

# IKAL'S STRUGGLE OF LIFE IN ANDREA HIRATA'S RAINBOW TROOPS

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## ABSTRACT

*Struggle is one of the keys to success in life. If there is a struggle there must be success because success requires struggle or effort in life. In this research, the researcher analysis the Ikal's struggle of life to become a successful person and factors influence Ikal to become a successful person. Objective of this study are to describe the Ikal's truggle of life to become a successful person and to describe the factor influence Ikal to become a successful person. The purpose of this research is to illustrative evidence of life struggle in Ikal's life.*

*The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative. Data source used in the research is from conversations and paragraphs in the novel. Data collection procedures in the research are reading and understanding novel, categorizing and classifying the data and organizing the data.*

*The result of the research indicated that Ikal's struggle to get a master's degree from European Union as has brought him to be a successful person are that Ikal always studied, read as many books whenever and wherever, he spends his time only studied to pass the scholarship. The factors do influence Ikal to become a successful person are competitive personality (Ikal having a very competitive spirit/personality), working harder than most people and fate.*

**Keywords:** *Struggle of Life*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Novel is one of the most popular literary works in the world. There are two types of novel is fiction novel and non- fiction novels. One type of non - fiction novel is an autobiographical novel (Ratna, 2010). Autobiographical novel are a significant literary genre. It is a type of which the author or narrator records or tells his own life experiences by adding fictional elements. Webster's World University Dictionary gives the simple definition of autobiography as "a story of a person life told by himself". The characters, themes and events in The Rainbow Troops novel taken from the real life of the author, but they are presented in an imaginary real life.

The Rainbow Troops is most popular novel both nationally and internationally. This novel is Andrea Hirata's first novel. It has published or is forth coming in twenty three countries. Andrea Hirata is Indonesia's bestselling writer. He was born on October 24, 1967 in Hanging, East Belitung, Bangka Belitung. Andrea Hirata's profession is Writer. His name skyrocketed due to the novel Rainbow Troops until he received various awards such as the Khatulistiwa Literary Award (KLA) in 2007, Aisyiah Award, Paramida Award, Netpac Critics Award, and so on (Calista, 2022).

The reason the researcher chooses The Rainbow Troops novel are the researcher was interested in researching this novel, this novel international bestseller, has been translated into 34 foreign languages and published in more than 130 countries by leading publishers (Calista, 2022). The Rainbow Troops, a literary work that describes life experiences for the struggle of life. In this research, the researcher describes how Ikal's struggle of life in Andrea Hirata Rainbow Troops and the factors influence Ikal becomes a successful person. Ikal is a main character in the novel. He comes from a poor family. Ikal is a student of Muhammadiyah Belitung who has a strong determination to achieve goals so he doesn't become a coolie and can change his family's fate or life.

Ikal's struggle to become a successful person or dream by being hard worker to finance his studied. He wanted continued his education and got master's degree scholarship test from the European Union. He had to fight for it and tried to make it happen. Ikal's struggles or effort to achieve his dream, namely he reads as many books as he could, and continuous learn. The theory used in this research is struggle theory by Joyomartono. The struggle is an effort full difficulty to get something better. The team struggle also contains the meaning of activity, the meaning of which is the activity of fighting for and striving for the achievement of something by using energy, thought and strong (Joyomartono, 1990). Its mean that, there is no success without struggle if we want to be a successful we must effort to achieve it. The goal of this research is to illustrative evidence of life struggle in Ikal's life.

## **2. RESEARCH METHOD**

The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative. Data were collected in the form of words as descriptive explanation rather than numbers. According to Bogdan and Taylor (1975) in Moleong (2002) stated that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people and observed behavior.

The source of data used in this research is from conversations and paragraphs in the novel Rainbow Troops. In the collection the data, the researcher deep some steps; reading and understanding The Rainbow Troops novel carefully to understand what is told in the novel, categorizing and classifying the data in the form of sentences and dialog

and narrations from the novel which relating to the theory and the last organizing the data into several parts based on classifications.

In the analysis the data procedure, the researcher deep some steps; the first, reading the novel repeatedly, understanding the data, the second exploring and describing Ikal's struggle of life to become a successful person and the factor influence Ikal become a successful person, the third analyzing the data, the last making conclusion.

### **3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

#### **3.1 Ikal's Struggle to Become a Successful Person**

Joyomartono (1990), said that the struggle is an effort full of difficulties to get a something better. The struggle, the team struggle also contains the meaning of activity, the meaning of which is the activity of fighting for and striving for the achievement of something by using energy, thought and strong. Ikal's struggle in the Rainbow Troops is to struggle to get a master's degree scholarship from European Union. Ikal wanted to get a master's degree scholarship, he effort for it and tried to make it happen. Proven by the quote below:

"I didn't spend a minute on anything other than study scholarship test. I read as many book as I could. I read while I sorted letters, while I ate, while I lay on my bed listening to wayang stories on the radio. I read as many books on the angkot, the public transportation minivan. I read them while I was in the toilet, while I did laundry, while I walked. If humans could read while sleeping, I definitely would have done that to" (Page 261).

From the quote above, this proves that Ikal has struggled and tried to success by taking the scholarship test from the European Union. He takes the scholarship test and wants to achieve it or he will be succeed. He wants to get the scholarship he is very enthusiastic and continues to study and hard work to achieve it. Ikal read a lot of books, always eager to learn whenever and wherever to be able to enter the scholarship test.

The following is done by Ikal among others:

"I soon become a faithful visitor of LIPI (The Indonesian Institute of Sciences) Library in Bogor. I now requested the subuh sorting shift I had once hated so I could go home earlier to study. At home I studied late into the night. When I tired of studying, I opened If Only They Could Talk. Herriot and became best friends" (Page 262).

From the quote above, it is evidenced by Ikal's struggle that he struggled by visited the library, early in the morning he studied. His efforts and struggles are so hard that he studies until late night at home. He had used his time just by studied to pass the scholarship test.

Ikal is in phase called the final round, which consisted of an interview at a great institution in Jakarta. The struggles or efforts that must be made by Ikal to take the scholarship test include:

“The nerves racking test went on for months. Seven months later, I was in a phase called the final round, which consisted of interview at a great institution in Jakarta” (Page 262).

From the quote above, it is proven how Ikal's struggles and effort to become a successful person or the success of the scholarship test. Ikal has gone through his work. When in the final round he was interviewed and accepted, then Ikal started studying at University in Europe at the time.

### **3.2 The Factors Influence Ikal to Become a Successful Person**

#### **3.2.1 Competitive Personality (Having a very competitive spirit personality)**

Having a very competitive spirit / personality is one of the factors that make Ikal becomes a successful person. Ikal has a high spirit of learning and never gives up. As the option of Stanley in Dian (2019), stated that a very competitive personality never give up, especially in overcoming his ego and shortcoming. Ikal has been learning, learn, learn and keep learn. Ikal continurd studied to achieve his target, namely to be able to get a master's degree scholarship from European Union. The following is an excerpt that shows Ikal is a competitive personality person in the novel:

“Focus! Focus! That was my mantra”. I read as many books as I could. I read while I sorted a letters, while I ate. I soon became a faithful visitor of LIPI (The Indonesian Institute of Sciences) Library in Bogor. At home I studied late into night. When I tired of studying, I opened If Only They Could Talk. Herriot and I became best friends. I have to get a scholarship, there is no option, I have to get it” (Page 262).

From the quote above shows that Ikal having a very competitive spirit/personality or have a high enthusiasm for learning. Ikal have a learn spirit. He spends a lot of books, wherever and whenever it is. He even visited Library in Bogor to study, even studied until late into night.

#### **3.2.2 Working harder than most people**

“I read while I sorted letters, while I ate, while I lay on my bed listening to wayang stories on the radio. I read them while I was in the toilet, while I did laundry, while I walked, while I was being yelled at customer. If humans could read while sleeping, I definitely would have done that too. at home I studied late into the night” (Page 262)

It shows that Ikal working harder than most people. He has worked to get a scholarship. As a Stanley in Dian (2019), stated that working hard is not guarantee of success. Working harder than other is closely related to the desire and discipline to achieve the targets that have been set within you. There is no success without effort and hard work. Ikal spends a lot of time properly for the scholarship test, he read many books as he can, studied until late at night.

### 3.2.3 Fate

The researcher found the fact that Ikal becomes a successful person because that was his destiny. Tresna (2019) said that one of the successful factors is fate and keep praying. Ikal was destined to be a successful person. When he finished his studies in Europe he back to Indonesia and worked in a telecommunications company and he managed to write a book. The following is an excerpt that shows fate in the novel:

“I am convinced that my belief, not the fact I was a smart student, was made me finish my studies in Europe. I come back to Indonesia and worked for a telecommunications company. Two days later, in Bandung I came from work and began writing the book. In the following days, I smiled to myself, giggled, was touched, felt annoyed and found myself sobbing late into the night, alone. Before I knew it, I had written 600 pages” (Page 278).

From the quote above show that Ikal becomes a successful person because Ikal management to write book.

## 4. CONCLUSION

The intension of the research is to illustrative evidence of struggle in Ikal's life. The struggle that Ikal does in life in the Rainbow Troops novel is the struggle to get a master degree scholarship from the European Union. Ikal has struggled and tried to get it, namely with Ikal always learned, read as many book as he can, spend time study. The factor that makes Ikal successful is Ikal having a very competitive spirit/personality, working harder than most people and fate. It can be concluded that to be a successful person it takes effort and struggle in life.

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