

**CHILDREN EDUCATION CONCEPT AT TOMOE GAKUEN  
IN TETSUKO KUROYANAGI'S NOVEL  
ENTITLED TOTTO-CHAN: THE LITTLE GIRL AT THE WINDOW**



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**By:**  
**SITI NUR FAIZAH**  
**1223305103**

**STUDY PROGRAM TEACHER TRAINING OF ISLAMIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
**DEPARTEMENT OF ISLAMIC SCHOOL EDUCATION**  
**FACULTY OF TARBIYA AND TEACHER TRAINING**  
**STATE INSTITUTE OF ISLAMIC STUDIES**  
**PURWOKERTO**  
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**Siti Nur Faizah**  
NIM. 1223305103

E-mail: [real\\_fafa@yahoo.co.id](mailto:real_fafa@yahoo.co.id)  
Teacher training of Islamic Elementary School Study Program  
Department of Islamic School Education  
Faculty of Tarbiya and Teacher Training  
State Institute of Islamic Studies Purwokerto

**ABSTRACT**

Every institution of education has purposes to reach. The efforts to reach every purpose, institutions of education have to use some concepts, system, and strategy to reach education purpose. Different concept in every school makes different result in education. This research was done to see how some education concept use at Tomoe Gakuen. This research is library research. Method of collecting data in this research is Documentation. Primary resource in this research is a novel by Tetsuko Kuroyanagi entitled *Totto-Chan: The Little Girl at The Window*. And as secondary resources are journal, book review, paper and undergraduate thesis. To analyze this research is content analysis.

According to Ki Hajar Dewantara there are three concepts of education are: (1) *Among System*, (2) Three centers of education, and (3) *Tringa*. Concepts of education according to Saito Kimiko, are: (1) togetherness, (2) meals together, (3) doing open-air activity, (4) teacher or instructor not places them as a teacher or instructor/sensei, but as adult who live together with the children during at the school, (5) doing nature game, (6) develop life together perception and model, (7) eurhythmic gymnastics, (8) elder children help their younger brother or sister to do rhythmic gymnastics. Concepts of education according to M. Quraish Shihab are: (1) giving *tauhid* education, (2) good relation between children and parents, (3) teaching children about *makruf*, (4) giving protection. And the last is concepts of education according to Su'dan. He is separated treatment of children into three parts, there are: children education under 1 year, under 3 years old, and under 5 years old.

The object of this research is a school that told in the novel *Totto-Chan: The Little Girl at The Window* by Tetsuko Kuroyanagi named Tomoe Gakuen. Tomoe Gakuen was told as a school founded by Headmaster named Kobayashi. That novel is an illustration of Tetsuko Kuroyanagi's childhood. She is wrote that novel to fulfill a promise with Sosaku Kobayashi that someday she become a teacher in Tomoe Gakuen.

The conclusion in this research is there are some education concepts in Tomoe Gakuen, are: (1) *Among System*, (2) Three centers of education, (3) Moral education, (4) Togetherness, (5) Open-air activity, (6) Rhythmic gymnastics, and (7) Protection.

*Keyword: Children, education concept, Tomoe Gakuen, Tetsuko Kuroyanagi, Totto-Chan: The Little Girl at The Window*

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of The Problem

Every person in their life have many experience about learning, moreover as Moslem, learning is an obligatory. According to Gage (1984) learning can be define as a process where an organism change its behavior as consequence of experience<sup>1</sup>. Learning can be interpreted with changing something after pass an experience. Cause learning is a process that can do even on unconscious condition, so learning can be done everywhere. Learning concept by Conny R. Semiawan begin from brain that carried since someone was born, that consist of two brain half, *left hemisphere* and *right hemisphere*, that connected by a wad of fiber named *Corpus Callosum*. Both half of brain have different function, order and response, and should grow on balance. The human effort to learning, right hemisphere have function to caught all that meaningful, creative and imaginative, whereas the function of left hemisphere to watch closely the logic things, linear and orderly. Both half of brain on learning better function on balanced. Learning concept contain implication to activated logic aspect or creative aspect<sup>2</sup>.

In a family, most of parents give opportunity to their children to learn. Usually, parents want their children to be better with their criteria. Then, parents do the thing named with education. The technical term that almost resembles with education from Greek is *paedagogia* meaning society with children. *Paedagogos* is an attendant or servant on Old Greek who activitis is brings and picks children to and from the school. And at home, the children are always under controll and guard from that *paedagogos*. So,

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<sup>1</sup> Ratna Wilis Dahar. *Teori-Teori Belajar*. 1989. Bandung: Erlangga, hal 11

<sup>2</sup> Prof. Dr. Conny R. Semiawan. *Belajar dan Pembelajaran Prasekolah dan Sekolah Dasar*. 2008. Jakarta: PT. Macana Jaya Cemerlang. Hal 2.

actually that children education on Old Greek, majority give to that *paedagogos*<sup>3</sup>. From that explanation, the process of education must have controller.

Nowadays, learning process has been organized. More of institution and government build learning or study place often named school. There, learning process is monitored well, students' development is detected to reach the wanted purpose. So that, institution of education need a concept in order to the wanted purpose can be reached. In fact, education concept on institution of education is different, that why the result in every institution of education are different too.

According to UU No. 20 th 2003 National Education System, education can be separated with three form. There are formal education, non formal education, and informal education. Formal education is education track which structured and gradual consist of basic education, middle education, and higher education. Informal education is education track on family and surroundings. Non formal education is education track outside of formal education that can be structured and gradual.

In every institution of education or school, it's has different criteria of success. Success of education process at the school influence several factors. That is subject of education are the student and the teacher. Education process can be success appropriate with what that wanted if the teacher and the student have relation which carried each other and have good connection. Besides that, the things that influence success education are infrastructure, support from living space around and parents, and innovating of education that applied on an institute of education.

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<sup>3</sup> Drs. M. Ngalim Purwanto MP. *Ilmu Pendidikan Teoritis dan Praktis*. 2011. Bandung: PT. Remaja Rosdakarya. Hal 3.

Tetsuko Kuroyanagi wrote a novel about her childhood especially her learning process in a school named Tomoe Gakuen. Tetsuko Kuroyanagi is a social activist who wrote her life journey on some books and one of her book entitled Totto-Chan: The Little Girl at The Window. That novel shows Tomoe Gakuen with the classroom that made by ex railway coach, headed by a Head Master named Sosaku Kobayashi doing learning activity that seem not special and even just holding out several years, but can make student success in the future with their own capability. The thing that researcher underlining on this research is the result of the education at Tomoe Gakuen. The page of epilog of the novel, there are list of student who ever studied at Tomoe Gakuen and their profession which most of them.

Other reasons of the reasearcher choose this novel to be object in this research are the uniques of the school in the novel. The physss

## **B. Problem Research**

According to the background of the research that researcher explained above, so the problem research is **“How Children Education Concept at Tomoe Gakuen in Tetsuko Kuroyanagi’s Novel Entitled Totto-Chan: The Little Girl at The Window?”**

## **C. Objectives and Significance of The Research**

### **1. Objectives of The Research**

According to the background of the problem that explained above, so the objective of this research is to know about children education concept at Tomoe Gakuen in Tetsuko Kuroyanagi’s novel entitled Totto-Chan: The Little Girl at The Window.

## 2. Significance of The Research

- a. In an academic manner can be increase and rich education knowledge especially the thing that related with children education.
- b. Expected to be media of knowledge development on Indonesian education area.

## D. Literature Review

1. The research about children education concept at Tomoe Gakuen, previously, there are some research that make Totto-Chan's novel to be research object. There are undergraduate thesis that arranged by Hari Wijaya, **System Education of Elementary School at Tomoe Gakuen Before World War II in The Novel *Mado Giwa No Totto-Chan* By Tetsuko Kuroyanagi; Mimesis Contemplation**. Hari Wijaya is a student of Japanese literature department, faculty of Literatur, Andalas University, Padang 2009. He explained about education system that applied at Tomoe Gakuen before World War II. The result of that research is that education before World War II influence by empire. And Tomoe Gakuen that headed by a Head Master who founded that school with inclusive education system and with the Head Master who very love his student and make children identity success in the future.

Other example is undergraduate thesis by Fidayanni Karimawati. She is student of Communication Department FISIP UNS 2009. Her undergraduate thesis entitled **Education Based Individuality (A Semiotic Study in Translation of The Novel Totto-Chan: The Little Girl at The Window That Contain About Education System That Applied at Tomoe Gakuen Occurred When Pre World War II 1941-1945)** and the conclusion is applying teaching method at Tomoe Gakuen occurred very well. Tomoe Gakuen is the real of wished school. With his own hand, Kobayashi-san successes to realize his school that he dreamed in Japan. Indeed when



World War II, several decades ago. All this time, our education just put on priority to grade. Often memorized method became main choice to get good grade. The memorize method which used in the school just holding out when student facing general and final exam. After finish taking daily examination, student will forget what their studied. Student can't get every instruction from teacher. So that, need an repair effort and mending on education system in Indonesia.

And then, the result of undergraduate thesis by A'izza Fauziya entitled **Education Value For Islamic Elementary School Children Age (Studies on The Novel Totto-Chan; The Little Girl At The Window By Tetsuko Kuroyanagi)** that on Education process at Tomoe Gakuen contains education values that helped student become person who good individually. There are education process did with: learn from the nature, compulsory lesson schedule and playing, euritmik (music) education, rule of sitting and rule of uniform, carrying each other, autonomy, knowing each other, respect to the living space, responsibility, telling in front of the class and emphatic feeling.

Then, undergraduate thesis by Nida Mauizdati entitled **Children Education Concept according To Abdullah Nashih on Tarbiyah Al-Aulad Fi Al-Islam.** She is a student of IAIN Antasari, Banjarmasin 2016. The result of that research is that children education process is spiritual education, generation founding, formatting society, culture, and civilization.

The next is undergraduate thesis by Raudhatul Jannah entitled **Children Education Concept Perspective by M. Quraish Shihab.** She is a student of IAIN Antasari, Banjarmasin, 2013. The conclusion of that research is that Alquran is a holly book

that gave advice to human who want to empower mind and heart to give benefit on education.

And the last is undergraduate thesis by Muhammad Asykar Muzakki entitled **Children Education Concept according To M. Quraish Shihab And Su'dan On Perspective Islamic Education**. He is a student of IAIN Walisongo Semarang. The research explained about children education according to M. Quraish Shihab and Su'dan. According to Quraish Shihab, there are four points about children education concept. There are children education, children religion education, educate children teach about *Makruf* and parents and people's duty. According to Su'dan there are three points about children education concept. There are children education under one years old, children education under five years old and children education school age.

Differently, this research will explain about children education concept that applied at Tomoe Gakuen, although that school shattered consequence by World War II, but the student who ever studied at Tomoe Gakuen success in the future.

2. According to The School Journal, Volume LIV, Number 3 (January 16, 1897) page 77-80 by John Dewey entitled My Pedagogic Creed that explained his opinion about education. Writer copied from that Journal, Article II, What the school is.

I believe that the school is primarily a social instruction. Education being a social process, the school is simply that form of community life in which all those agencies are concentrated that will be most effective in bringing the child to share in the inherited resources of the race, and to use his own power for social ends.

I believe that education, therefore, is a process of living and not a preparation for future living.

I believe that the school must represent present life-life as real and virtual to the child as that which he carries on in the home, in the neighborhood, or on the playground.

I believe that education which does not occur though forms of lifes or that are worth living for their own sake, is always a poor substitute for the genuine reality and tends to cramp and to deaden.

3. From that theory, researcher concluded that education is a process of living. There is not to be purpose to the future. Just live what your life. Process to living can be communicating and interact with other and nature. May be some person thing that child have not future, but writer thing that can able to life in future because they already to live with many problem.

## **E. Method of The Research**

### **1. Kind of The Research**

Kind of this research is library research. The method of library research is arrangement of activity that connected with data book accumulating method, reading make a note and processing research material.

Library research involves the step-by-step process used to gather information in order to write a paper, create a presentation, or complete a project. As progress from one step to the next, it is commonly necessary to back up, revise, add additional material or even change the topic completely. This will depend on what discovered during research process.<sup>4</sup>

### **2. Method of Collecting Data**

The method of collecting data in this research is documentation. Documentaion is collecting data method with assembling documentation as a material to analyze. Documentation method is a method of data collecting used to explore the historical data.<sup>5</sup>

### **3. Sources of Research**

There are two of sources in this research, are:

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<sup>4</sup> <https://library.uaf.edu/ls101-research-process>. *Library Research Process*. Access at 14 January, 12:29 PM

<sup>5</sup> Burhan Bungin, *Metodologi Penelitian Sosial*. Surabaya: Airlangga University Press, 2001. Hal. 133

a. Primary Source

Primary source is original works. This source represents original thinking, report on discoveries, or share new information. Usually these represent the first formal appearance of original research.<sup>6</sup>

Primary source is main documentation source as reference to analyze data. Primary source in this research is novel *Totto-Chan: The Little Girl at The Window* by Tetsuko Kuroyanagi.

b. Secondary Sources

Secondary sources are studies by other researchers. They describe, analyze, and/or evaluate information found in primary source. By repackaging information, secondary sources make information more accessible. Documentation secondary sources are proponent data as reference to added data. Secondary sources are:

- 1) Journal
- 2) Book review
- 3) Paper
- 4) Undergraduate thesis
- 5) Biography

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<sup>6</sup> <https://library.uaf.edu/lr101-research-process>. *Library Research Process*. Access at 14 January, 12:29 PM

#### 4. Method of Analyze Data

The method of analyze data in this research is content analysis. Content analysis methods may be applied to virtually any form of communication. Among the possible artifacts for study are books, magazines, poems, newspapers, songs, paintings, speeches letters, laws, and constitutions, as well as any components, or collection there of (Babbie, 1986: 267). Method of accumulating data what used is content analysis method dengan menggunakan pendekatan filologi. Content analysis is one of numerous research methods used to analyze text data. Research using qualitative content analysis focuses on the characteristics of language as communication with attention to the content or contextual meaning of the text (Tesch, 1990; Hsiu-Fang and Shannon, 2005.)<sup>7</sup> In general content analysis applies empirical and statistical method to textual material. Content analysis particularly consists of a devison of the text into units of meaning and quantification of these units according to certain rules. An early content analysis, Barelson defines content analysis as a method for objective, systematis, and quantitative description of manifest content of a text. Objectivity means that every stage in the research process must be based on explicitly formulated and the values and the beliefs of the researcher must not influence the result of examination. Some kind of reliability test can be undertaken, so that another research can obtain the same result from the same rules and data. (Lincoln & Guba, 1985: 337).<sup>8</sup>

In content analysis, normally researcher looks at documents, text, or speech to see what themes emerge. See how themes related to each other. Find latent emphases,

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<sup>7</sup> Sari Wahyuni, *Qualitative Research Method*. Jakarta: Salemba Empat. 2012. Page 122

<sup>8</sup> Soejono, S.H., M.H., H. Abdurrahman, S.H., M.H. *Metode Penelitian*. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta. 1997. Page 13.

political view of newspaper writer, which is implicit or look at surface level-overt emphasis. Theory driven-theory determines what you look for. Rather than being a single method, current applications of content analysis show three distinct approaches: Conventional, directed, or summative. All three approaches are used to interpret meaning from the content of text and data, hence, adhere to the naturalistic paradigm. The major differences among the approaches are coding schemes, origins of codes, and threats to trustworthiness. In conventional content analysis, coding categories are derived directly from the text data. With a directed approach, analysis starts with a theory or relevant research findings as guidance for initial codes. A summative followed by the interpretation of the underlying context.

According Hsiu-Fang and Shannon (2005) standard rules of content analysis include:

- a. How big a chunk of data is analyzed at a time (a line, a sentence, a paragraph)? Must state and stay with it.
- b. What are units of meaning? How the categories are used? Categories must be: Inclusive (all examples fit a category) and mutually exclusive.
- c. Defined precisely: What are properties?
- d. All data fits some category (exhaustive). Researcher need to develop note context by reading all way through, then specify rules. Content analysis could have emergent theory, but usually theory-driven. After determine categories, researcher need to do the counting and see how often categories occur. Most of literature emphasizes the qualitative aspects.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Sari Wahyuni, *Qualitative Research Method*. Jakarta: Salemba Empat. 2012. Hal. 122

## **F. Structure of The Study**

The structure of writing this research is draft or design from undergraduate thesis is to give clue about main problem that will be talked. On this undergraduate thesis, written divided into five chapters.

At the beginning there are page of title, page of counselor note, page of introduction, page of motto, page of dedication, page of abstraction, and page of list of contents.

In this undergraduate thesis contain, writer divided into five chapters, there are:

Chapter I: Induction consist: background of the study, problem research, objectives and significance of the research, method of the research, literature review and structure of the study.

Chapter II: Theoretical Basic explains about concept, education, children and common of children education concept.

Chapter III: Data Presentation and Discussion explain about Tetsuko Kuroyanagi's Novel entitle Totto-Chan: The Little Girl at The Window

Chapter IV: Analysis explains about children education concept on Totto-Chan's novel.

Chapter V: The closing contain conclusion, suggestion, and closing statement.

In the final, there are bibliography, curriculum vitae, and attachments.

## CHAPTER V

### CLOSING

#### A. Conclusion

Elementary school education is an important thing to do because a child in that period is need to good treatment to make children success in the future. A child in that period also needs support by parent, school and society to make children good in spiritual, moral, intellectual and emotional. Every school have different model to treat student and it make different mind of children.

Tomoe Gakuen is one of elementary school in Japan during World War II wich is use some children education concept. Tomoe Gakuen use unconventional system at that time because the government permit to it and it make Headmaster doing whatever he want to make children feel comfortable in the school and learning happily. More over, Headmaster has more experience that he gets from abroad and his loving devotion to children make him build Tomoe Gakuen.

The children education concept that researcher have embraced is an analysis from some education figure. And the concepts in Tomoe Gakuen are:

1. *Among* System
2. Three Centers of Education
3. Moral Education
4. Togetherness
5. Open-air Activity
6. Eurhythmic Gymnastics
7. Protection



## **B. Advise**

From the novel, *Totto-Chan: The Little Girl at The Window*, there are something we have to learn. The way to treat children well from children perspective. That novel can be reference about education concept that applies in the school or institution of education. Researcher really realize that this research is not perfect research, there are more flaws. Researcher has to ready to accept every critic about this research. But, researcher recommended this novel to read by student, teacher, instructor or education practitioners everywhere. Researcher certain that every person have different mind about education after read this novel. So every one have to read the novel after read this research.



IAIN PURWOKERTO

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[https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Totto-Chan:\\_The\\_Little\\_Girl\\_at\\_the\\_Window](https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Totto-Chan:_The_Little_Girl_at_the_Window), Saturday, 10 September 2016 at 13:30