RE-ACTUALIZATION OF PUPPET CHARACTERS IN MODERN INDONESIAN FICTIONS

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ABSTRACT

Abstract: The study is aimed at describing the shadow-puppet characters and story-mainstream origins, characters self-identities, and functions of actualization in Indonesian fictions. The research subjects are Indonesian fictions published within the 21st century sampled into seven novels and six short stories. The study uses the qualitative textual approach. Data are collected by way of literature reviews and discourse analyses and are analyzed using the descriptive qualitative techniques. Findings show the following. (1) Puppet characters that are actualized in the Indonesian literary works are generally those that are popular within the society and that are taken more from the Mahabharata mainstreams rather than Ramayana mainstreams. This means that the puppet characters of the Mahabharata mainstreams are more popular. (2) References of puppet character identities take the forms of hypograms of names with characters, names without characters, and characters without names. In general, hypograming adopts conventions and the first model of hypograming is the most intensive. (3) Puppet hypograming is taken to function as cultural references, comparison purposes, means of children education, and reincarnation sources in the Hindhu religion. Cultural referencing of puppets is more efficient and communicative as it is typological, following the mainstreams, and exact.

Kata Kunci: *puppet culture, character re-actualization, hypogram*