

## Unfolding Persistence: Alif Fikri's psychology development in *The Land of Five Towers* Novel

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### Abstract

The aims of this study are to know how *man jadda wajada* implemented by the main character and the impact of the proverb to his psychology development. This research is based on the phenomena which shows that *man jadda wajada* shapes Alif Fikri's persistence and psychology in adapting to *pesantren* and reaching dreams. This research uses the theory conducted by Christopher Peterson and Martin E. P. Seligman (2004) to analyze the work of persistence value and Sigmund Freud's theory to analyze the psychological development, focusing on the process of psyche (1953). In collecting the data, the researcher read and highlighted the raw data from the digital novel, organized into tables of codes, analyzed, and interpreted it. The result of this research shows that *man jadda wajada* value is implemented by Alif Fikri through seven over nine characteristics based on the theory. The qualities possessed by Alif Fikri are keep trying until the task completed, being appreciated and admired by others, doing endless efforts along with the lack of quantity and quality, having high self-motivation for both easy and difficult tasks, being a role model, and depending on self. The result also shows that Alif Fikri succeeded in developing his psyche by passing through set of process involving id, ego, and superego when he faced certain conditions in his life. The result also indicates that the superego was the most dominant structure in his psychological development. This suggests that Alif Fikri was successful in maintaining and developing his psychological condition.

**Key words:** *Persistence, psychology development, The Land of Five Towers novel*

## INTRODUCTION

The *Land of Five Towers* novel is the English version of *Negeri 5 Menara* which is Ahmad Fuadi's first novel. This novel consists of a strong message from a realized desire. It presents a thick educational atmosphere and serves how students of *pesantren* or *santri* live in the boarding house, which is rare to be revealed. This novel is read by million people in Indonesia. This makes the novel and the author gained some big awards since 2010 until 2013. As stated in some interviews, such as *Kick Andy* on 2010 and *Mata Najwa* on 2019, this novel is written based on the author's true story. The origin boarding school where Ahmad Fu'adi studied at that time is *Pondok Modern Darussalam Gontor* or well known as *Pondok Modern Gontor*.

The education environment is portrayed in the novel very well. *The Land of Five Towers* novel tells about a student named Alif Fikri who has just been graduated from his junior high school. He actually does not want to continue his study in a *madrasah* moreover he has never gone outside Minangkabau. He is forced to obey his parents' wishes to study more about religion in a *pesantren* named Madani in rural Java. He was worried that he would not be able to achieve his dream of becoming a person like BJ. Habibie. While his both friend and foe in academic matters, Randai, could achieve it because he attended a public school. Alif Fikri also worried that he would only master religious theories. But all his worries were softened bit by bit as he started his life in *Pondok Madani*.

On the first day, Alif Fikri was amazed by the spell *man jadda wajada*, *he who gives his all would surely succeed*. This simple proverb is a strong utterance which became the compass of Alif Fikri's future life. Such as when he proved that he could speak Arabic and English only in four months learning from the lowest knowledge. He persisted, he tried more and more, and he studied longer than others. All his bitter efforts showed the result. He believes that he is able to do bigger things later. So, he never underestimates his dreams, he would prove the truth of *man jadda wajada* even further.

By holding this proverb, Alif Fikri finally achieved his dream to put his feet on America, he studied abroad by scholarship in the George Washington University. Alif Fikri proves that *man jadda wajada* could make people successful in achieving dreams. But it was possible that at certain times, Alif Fikri's desire to study at public school would reappear. This makes him being selfish and his strong ego controlled him. Alif Fikri ended up having doubt about leaving the *pesantren* more and more. These two phases made the researcher wants to study about the existence of *man jadda wajada* which reflected to persistence value in *The Land of Five Towers* novel, and the effect of this proverb to Alif Fikri's psychology development, about the fact that this proverb could make him stay longer in the *pesantren* and made him successful in achieving his dream even when he studied and lived there.

Based on the phenomena experienced by Alif Fikri, the researcher is going to use two theories. The first theory was proposed by Christopher Peterson and Martin E. P. Seligman to find the works of *man jadda wajada* or persistence value behind the characters by analyzing some fragments obtained from the narration and conversation of the novel. The researcher uses this theory because the book of Character Strength and Virtue, which championed by Christopher Peterson and Martin E. P. Seligman, represents the most significant effort in history to review, assemble, research and classify positive strength in human being. The second theory was conducted by Sigmund Freud to find the influence of *man jadda wajada* or persistence value on Alif Fikri's personality development. Wherefore Sigmund Freud is the founding father of psychoanalysis and created an entirely new approach to the understanding of human personality, the researcher uses this theory.

This study is focused on figuring how the main character implement *man jadda wajada* concept and how this proverb impacted his psychology development. The research is focused on the main character since he is the most conflicted one in the novel, and this character could portray a real experience of human being in life. The researcher is going to select and analyze the narration and conversation uttered by the main character and some other statements related to the moral values which represent *man jadda wajada* concept or persistence value and its impact. The researcher also provides some previous studies as the hints for the research.

The current research deals with a study conducted by Danul Aristiawan (2020). It was focused on analyzing the courage and modesty as the attributes of the moral value in *The Old Man and the Sea* novel by using Peterson's and Seligman's theory. Another research was conducted by Septiyana Sari (2019). It aimed to find out and analyze what kind of moral value in the *Gulliver's Travel* novel and the advantages of reading the novel. Researcher also takes a review from research developed by Afkarina & Mila (2019). It was studied about the personality of main character, So, based on the previous studies, the researcher combines those researches due to the absence of research article which puts moral value and psychoanalysis criticism in one place.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested to study about the existence of *man jadda wajada* concept in Alif Fikri's psychology development in *The Land of Five Towers* novel by combining the theories and the previous studies. This study is also expected to have benefits in various field. First, in the field of literature, this research could enrich the development of moral value and literary criticism study. The second, it hopefully could give

more knowledge about the importance of being hard working and controlling ego well, especially for students.

## RESEARCH METHOD

The aims of this study are to know how *man jadda wajada* implemented by the main character and the impact of the proverb to his psychology development. This research uses the theory conducted by Christopher Peterson and Martin E. P. Seligman (2004) to analyze the work of persistence value and Sigmund Freud's theory to analyze the psychological development, focusing on the process of psyche (1953). In collecting the data, the researcher read and highlighted the raw data from the digital novel, then organized it into tables of codes.

This research does not need numeric data analysis, because the researcher applies qualitative method that involve the forms of data collection, analysis, and interpretation that researcher proposes for the study. This research departs from social phenomena originating from novels, which are the data then raised to be tested and interpreted into the right meaning by using approach and some theories.

### Procedures

The procedure of the data collection is by downloading and reading the novel, and then highlighting and taking notes and make the data into raw data table, after that, the researcher should confirm the indicators by using the theory used below:

CRITERIA FOR	Strength of Courage										
	Fulfilling	Morally valued	Does not diminish	Nonfelicitous	Trait-like	Distinctiveness	Paragons	Prodigies	Selective absence	Institutions and	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	Tally
Bravery	X	X	X	X		~X	X	X	X	~X	9/10
Persistence	X	~X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	9/10
Integrity	X	X	X	X	~X	~X	X	X	X	X	10/10
Vitality	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	10/10
~ Somewhat satisfies criterion											

Christopher Peterson and Martin E. P. Seligman found six virtues owned by human being. These six virtues have 24 strengths. One of the virtues is courage and modesty. Based on the picture above, persistence, as one of the strengths, is the part of courage and modesty virtue. Based on the picture above, courage and modesty have ten criterions should be fulfilled.

Persistence strength has only nine characteristics. It could be seen from the calculation which shows 9/10. All the criterions or characteristics are satisfying for persistence except the distinctiveness. The "X" symbol means a "yes" or satisfy for each characteristic. It could be confirmed by the foot note under the table which is written "~ Somewhat satisfies criterion" The symbol ~ means somewhat or enough or moderately. So, the symbol ~X means the characteristic is satisfy enough for the strength and the "X" represents a satisfaction. To meet the persistence indicator, Christopher Peterson and Martin E. P. Seligman (2004) stated that

someone is of good character if he or she displays but one or two criterions within a virtue group. Thus, the data from the first research question found in the novel should fill at least three characteristics.

After confirming the data, the researcher would select and reduce the data into view categories based on the research questions. Later, these data are the data analyzed and interpreted in the discussion part. and the last part of this research is validating the data analyzed by using triangulation method, where the researcher was helped by 2 experts in each field.

### **Approach**

Approach of literature also known as literary criticism. In this study, the approach used is psychoanalysis criticism. Islam (2016) stated that psychoanalysis criticism is adopted from methods of reading employed by Freud as a psychiatrist and later theorists to interpret text. It indicates that this approach is derived from a knowledge used by human being in overcoming mental problems in real life.

Literary work as a psychological phenomenon is a psychiatric illustration portrayed by the characters' role. Jatman in Bedewoda (2015) explained that psychology and literary works have an indirectly close relationship. Psychology and literary work have the same one thing, it is the existence of human life. If psychology is something done real and could be seen in terms of behavior, while literary works is something done through an imagination. This research is going to analyze a novel, especially the personality of fictional character for both research questions, it emphasized fictional characters analysis of psychoanalysis criticism.

### **DATA ANALYSIS**

#### **The work of *man jadda wajada* concept or persistence implemented by the main character.**

As the main character in the novel *The Land of Five Towers*, Alif Fikri displays persistence or *man jadda wajada* concept by implementing seven key categories. These categories highlight different facets of persistence and are portrayed either by the main character own words or his description in many parts of the novel. Last, the following interpretation would elaborate how the main character portrays the concept by implementing seven values below:

#### ***Keep trying until the task is completed***

The implementation of *man jadda wajada* or persistence value is first displayed by portraying this characteristic. It is built by internal forces which resulting continuous efforts. Then, these continuous efforts produce satisfaction when the task is completed, it indicates a process of fulfilling. For instance, when Alif Fikri had mandatory subjects. He had to learn Arabic and English every day. He felt it is improbable. Because he had to be able to speak using both Arabic and English before his fourth month's life in *Pesantren Madani*. He was actually doubtful about his Kiai's utterance which stated that new students would be able to speak foreign languages within few months. But, because he had to obey the rules to comply with all the schedules that had been set, although he was doubtful, he dealt with it.

Later on, within his months learning foreign languages, he unconsciously expressed a complete sentence in Arabic when he is half awake in his sleep. Because of this, he believed that what Kiai Rais said was right, and all his persistence was paid off by his ability in speaking foreign languages. It proves that although he is in doubt and forced condition, after

study Arabic and English for gradually and continuously for three months, he was able to reach his goal. In conclusion, this set of events portrays fulfilling characterization.

Furthermore, the main character also portrays another perseverance when he was successful in gaining high scores in calligraphy class. This success was got from his inner desire that channeled by persistence. Because he liked calligraphy subject, he did all his hard work with pleasure. It made him having higher motivation than others. So, Alif Fikri had high ability to persist longer in writing calligraphy for hours more than others. Although this is not based on inner forced, but this continuous effort of him produced satisfaction which is the key of fulfilling characteristic.

### ***Being appreciated and admired***

This characteristic was indicated by the persistence of the main character that causes other's attention and compliment. The act of his achieving goal is not what to be admired. but, this characteristic points process-based. This external appreciation serves as both validation and motivation, reinforcing his continued effort.

An example is when he gave up on his tasks and go to sleep. He committed to read one more page, one more line, even one more word, he forced himself to finish his reading. With a struggle, he finally finished his reading. It represents morally valued by the fact that there was a possibility if other people knew what Alif Fikri did to finish this task, they would admire him. It's not about the result got by his effort, but the process he passed to finish it. His tenacity to persuading himself to keep reading is a remarkable extraordinary endeavor that not everyone could do. So, it deals whit morally valued characteristic.

One more example is when Alif Fikri had to be a substitute player in an official football match. The match was slippery at that time because of raining. The longer the match went on, the more players were taken off the field and replaced by substitutes player either because they were slipped or tickled. As a backup player in his team, this is Alif Fikri's first opportunity to show his ability. He was not truly skilled, but by being persistent, he could finish the match well.

He joined the match in a very crucial part. There was only five minutes left, but the score both teams was tight as two to two. So. Alif Fikri brought a huge responsibility on his shoulders from his team's hope. By this, he imagined in his mind that he was as agile as Maradona and as strong as Ruud Gullit. He baited his team striker in front of the goal. Although he never played in a match before, he is not as tall as other player, he also is not as good as other players' playing, and the field condition is worse because of the rain, but he gave his all and did his best to give a help his striker to score a goal.

He could barely pass the ball when he saw out of the corner of his eye that Tyson, the opponent's player, would snatch the ball from him by sliding it. However, Alif Fikri managed to kick the ball and the sliding of his opponent hit his calf. Finally, his team scored a goal in the last minutes and won the match. Thus, his truly dramatic effort which made the supporters supported and cheering on him.

### ***Doing endless efforts along with the negative value***

There always be people who are not trying, giving up, being lazy, and lost interest. This characteristic is focused on the hard work or persistence done to overcome the obstacle or negative values faced by the main character. Alif Fikri served his persistence by implementing this characteristic when his reading materials were stacked up on his head. He

had read it for days, but he could not finish it. He shows his efforts continuously in studying Arabic for his oral final exam in his sixth-grade examination. This characteristic is also indicated from him being ignoring the negative values in his studying. The existence of a pile of books in his desk that had been read by him for few days also shows his persistency. The books are his Arabic textbook which he learned from year one until year three. By the numbers of books and his effort to finish reading even it took several days, it indicates that he implemented the concept of *man jadda wajada*.

Along this time, Alif Fikri also had to do other activities due to his strict schedules, and there is a possibility he was being tired and sleepy. This condition stands for the obstacle he faced. But, in fact, no matter how difficult it could be, he kept trying.

### ***Having high self-motivation***

The main character experiences difficulties when he had to write pages using various calligraphy styles-both those that were taught and those hadn't been taught yet. He borrowed some reference books on calligraphy published both in Egypt and locally. He also prepared *qalam*-the special calligraphy pens-in various sizes. These set of actions were the consequence of his high motivation. Because of having higher motivation than other, his personal quality was also better. It made him thought that he should tried further than his friends. So, he did all the tasks above.

In the last sentence on the same paragraph with the narration above was also mentioned that the day when Alif Fikri did calligraphy exam was his most successful day because he did it with full enthusiasm. This is in line with the principle had by trait- like characteristic that the higher motivation had, the higher process and result gained.

In addition, Alif Fikri also portrays this value when he had to join additional classes, especially Arabic and English subjects. Alif Fikri shows additional effort in this section. He had already portrayed a trait-like act by following a regular class in the morning for six days a week to repair his Arabic and English, and he also joined other classes to explore his English and Arabic further in the evening class. These set of events show a longer persistence done by the main character, so this data satisfies trait-like criterion. The fact that not all of students had motivation as high as Alif Fikri and joined additional classes as he did, it supports Alif Fikri's high motivation in persistence.

### ***Being a Role Model***

This criterion indicates a role model or an exemplar. A tight persistence which made a big change causes people sees someone with this persistence as a role model. It shows that there is no such thing as an overnight success. A succeed results from hard work in longer time, lengthy process, and repeated experiments. This aspect demonstrates that persistence not only benefits the individual but also positively influences the community.

This concept is portrayed when the main character's desire to be the next speaker to deliver speech in front of MP's international guest was ignited. Becoming a Student Speaker is an honor. Every important guest that visited the *pesantren* was welcomed by the *Kiai*, teachers, and students. The Student Speaker was the representative to deliver a speech without reading a text. The speech could be in English or Arabic, in depended on where the guest from. In this opportunity. Alif Fikri's foolhardy efforts was done for a year. He was the result of selection and observation done by his teachers to be the best one to deliver a speech in front of the international guest. The repeated trial principle was portrayed implicitly by the

explanation given by the main character in the narration. He explained that finally his tense process was paid off. It indicates a non-stop trial he did. It also could be indicated by the processes he passed, those are Alif Fikri took every English speech and discussion opportunities as his steps to approach his goal, and the time he spent that explicitly mentioned that it took a year for Alif to gain his destination.

Furthermore, achieving goal to be a Student Speaker is a dream of every student in the *pesantren*, it proved that there was a possibility for every student to imitate the way Alif Fikri way of trying to be a student speaker and made him as their role model. So, based on these phases, Alif Fikri owned being a role model criterion.

### ***Depending on self***

This characteristic or criterion requires self-effort in doing beside a possibility in having easier choice by the help of others. This concept was implemented by Alif Fikri when he struggled with being a *jasus*. In this novel, being a *jasus* or a spy is a punishment. The main character had to collect two students' name who break the rules secretly within 24 hours. In this narration was mentioned that the main character only had three hours left to finish the task. The main character as the author himself by using first point of view tells us about his persistence which portrayed by doing more and gave all his best to do the punishment.

The criterion in this interpretation was shown as indicated that a self- effort beside a possibility in having easier choice by the help of others. Alif Fikri was offered a help by his friend, but he chose not to accept it. He believed about the value of *man jadda wajada* which leads him to finish his task all by himself

### ***Overcoming frustrating problems***

This criterion principled that an effort keeps done although in a way that lacks of quality or quantity required or an unsatisfactorily. This characteristic was displayed by the main character when he had to challenge himself to answer daily questions from his teachers by using Arabic in a class. With what little he knew, he answered. Even though he hadn't yet mastered grammar, he tried to use his vocabulary.

At that time, he and his friends were first year students which allowed to speak Indonesian but have to try using Arabic and English. In this case, the students and Alif Fikri speak in mixed languages but trying as best as they could in increasing the use of Arabic. In this criterion, this data could be interpreted as it shown in the data that Alif Fikri stated he and his friends hadn't mastered Arabic yet. This indicates the lack of Alif Fikri's ability in speaking Arabic. Nevertheless, he kept trying and did not give up. This idea means Alif Fikri satisfied the criterion.

Moreover, when Alif Fikri and his fellow organization members were being the journalists for an event in the boarding house. *Ustadz* Salman, the advisor of the organization who planned everything, hadn't anticipated how difficult it would be to produce a daily publication. Alif Fikri and friends weren't professional journalists, and on top of that, they still had classes and studies to focus on, while he had his own teaching responsibilities. Their schedules were packed, and the work consumed a great deal of their energy. The operation was called Flash 70 and the output is instant edition of Flash 70. This operation was designed for special events at MP's 70th birthday. Although the data only showed the obstacles he and his team faced, but it indicated a series of efforts they did.

Based on this research, Alif Fikri's most notable personality is his spirit. It is also proved by the current research which focused on the persistence as the attribute of moral value in the novel. Alif Fikri does not care about how hard the obstacle he faced, he would confidently pass it. He really is a positive boy. He obeys all the rules, does his best, counts on himself and God, and be a role model.

### **The impact of *man jadda wajada* concept of persistence value to the main character's personality development.**

The concept of *man jadda wajada*, which emphasizes persistence and continuous effort, plays a significant role in shaping the main character's personality. Through various challenges, this value becomes an internal principle that influences the way the character thinks, acts, and responds to obstacles. His development could be seen in the shift from indecisive, not confident, lacking discipline, less open to new experiences and reactive not proactive to be more mature, discipline, proactive, and persistent.

There are several data related to this objective of the study. *Man jadda wajada* concept affects the main character's personality development by controlling superego the most. Furthermore, *man jadda wajada* affects main character's psychology development by passing set of process involving id, ego, and superego. While doing the analysis of each data, the researcher would find which part of personality structure dominates the main character's mind by considering all the structures. By knowing the most dominated part, the researcher would find the result of the main character's personality development. However, the movement of the three parts of model of mind was presented the mental activity of the main character. Thus, to know the main character's development, the researcher provides the interpretation in the paragraph below.

In the beginning of his journey in the *pesantren*, the main character demonstrated *man jadda wajada* value through his action when He got a punishment to be *jasus*, a secret spy to search for rule breaker. The segment shows that Alif Fikri refused his friend help to seek for rule breaker. Here is the superego appeared. He thought that it would be unfair if his friends took part in the punishment he received. He also thought that he could do this task all by himself as long as he hold the proverb *man jadda wajada* which had been taught in the first day of his school in Madani *pesantren*. While the id of Alif Fikri wants to finish his task as soon as possible, because he was worried that he would receive another punishment.

The id wants him to be free from unpleasant. His ego supports id by leading him to finish his punishment by drawing a detailed route in his notebook and calculating the time he needed, so his three hours left fitted to his schedule. Finally, Alif Fikri decided to depend on himself while considering *man jadda wajada* in completing the task. It shows that superego is his most dominated part.

In one significant moment in the story, the character faces a major challenge when he wrote a commitment in his journal. He committed to whatever happened, a letter from Randai, his friend and foe, an attack from Tyson, his rival in futsal match, even the sky falling. He would not let himself shake his resolve and dreams. He wants to find the mission of his life that has been provided by God.

Alif's conviction about his future was always going ups and downs. This data was linked into another fragments of event. After he was attacked by a reality that Randai could go to

public school as he dreamed of but Alif Fikri ended up being a student in *pesantren* in rural Java. This fact made him uncomfortable and bothered his mind. This is when the id appeared, his desire to go to public school reappeared. He thought that his decision to join a *pesantren* is a wrong decision and it makes him unhappy.

The ego of Alif Fikri hold the id to stay longer in the *pesantren*. This time is his turning point of his future. At first, he is doubted that he could be a scientist, or manager, or even as simple as being a student in public university because he attended Islamic school. Finally, he found his belief and motivation that although he attended an Islamic school, he could be anything and would not be affected by negative elements from outside. He passed a process of contemplation on his brain which guided and influenced by the value of *man jadda wajada* or persistence. Based on the consideration above, this data shows superego as the personality structure which the most dominate the main character. It could be concluded that a strong desire changed from fear to be brave and confident. Alif Fikri, as someone who has a big desire and any difficulties had to face and dare to make it happen.

After facing challenges with his friends in publishing Flash 70, Alif Fikri faces another problem when he was aware of his individual weakness, He and Baso, his close friend, made a pact to do symbiotic mutualism. Alif was weak in memorizing but great in English subject and he wanted to increase his ability in memorizing, while Baso wants to repair his English that completed by *tajwid*, vibration, and *qalqalah* but great in memorizing. To resolve this problem, the id of Alif Fikri decided to add their study time before bed to study together by correct each other. By doing this, the id pleasure-base was satisfied.

The ego of Alif Fikri indicated as awareness of his deficiency in learning. So, the ego supports the id by agreeing its decision to conduct an additional study time. Although he had to sacrifice more time (superego), he was willing to do it in order to achieve his goal (id). Based on the indicators, this data showed the id as the personal structure which dominate the main character's mind the most.

A clear sign of the character's development influenced by *man jadda wajada* is also seen when he decides to make down a concrete plan to overcome an exam issue. First. He wanted to increase his prayers and worship. One of the exam wisdoms for him turned out to be becoming closer to Him. He was sure that the Lord promises that if we ask of Him, it would be answered.

Moreover, Alif used to live in bustle in studying. So, by this habit, he determined to give his all by planning the steps he would do to increase his result in examination. Here is when the id appeared. Because he wanted to get better score in his next exam (id), he thought the best to do was set a plan to get it (ego). And the plan was coupled with his belief on the proverb *man jadda wajada* that everything he planned and did would meet its meant (superego).

Furthermore, the examination in this data is quite different with the previous examination faced by Alif Fikri. The examination in this data were oral and written and it was not served in Indonesian. Alif Fikri felt that all subjects were a struggle. Finally, he decided to set a planning to overcome this problem. Instead of giving up and doing nothing, he organized some steps to afford his effort by believing the work of *man jadda wajada* or persistence value (superego). Based on the indicators, this data shows superego as the personal structure which dominate the main character.

Based on the data above, it shows that *man jadda wajada* in affecting Alif fikri's psychology development controlling the superego the most. And it passed a set of process which involving id, ego, and superego at once. Moreover, most of the data show that superego controlled his mind the most. It indicates that Alif Fikri is successful in maintaining and developing his psyche or personality.

## DISCUSSION

### **The work of *man jadda wajada* concept or persistence implemented by the main character.**

The result of the analysis confirms that *man jadda wajada*, as a central value in the novel *The Land of Five Towers* is more than a motivational phrase. It is deeply implemented in the main character's behavior and choices. Based on the analysis, Alif Fikri portrays it by owning seven identified categories over nine characteristic which displayed in various behaviors. These seven values are owned by persistence strength based on Peterson's and Seligman's theory.

This various persistence is portrayed in different forms. Such as internal motivation, consistent actions that reflect commitment, and also willingness to be a better version of self. Alif Fikri does not simply hard work, but he also continues to work in the middle of difficulty, with much limitation in resources, recognition, and comfort. He even put more efforts than another people. It shows that he basically has a good quality as both student and human being. But with the support of *man jadda wajada*, helps Alif Fikri in facing all the boundaries better and more meaningful.

Furthermore, these categories of tenacity do not stand alone, they intertwine to form a cohesive portrait of a character shaped by the mindset of *man jadda wajada*. This concept is revealed as a driving force in Alif Fikri's personal journey, one that not only drives success but also integrity, independence, and personal growth. In this way, the novel positions tenacity not only as a tool for achievement, but as a moral foundation for character formation.

In a boarder sense, this also reflects the novel's educational and cultural message, that success is not the result of privilege, but a consistent effort and a clean vision. *Man jadda wajada* is not only implemented by Alif Fikri, but widely portrayed by all the students. But specifically, the way Alif Fikri executed the proverb is beyond great and beautiful. His embodiment of this concept also suggests that literature could effectively reflect and promote core values, particularly within the context of Islamic and Indonesian education culture.

### ***The development of the main character's personality trough man jadda wajada concept.***

The result of the analysis confirms *man jadda wajada* or persistence value is impactful to the main character's character development. The work of *man jadda wajada* proverb affects the main character's personality development by controlling the id, ego, and superego both consciously and unconsciously. It could be indicated by the structure movement when Alif Fikri faced certain conditions in his life. As when he met his turning point for his future. the id of Alif Fikri was strong, but due to his contemplation, thinking again about his future and resetting his intention to stay in *pesantren* (ego) to become a sincere and taught students (superego), he decided to give his all, find and gain the mission or idea that God ordained for him (superego).

The findings of this research reveal that the main character undergoes a significant personality development, influenced by the internalization of the *man jadda wajada* principle. From being hesitant and uncertain before joining the *pesantren*, he gradually evolves into a self-driven and resilient individual during the process of studying in the *pesantren*. These findings answer the research question by showing how *man jadda wajada* is not only a repeated motto in the novel, but a shaping force that impacts the protagonist's way of thinking and acting. His personality changes are not instant, but emerge through repeated challenges that allow the value of persistence to be internalized.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the research findings and discussions related to the work of *man jadda wajada* concept or persistence value and its impact to the main character's psychology development, two conclusions could be drawn. The first conclusion is concerned on the implementation of *man jadda wajada* concept or persistence value. And the second conclusion is related to the impact of the concept to the main character's psychology development.

### ***The work of man jadda wajada concept or persistence implemented by the main character.***

In this study, the result was expected to examine the work of *man jadda wajada* value. And based on the interpretation above, it could be concluded that the main character implement persistence value or *man jadda wajada* concept by displaying several key aspects including self-motivation, consistent effort, self-reliance, and the ability to inspire others. These actions reflect a deeply internalized commitment to the principle of perseverance. Furthermore, this persistence influences his personal development in multiple dimensions including mentally, emotionally, morally, socially, and in terms of self-identity. He evolves from a hesitant and uncertain individual into a confident, independent, and visionary young man.

In conclusion, *man jadda wajada* is not only a motivational slogan in the novel, but a transformational value that shapes the protagonist's journey toward maturity. This research contributes to understanding how literary characters reflect and promote cultural values through their development. Thus, by having the qualities, Alif Fikri implements the concept of *man jadda wajada* or persistence. It indicates that in many parts of the data, Alif Fikri is described as someone with full of persistence.

### ***The development of the main character's personality trough man jadda wajada concept.***

The researcher concluded that *man jadda wajada* as the proverb hold by the main character affects his personality development by controlling the id, ego, and superego both consciously and unconsciously. Furthermore, it gives big impact to his superego, It indicates that Alif Fikri has been already succeed in developing his personality from the selfish one becoming a wiser person.

The superego is the most affected part of the model of mind structure. Thus, Alif Fikri who being half-hearted in doing his school life in *pesantren* was able to survive by holding strong the proverb *man jadda wajada* and graduated from *pesantren* with proud and pleasure. He no more had regret left in his heart, even the four years of his life in *pesantren* had been his best experience he ever had.

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