away human rights, and harm society are instead considered heroes.

The trigger for social awareness in the quoted data above is in Bram's sentence stating that 'one day it may be questioned whether people who are considered heroes during the New Order era really contribute to the state or not'. This statement can cause a reaction of awareness in many social individuals to demand the truth that must be clarified, because it is the right of all Indonesian citizens to know who is really fighting for Indonesia. This expression is also in line with the meaning that social awareness is an individual's way of analyzing, remembering, and using information related to social life.

Data 2

"... semakin banyak aku mendengar berbagai cerita yang sama sekali tidak pernah tertera dibuku sejarah, apalagi di media, semakin aku menyadari betapa buruknya situasi kehidupan

di negeri ini.” (Chudori, 2017: 34-35)

The quotation above is a snippet of a phrase that *Laut* says when his heart is moved to tell the reason he is studying in Yogya and willing to move away from his parents. At that time, there are Bram and Kinan who are a little surprised because *Laut*, who look calm and do not usually tell others about his private life, tells stories full of emotion. This awareness appears in *Laut's* heart and mind because he sees social events that are very close to him. This social awareness is also clarified in his expression which says that he as a child of the nation cannot remain silent watching such conditions continue to occur. Therefore, every human being born in this country must always tries to do something, no matter how small it is.

It is true, social awareness will arise when there is social pressure, especially those that are very intersecting with rights and justice. Just like the phrase that *Laut* says at the end of his sentence. When he realizes the bad life in his country, he immediately realizes the role he has to take to solve the problem. If not *Laut* and every human being who are born citizens of this country, who else will save and care for sustainability, justice and prosperity in this country.

Hardwork

Data 1

“Kami tak punya senapan dengan bayonet, kami tak punya otot, tak punya uang. Gerakan kami semua bermodalkan semangat, uang pribadi, dan sumbangan beberapa individu yang secara diam-diam sudah muak dengan pemerintah Orde Baru yang semakin represif dari tahun ke tahun. Kali ini, kami menambah senjata perlawanan itudengan sajak dan aksi tanam jagung.” (Chudori, 2017, pp.116-117)

The quotation above is made by *Biru Laut* when describing their reckless action, namely planting corn in Blangguan, a small village in East Java. This action is inspired by W.S. Rendra's poem *Seongkok Jagung*. This action illustrates the hard work and enthusiasm of *Laut* and his friends in the Winatra and Wirasena groups. They all voluntarily sacrifice their energy, mind, and even their lives considering how risky this action is. Blangguan is a corn planting action that will be carried out by farmers in the village of Blangguan as an act of protest against the forced land taking by the authorities. Even though they do not have guns and money, they come all the way from Yogyakarta, in the middle of the heavy rain and in the dark at night, stealthily avoiding the security

forces and the dangers that lurk, they all continue to exert all their efforts to stage this corn planting action for the return of their rights, the rights of farmers, the welfare of all people, and justice in this country. They work hard to devise a strategy so that the authorities would not easily catch them when the action is held, even in the frantic tense night haunted by the satanic officers.

Data 2

“Pada titik yang luar biasa menyakitkan karena setrum itu terasa mencapai ujung saraf, aku sempat bertanya, apa yang sebetulnya kita kejar?”. Kinan mengambil tanganku dan menggenggamnya, “Kekuatan, Laut. Keinginan yang jauh lebih besar untuk tetap bergerak. Ini semua menaikkan militansi kita, bukan memadamkannya.” (Chudori, 2017, p.182)

The data above is a fragment of a conversation between *Biru Laut* and Kinan; this conversation takes place after *Laut* and Julius tells all the kidnapping incidents that they experience as a result of being arrested at Bungurasih terminal after they return from the Blangguan action. The conversation start with a skeptical question raised by *Laut* regarding what has happened so far, what they are actually looking for, he has lost a little of his confidence and enthusiasm due to the torment he has experienced. To this question, Kinan tries to encourage *Laut* to respond, saying that what they are looking for is determination, strength, and a spirit of hard work to keep moving together for one goal, namely to overthrow the arbitrary New Order government and bring about justice in this country. Kinan, who is also a senior and a driving force in their actions, reminds them that the passion to keep fighting and believing is a feeling that they must keep growing in their chests, believing that one day their struggle and hard work will not be in vain, that one day the new order will falter, the president who has served for many years will falter, then giving hope to the country to breathe easy with a more fair leader and government system, and one day they will be able to smile proudly that no fighting spirit is wasted.

Tolerance

Data 1

“Yah nggaklah. Semua ajaran baik kan memang menyuruh kita berbagi. ajaran orangtua, ajaran semua agama, dan juga sila kelima Pancasila kan juga berbicara soal keadilan sosial,...” (Chudori, 2017, p.97)

The quotation above is from *Biru Laut* telling

his friends of his being caught and interrogated by the Red Eyes. Here, Laut tries to answer theoretically about their reasons for opposing the New Order government. For him, answering with reasonable reasons like that is the right way so that he and his friends will not be tortured even more. *Laut's* statement actually allude to the injustice that exists at that time when there is no good democracy in the government. All the people are silent and asked to comply with all the provisions of that time. No justice means no tolerance given by the government to the people. The people are not justified in voicing their opinions and will be considered traitors if they violate the rules that have been made.

Data 2

"Aku menelan kembali pertanyaan berikutnya yang mengganggu pikiranku tentang bagaimana naratama bisa lolos dari intaian intel. Tetapi Kinan tahu betul aku selalu curiga pada Tama. Karena Kinan masih menaruh kepercayaan yang begitu besar pada naratama, aku berusaha membunuh kecurigaanku terhadapnya." (Chudori, 2017, pp. 92- 93)

The quotation above comes from *Biru Laut's* thoughts about one of his friends, Naratama. *Laut* has long suspected Tama because he thinks every time they are caught only Tama escapes. But seeing that Kinan still believes in Tama, *Laut* always tries to get rid of his suspicions against Tama. In this case it can be concluded that Kinan's attitude that still believes in Naratama is a form of tolerance that arises in terms of respecting one's attitude and character and not using one's character as a reason not to trust him. How could he not, Naratama is a person who, when he speaks, is always loud, firm and looks passionate. Based on this appearance of Naratama, sometimes his friends do not believe that Naratama is a trustworthy person.

CONCLUSION

The novel *Laut Bercerita* by Leila S. Chudori tells the struggle of political activists who are members of the Winatra and Wirasena groups against government injustice. This novel tells the setting of the time in the New Order era until the beginning of the fall of the New Order regime. The activists' struggle is in the form of a struggle against the New Order regime which is running unfairly because all economic, political and legal elements have been arranged in such a way as to perpetuate the power of the New Order. The agendas carried out by the activists are solely to uphold justice which is no

longer obtained by the common people in the New Order era.

The novel is suitable for students, campus organizations, politicians, or people who talk about freedom. The readers will continue to be dragged into the emotional play of the characters until the end of the story. The story is a piece of the shared story, a part that will never be explained and will never be forgotten. The novel as a whole has a socio-cultural background and historical events. *Biru Laut* is the implementation of student activists at that time who participate in voicing the interests of the people who are being suppressed by the authoritarian government. Running from one place to another in search of safety from being chased by the authorities until the absence of news or the disappearance of student activists is a historical narrative that is presented in the novel. The number of policies that are decided which are not in favor of the people are also the issues raised in the novel.

The results of the analysis show that the activists, the majority of whom are students, have a firm and sincere attitude in the form of social awareness, hard work and tolerance in their struggle. Social awareness is their initial attitude to start the struggle. The unclear selection of heroes and traitors by the government, which at the same time reflects on the government's arbitrariness for the interests of the group, the diversion of historical facts to eliminate bad track records, as well as the increasingly deteriorating social conditions of society are part of social awareness; along the way of their struggle, hard work and tolerance emerge. The activists never know fatigue and in all their endeavors they support and respect one another. These three attitudes make them never give up. The six data obtained from the three discussion points, social awareness, hard work and tolerance are representations of the portrait of the political activist community that is found throughout the storyline.

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