

INDONESIAN POETRY IN THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER'S RESPONSE OF 2016

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Abstract

Based on reviews from Indonesian national newspapers: Kompas, Republika, Koran Tempo, Koran Sindo, and Media Indonesia, there are at least 15 review articles or anthology poetry reviews during the year of 2016. Of the 15 articles, are related to the anthology of poetry reviews of recent poems written by contemporary poets as well as a number of previous generations of poets. In addition, the theme or setting is mostly about Indonesia, although there are themed or set up areas such as Aceh, and overseas theme such as South Korea. In this year there is also a review of poetry anthology Winner of DKJ (Dewan Kesenian Jakarta) Poetry Competition Manuscripts in 2015. The rubric of the book review articles on Indonesian national newspapers like this can be an indicator in following the development of up-to-date Indonesian literature.

Keywords: Poetry, contemporary, responses, reviews, newspaper

1. Introduction

In the history of Indonesian literature, the last generation is known as the *Angkatan 2000* (The 2000 Generation) as has been suggested by Rampan (2000, p. xxxviii). This generation productively writes about a decade by the year 2000 and a decade after 2000. In summary, the flow of historical development of Indonesian literature is then composed of several generations and or literary periods consisting of: (1) Embrional Literature, (2) Literature 1920s or *Balai Pustaka*, (3) Literature 1930s or *Pujangga Baru*, (4) *Angkatan 1945*, (5) Literature of *Majalah Sastra* or *Angkatan 1966*, (6) Literature of 1970/1980's, (7) *Angkatan 2000* (Sumardjo, 1992, p. x; Kratz, 2000, p. xv—xxxix).

Until now there has not been a literary critic or literary writer who claim to be the new Indonesian literature, although in the actual period it has been sufficient for the emergence of a new literary generation. Thus, it is time that through the year of 2010, it can be assumed that a new literary generation will emerge in the history of Indonesian literature, it is perhaps better known as Indonesian cyber literature.

The emergence of new literature or a new phenomenon in literary history can be seen in the development of commentaries on literary publications in the mass media, including those in the national newspapers of both conventional (print) and digital (online) newspapers. Discussion of literature in the form of reviews is not only limited to promotion but also can be a discursive strategy site. One of them to observe the phenomenon of renewal of the development of the literary history of a nation.

In addition to poetry, developments that can be seen in the literature review are other fictional works of novels, short stories, or drama, and even literary criticism. To begin the most contemporary study can start from the current year, 2019, but also can be the previous years. Therefore, given the various limitations, the study of this paper is limited in the form of an analysis of a number of literary reviews on national newspapers during 2016, especially for literary works in the form of Indonesian poetry. Thus, this paper is expected to describe the phenomenon of the recent development of contemporary Indonesian literature, especially in the work of Indonesian poetry.

The object of study in this paper is the articles of reviews on literary works in the form of poetry in a number of national newspapers Indonesia in 2016. This study is limited to national newspapers, namely: Kompas, Republika, Koran Tempo, Koran Sindo, and Media Indonesia.

2. Literature Review

The aesthetics of the reception or the response of the reader, according to Segers (2000, p. 35), can briefly be referred to as teaching that investigates literary texts based on the reaction of the reader that is real and possible for literary works. Taking into account the character of a literary text, a working hypothesis is taken based on what matters the reader decides whether a literary text is considered “literary value” or not.

Etymologically, literary reception means responses to literary works. The word reception comes from *recipere* (Latin) which is interpreted as acceptance of the reader (Ratna, 2005, p. 165). In its broad meaning, literary receptions or readers’ responses mean processing texts, ways of giving meaning to literary works so that they can provide responses to them.

Reception of literary works is usually personal. However, in the distribution of literary works to the public, there are a number of marketing techniques. One of them with mass media or national newspapers can be conventional or digital. The discussion of literary works in national newspapers is not only limited to marketing techniques so that the book sells well, but can also be a site to compete for the meaning of interpretation or discursive battle. Books, including literary works, are cultural sites where certain discourses are presented and contested. Often the contents of literary books also become a vehicle to convey certain discourses, shake up the establishment, including replacing the establishment. This is related to power both in the sense of a small context and a macro context.

What has appeared in a number of literary review rubrics has actually passed the selection stage by both the reviewer and the editors. Thus the selection stages in the preparation of literary history have also been exceeded. To see the phenomenon of discourse battles and the preparation of literary history, one of them is by observing what literary works are contained in national newspapers. This can be initiated instead from the most recent year, namely 2016, in order to pull it back. Kratz’s book (2000) entitled *Sumber Terpilih Sejarah Sastra Indonesia Abad XX (Selected Sources of History of Indonesian Literature in the*

XX Century) is included as one of the bases to link the history of Indonesian literature with this research.

3. Research Method

The object of this research is articles reviews, criticisms, or news on literary works (especially poetry) in a number of national newspapers in 2016. Given the various limitations that exist and in accordance with the scope of the study, it carried out delivery of the object of this study. The sampling technique used in this study is a purposive sample technique. Research is limited to national newspapers, namely: *Kompas*, *Republika*, *Media Indonesia*, *Koran Sindo*, and *Koran Tempo* on Saturday and Sunday editions.

Data of this research document from newspapers. Data collection techniques used in this study is in the form of reading and note-taking techniques. The collected data is then categorized, analyzed, and interpreted. In this research, it's used content analysis (Moleong, 2011, p. 220). The instrument used to collect data in this study is a data card. For the validity and reliability of the research data is used semantic validity techniques and intra-rater and inter-rater techniques. Semantic validity is by analyzing the context of the meaning of the text. While for the reliability of the data, the intra-rater technique is used by repeated reading so that the data consistency and inter-rater technique is obtained in the form of discussions with the members of the researcher (Moleong, 2011, pp. 335-336).

The collected and categorized data were then analyzed using qualitative descriptive. The data that has been categorized based on the focus of this problem is then analyzed descriptively so that it can be known the description of the development and constellation maps of the latest Indonesian poetry works reflected and constructed by national newspapers.

4. Results and Discussion

The results of the research of the review of anthology poetry or articles on poetry in a number of newspapers during 2016 obtained 15 writings. Overall the data can be read in the following table.

Table 1. Constellation of Anthology Poetry reviewed in Indonesian Newspaper in 2016.

No	Edition	Media	Writer	Title of Review	Book's Identity			Add Info
					Author	Title of Book	Publisher	
1	3 Jan	Kompas	Bandung Mawardi	Berpuisi, Terbang ke Makna	Maria F. Lawi	Lelaki Bukan Malaikat	Gramedia Pustaka Utama, 2015	
2	28 Feb	Republika	Ahmad Fikri Noor	Bait-bait Kegelisahan Penyair Muda	Adimas Immanuel	Di Hadapan Rahasia	-	
3	26 Mar	Kompas	Alex R. Nainggolan	Lalu Lintas Kata dalam Puisi	Iswadi Pratama	Harakah Haru Sehimpun Puisi (1998—2015)	Nuansa Cendika, Bandung, Apr 2015	
4	3 Apr	Koran Sindo	Imas Damayanti	Puisi Pelembut Jiwa dari Rumi	Haidar Bagir	Mereguk Cinta Rumi	Noura	

5	24 Apr	Media Indonesia	Her/M-2	Hujan Bulan Juni Alih Wahana Lagi	-	Hujan Bulan Juni Coloring Book for Adult: The Poetry of Sapardi Djoko Damono	Gramedia Pustaka Utama	
6	8 May	Media Indonesia	M-2	Kompleksitas Pikiran dan Perasaan Rangga Sentilan Sentilun Gusjur Mahesa	Aan Mansur	Tidak Ada New York Hari Ini	Gramedia Pustaka Utama, Apr 2016	Puisi on AADC-2 film
7	8 May	Media Indonesia	M-2	Sentilan Sentilun Gusjur Mahesa	Gusjur Mahesa	Mending Gelo daripada Korupsi (MGDK)	Asasupi	
8	28 May	Kompas	Bandung Mawardi	75 Tahun, 75 Puisi	Sapardi Djoko Damono	Melipat Jarak	Gramedia Pustaka Utama, 2015	
9	29 May	Media Indonesia	Hera Khaerani	Napas Puisi di Jembatan Masa	-	-	-	Review of 3 book DKJ
10	26 Jun	Republika	Nina Chairani	Maman Mahayana Terbitkan Jejak Seoul	Maman S. Mahayana	Jejak Seoul	-	
11	10 Jul	Media Indonesia	M-2	Sajak dan Soneta Cinta Pablo Neruda	Tia Setiadi (penerj)	Sajak dan Soneta Cinta Pablo Neruda	Madah, MK-Book, 2016	
12	31 Jul	Republika	Adysha Citra R	Mengeksplorasi Diri Melalui Puisi				Review of 3 books DKJ
13	4 Sep	Republika	Nina Chairani	Pasie Karam Penyair Aceh dalam Sorotan	163 penyair: Ind, Mal, Sin, Rus)	Pasie Karam	2016	About Meulaboh
14	1 Oct	Kompas	Anindita S. Thayf	Menunggu Si Anak Hilang	Sitor Situmorang	Sitor Situmorang Kumpulan Sajak 1948-2008	-	
15	23 Oct	Republika	Wilda Fizriyani	Melukis Wajah Kota Kembang Api Jakarta	Gratiagusti Chananya Rompas	Kota Ini Kembang Api	Publisher? 2008	Re-publish

4.1 Poems from Previous Generation Authors

In 2016 there are two articles discussing the anthology of Indonesian poetry written by the previous generation of poets: Sitor Situmorang and Sapardi Djoko Damono. Sitor Situmorang was included in the 1945 poet. The man born in Tapanuli Utara, 2 October 1923, died on 21 December 2014 in Apeldoorn, The Netherlands. Sapardi Djoko Damono including the 1966 poet who remains productive produces a number of literary works not only in the form of a collection of poetry but also in fiction. Sapardi was born in Solo, March 20, 1940. The articles that discuss the two previous generations of poets are as follows.

First, a review of the anthology of poetry *Sitor Situmorang Kumpulan Sajak 1948-2008* by Anindita S. Thaif and published in Kompas, October 1, 2016, in the article "Menunggu Si Anak Hilang". The number of poems contained in this anthology is 669 poems as thick as 1000 pages. Thayf (2016) wrote Sitor Situmorang's poems of the theme of alienation and loneliness, but he chose to walk while recalling the past in order to dispel himself, tossed between the past and the present. However, he has not given up on the ideology.

For Sitor, the modernism that gave birth to capitalism was regarded as a culprit of alienation that had no end. The attitude of knowing yourself and getting out of alienation becomes Sitor's choice in facing such an atmosphere as the poet *aku sekarang menjumpai diriku/ karena kau pulang/ pulang dari petualangan* (Now I see myself/ because you are returning home/ returning home from adventure)

Furthermore, Thayf (2016) mentions the importance of this anthology of poetry. First, this anthology of poetry becomes another sound from modern times so that we can reflect on the current condition that many are caught in the virtual world. Secondly, this anthology of poetry became the literary documentation in Indonesia, let alone Sitor Situmorang is one of the productive poets.

Second, the anthology of *Melipat Jarak* of Sapardi Joko Damono reviewed by Bandung Mawardi and published on Kompas 28 May 2016 entitled "75 Tahun, 75 Puisi". The number 75 is the number of poems published in this anthology on Sapardi's 75th birthday. That is, the anthology of this poem was published to celebrate Sapardi's 75th birthday. The poems in this anthology are selected from Sapardi's poems published in the period of 1998—2015.

In his review, Mawardi (2016) writes that for Sapardi the highest art of the word is a metaphor. Perseverance writing poetry means the ability to create new metaphors. In this anthology of poetry, Sapardi uses many metaphors from nature, such as birds, trees, rain, mornings, and flowers.

4.2 Poetry Contest Winners

The next category is the anthology of poetry from the winner of the contest, precisely the Winner of DKJ Poetry Competition Manuscript (Dewan Kesenian Jakarta) in 2015. The review of the anthology of this contest winner was published by Gramedia Pustaka Utama. The reviews were written by two people by Hera Khaerani published in Media Indonesia on May 29, 2016, entitled "Napas Puisi di Jembatan Masa" and Adysha C. Ramadani published in Republika July 31, 2016, entitled "Mengeksplorasi Diri Melalui Puisi".

In her review of the winner I, Norman Erikson Pasaribu with the poem "Sergius Mencari Bacchus", Khaerani (2016) mentions that Norman raised the theme of marginalized people, both because of religion and sexual status. Meanwhile, in her review, Ramadani (2016) mentions Norman Erikson Pasaribu makes poetry as a medium to better understand themselves and become a medium for people to be more aware of the various issues and problems that exist around him.

Norman poured his views on various social issues that took place around him into 33 poems. He raised the tragedies he witnessed through the media to his own experiences in poetry with light and comic-tipped word selection.

Meanwhile, according to Khaerani (2016), the 2nd winner Ni Made Purnama Sari with *Kawitan* poetry intrigued the desire to empathize with the lives of others. The anthology of this poem also raises social criticism and the irony of how life today is no better than the past. In her poems, Purnama Sari uses diction which affirms the precipitated and framed emotions.

Completing the review, Ramadani (2016) mentions that in the book of collections of *Kawitan* poetry meaning the beginning of this, Purnama Sari divides her poems into two

major chapters. In the chapter of “Muhibah Tanah Jauh”, Purnama Sari captures everyday events in the *rantau* (abroad/overseas) lands that inspire social empathy. These simple events, Purnama Sari painting through the soft poems but giving an unusual viewpoint for the readers. In the “Kampung Halaman” chapter, Purnama Sari made Bali a ‘breath’ in her poems. There is a sense of homesickness that seems to spark in the verses of this poem. Through a rich choice of words, Purnama Sari seems to embrace readers to see the world through a variety of perspectives, without any social or cultural barriers.

According to Khaerani (2016), the 3rd winner, Cynthia Hariadi with the poetry of *Ibu Mendulang Anak Berlari* explains the complexity of mother’s experience through simple, touching language. Cynthia talks about domestic things that have been rarely touched by people, whereas everyone’s development begins at home. In her poem, Cynthia also states that being a mother is not always beautiful and noble because there are times when being overwhelmed with tired, sad, and feeling of imprisonment.

Completing the review, Ramadani (2016) states that despite the simple domestic theme, there are strong emotions left behind by this series of Cynthia poems. The power of word selection used by Cynthia also easily leads the reader to pervade the intricacies of a woman who seeks to seek herself with her new identity as a mother.

4.3 Ethnic Poetry and Foreign Poetry

The next category is an article reviewing the anthology of poetry in the background of locality or ethnic of Aceh and the overseas setting (South Korea). In this category, there is an anthology of poetry titled *Pasie Karam* with Aceh background and the anthology of poetry entitled *Jejak Seoul* which is set in South Korea. The poetry anthology of *Pasie Karam* was composed by the Chairman of the West Aceh Arts Council (DKAB: Dewan Kesenian Aceh Barat) Teuku Ahmad Dadek with guest editor Hermansyah, an Acehnese manuscript expert residing in Germany. The review of the anthology of poetry was published by *Republika* on September 4, 2016, in an article titled “*Pasie Karam Penyair Aceh dalam Sorotan*” and written by Nina Chairani.

In her review, Chairani (2016) writes that the book pours the history of the birth of Meulaboh as one of the oldest district capitals in the southwest of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam Province. The *Pasie Karam* anthology book contains works by 163 poets from Nusantara, Malaysia, Singapore, and Russia. The 450-page A5-size book involves curators from Aceh and Jakarta. They are D. Kemalawati, Mustafa Ismail, and Fikar W. Eda from Jakarta.

There are over 30 Acehnese poets whose poems are included in this book. Abdul Hadi WM said that the poems are no less quality than the poets of poets from outside Aceh so that representatives are used as the foundation of the discussion. The diversity of the theme also represents the entire poem in this collection. The diversity of styles and aesthetic insights in their poems are religiously tone, describing the state of today’s society, the sense of urgency in the face of a dreadful human condition, the love affairs of the homeland and the nation.

The next review, against the anthology of the *Jejak Seoul* poetry by Mamahan Mahayana published in *Republika* June 26, 2016, in the article “Maman Mahayana Terbitkan Jejak Seoul” was also written by Nina Chairani. According to Chairani (2016a), the 145-page-old anthology contains a South Korean world theme, where the author had lived and taught for nearly five years. Through this anthology, readers dive into the culture, culinary, social life and history of South Korea whose pop culture is now popular with young people.

The themes of the poem chosen by Maman became very distinctive and the only one in the Indonesian poetry’s constellation, for example, the Korean world. Literary texts often also reflect society and become a means of getting to know also certain cultures of society.

This book is like an open door to bring the reader into the socio-cultural, historical, and dynamic life of the Korean nation and state.

4.4 Other Poems

The next anthology of poetry to be featured in Indonesian national newspapers in 2016 is a poetry anthology titled *Harakah Haru Sehimpun Puisi* (1998—2015) by Iswadi Pratama. This anthology is reviewed by Alex R. Nainggolan and published in Kompas 26 March 2016 entitled "Lalu Lintas Kata dalam Puisi". In his review, Nainggolan (2016) writes that in this poetry anthology there are 63 poems in this anthology of poetry that are bitter, such as house's poetry, a city nostalgia, poem about poetry, or a mother who is forced to steal milk in a supermarket for lack of money. The anxiety in his poetry appears in the poem "Bapak' raising the family matter. Each verse in this poem is like a link that opens up a new inner conversation space for the reader. According to Nainggolan (2016), this anthology of poetry also elevates the reality of ideas. Every metaphor depicted in his poems is close to everyday. Poetry mixes all sides of life, such as poems about the dormitory and romance as seen in the poem "Selalu Kukatakan Padamu", "Perempuanku", "Stanza", and "Fragmen-Fragmen Tanjungkarang". Love is described as very vivid, promising, and hopeful.

The next anthology titled *Mereguk Cinta Rumi* by Haidar Bagir reviewed by Imas Damayanti and published in *Koran Sindo* newspaper on April 3, 2016, with the title "Puisi Pelembut Jiwa dari Rumi". This anthology of poetry reviews is the result of an interview with the author at a book review event at Galeri Indonesia Kaya in Jakarta. According to the author, Damayanti (2016), love for Rumi is a vast ocean that can't be spent in one time alone. Reading Rumi's poems becomes a softener for the souls who yearn for love.

With the presence of the book *Mereguk Cinta Rumi*, the author hopes people can understand the message of love that Rumi describes God and religion. According to Baghir, Rumi's poems seem to inspire many people and have been studied by cross-country Sufism experts Damayanti (2016).

Further anthology of poetry titled *Kota Ini Kembang Api* by Gratiagusti Chananya Rompas reviewed by Wirda Fizriyani and published *Republika*, October 23, 2016, in the article "Melukis Wajah Kota Kembang Api Jakarta". According to Fizriyani (2016), this anthology of poetry processes everyday themes into metaphors, symbols, and the personification of unnamed feelings. Almost all poems in this anthology wear a lot of modes of light, the turn of light like light to dark and vice versa. One of the uniqueness of these poems is on unique typography. In this book, the author presents illustrations on several pages.

Another anthology of poetry reviewed in the Indonesian national newspaper is *Lelaki Bukan Malaikat* by Maria F Lawi, *Di Hadapan Rahasia* by Adimas Immanuel, *Mending Gelo daripada Korupsi (MGDK)* by Gusjur Mahesa, and *Tidak Ada New York Hari Ini* by Aan Mansur. Aan Mansur's poetry anthology is a collection of poems intended as a filler poem on the film *Ada Apa dengan Cinta (ADC) 2* which was released in April 2016 and became a famous film in Indonesia (Riza, 2016).

The anthology of poetry *Lelaki Bukan Malaikat* is reviewed by Bandung Mawardi with the title "Berpuisi, Terbang ke Makna" on Kompas, 3rd edition, 2016. *Di Hadapan Rahasia* is reviewed by Ahmad Fikri Noor, in the February 28 issue of *Republika*, entitled "Bait-bait Kegelisahan Penyair Muda". The anthology of *Mending Gelo daripada Korupsi (MGDK)* is reviewed by M-2 in the May 8 edition of *Media Indonesia* with an article entitled "Sentilan Sentilan Gusjur Mahesa". The Anthology *Tidak Ada New York Hari Ini* is also reviewed by M-2 in the same daily edition, *Media Indonesia*, May 8th in an article entitled "Kompleksitas Pikiran dan Perasaan Rangga".

5. Conclusion

In 2016 a number of Indonesian national newspapers have some of book review articles, one of which is a review of Indonesian poetry. There are 15 articles related to the anthology of poetry reviews composed of recent poems written by contemporary poets as well as a number of previous generations of poets. The anthologies of poetry discussed include *Harakah Haru Sehimpun Puisi* (1998—2015) by Iswadi Pratama, *Mereguk Cinta Rumi* by Haidar Bagir, *Melipat Jarak* by Sapardi Joko Damono, Poetry anthology Winner of DKJ Poetry Manuscript Competition 2015, *Jejak Seoul* by Mamahan Mahayana, *Pasie Karam* compiled by the West Aceh Arts Council (DKAB: Dewan Kesenian Aceh Barat), *Sitor Situmorang Kumpulan Sajak 1948-2008*, and *Kota Ini Kembang Api* by Gratiagusti Chananya Rompas.

In addition, the theme or setting is mostly about Indonesia, although there are themed or set up areas or ethnic such as Aceh, and themed or overseas as South Korea. *Pasie Karam* compiled by DKAB is the special theme about ethnic or locality in Aceh. In this year there is also a review of poet anthology Winner of DKJ Poetry Competition Manuscript (Dewan Kesenian Jakarta) in 2015. One of three poets, Ni Made Purnama Sari in her poetry anthology *Kawitan* is also speak about the locality or Ethnic: Bali. In the “Kampung Halaman” chapter, Purnama Sari made Bali a ‘breath’ in her poems. There is a sense of homesickness that seems to spark in the verses of this poem.

The rubric of book review articles on Indonesian national newspapers like this can be a barometer or standard in keeping up with the latest Indonesian literary developments. In this context is the development of the latest Indonesian poetry.

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