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Faith and Love Courage Human Faithful Heart in Api Tauhid
A Novel by Habiburrahman El-Sirazi

by

Muhammad Nasir

e-mail: cutsir@yahoo.com

Fakultas Psikologi UIN Ar-Raniry

Jl.Ar-Raniry Darussalam, Banda Aceh 23111

Abstract

The importance of faith for a person is not only to gain for the heaven and avoid the hell, but rather to establish the religion of Allah, although it must be fought against various trials and challenges. So it is with love, because love is the gift from God given to His slave, even the love was burning like the fire. Here is how writer would describe in this paper about a synergy between faith for God and love for God that can be run hand in hand. Then, faith here meant the determination of a man who has the knowledge, especially religious knowledge because by this knowledge of a man will be able to control his emotions and the slander spread by others. Therefore, the writer used a religious perspective in assessing the synergy between love and faith, as portrayed El-Sirazy in his great work. It is like the sides of a coin that cannot be separated from each other because of strong fastener chain of love and sense of belonging to one another or to the Creator. This means that the courage of a man against his loved one is almost the same as the firmness of his faith for his God.

Keywords: Faith, Love and Courage

*I love you neither with my heart nor my mind
Just in case the heart may stop, the mind my forget
I love you with my soul, soul never stop and forget*
Rumi,

Synopsis

Novel *Api Tauhid* (the Fire of Divine Unity) is a romance novel and history. This romance novel tells about the story of a young man struggles originally from Lumajang, East Java, called Fahmi. He and some of his colleagues like Ali, Hamza and Subki, studying at the Islamic University of Madinah.

In a way, Fahmi had to face a situation that is quite complicated, in domestic affairs. Fahmi was troubled. All the problems happened to him was never expressed to all his friends.

His anxious that he shed a way by i'tikaf in Masjid Nabawi, Medina, for 40 days to finished memorizing Al-Qur'an as much as 40 times. Unfortunately, his efforts were only able to be done for 12 days. Entering the days that followed, Fahmi fainting. He was unconscious, and had to be taken to hospital.

His friends worried about the moody condition and not cheerfully at all. His friend Hamza who came from Turkey invited him for a trip to Turkey. Hamza hope, Fahmi could forget galanya during periods in Turkey later.

For this reason, Hamza invited him to trace the struggle of Said Nursi, a great scholar from the village of Nurs. The prominent cleric and mostly known to have an awesome reputation in the country.

Shaikh Said Nursi has been able to memorize 80 books of works of classical scholars at the age of just turned 15 years old. Not only that, Said Nursi only takes two days to memorize Al-Qur'an. It's amazing. Because of that ability, teacher, Muhammed Emin Efendi gave him the nickname 'Bediuzzaman' (Age Miracle).

The privileged Nursi makes the envy of friends and relatives. He was regarded as an enemy. However, Said Nursi unyielding. All served boldly and gracefully. Not only his

colleagues and relatives are envious and jealous of his ability, but great scholars also feel threatened. The existence of Said Nursi made the people turn away. They idolized Said Nursi.

The Turkish government was worried. Because, Said Nursi always able to face the challenges of people who are hostile to it. He always beat them in debate.

No less sense, government officials have been quietly trying to get rid of it. Either by way drove to a remote area, and put him in prison. He also had to deal with the Sultan Hamid II to Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, in the early days of World War I.

Over the last 25 years in prison, instead of grieving, he even feeling proud. Then, he found the divine eternal light. He found the fire of Tauhid. And through study groups taught, either in mosques or in prison, his students always disseminate it to the public. Either by means of rewriting messages or by multiplies the minutes of preaching. His students successfully encapsulate Said Nursi propaganda message with the title Treatise Nur. His students do not wanted, The Fire Tauhid waged Said Nursi ends.

The 573 pages thick novel is a biography novel of a major Turkish cleric, Said Nursi Bediuzzaman. A genius who memorized about 80 books in the teen years. A historical novel that tells the struggle of Said Nursi, with a variety of events behind the collapse of the last of the Ottoman caliphate, which changed the face of history and political map of the world until now.

Introduction

The above story of the novel occupies a fairly important position in the history of Islamic civilization. The history of Islamic literature and Islamic literature cannot be separated from the development of Indonesian literature. Therefore, some of the texts is the sacred language of Islam and the Quran. The author uses a few Arabic words because Arabic language in its classical form or shape Quran able to meet the needs of religious, literary, artistic and other formal shape. Qutb (1985) insisted that we are all human beings are always kind thought in the face of acts of God. We did not prejudice that Allah has implemented a destiny that requires the destruction of mankind. So that no other choice except Islam "(p.261). This corresponds to what have been done by Fahmi and Bediuzzaman in *Api Tauhid*, they were both struggled for Islam as the religion of Allah.

As leaders of Muslim background, it is hard for Fahmi and Nursi to forget the Quran because a lot of the knowledge they gained in this holy book, such as Dinas (2011) found that in the Qur'an it is known that Islam has the concept of aqidah and shariah, these two will not work if it is not implemented and realized. The Quran clearly asserts that the aqidah is closely related to faith, and sharia is associated with good deeds. P.45. Ali Fauzi also stated the same thing that Ali-Fauzi (2015) explains that "Muslims believe that the Quran is the holy book because it is the word of God (*kalam Allah*)" (p.217).

In analyzing the work, the writer uses descriptive analysis method as suggested by the critic like Kutha (2012) saw the study was conducted with descriptive analyzes which describe the facts that relevant to analysis, the analysis here means decipher in order to provide sufficient explanation for the reader.P.53

Further, the literary work is a part of Islamic studies because a lot of interesting things found in it as it was said by Ahmed (1994) "...Islamic studies was largely the exotic focus of a relatively small group of academics who wrote books about it mainly for one another's consumption. Many of these intellectuals were based in the West, and few of these were Muslims. This has been changing, partly in response to the fact that the lives of many ordinary Muslims have been changing, and partly as a reflection of the equally dramatic change taking place in the world more generally" (p.1).

Finally, why the work is interesting to discuss here because this work not only concern on the journey of the main character but also inserts the meanings of love that man needs both

love toward God and love of the man. Philips (2016) says that "love is as shown by the Prophet Muhammad, holy and beloved, is preceded human love for the one true God. A Hadith indicates that God's loving care human bagiumat lebbih even greater than the affection of a mother for her child "(p.198). Besides, also when we talk about love many expressions of love rooted in the Quran then when a Muslim wants to say and tell the feeling of falling in love should always based on love word in the Quran. Dhauoadi (1996) explained that "it is estimated that about one-sixth of the Quranic text deal directly or indirectly with the theme of science/knowledge. Its use of the verb takes different forms and tenses. That is the Quranic verses dealing with the issue of science/knowledge use the past, the present and future tenses of the Arabic verb 'alima, to know" (p. 218).

Discussion

The analysis of this novel focuses on the two main character while conducting their activity, and most of the activity concerning their relationship with the Devine by the aim to go to the right path. In accordance with this line, the writer will devide into three criteria such as:

The importance of faith in upholding the religion of Allah

As a pious person, Fahmi always conducts the prayer in the mosque in order to have the most reward from Allah. Before and after performing shalat he mostly memorizes the holy book to get the cool and the peace of heart, and he does this activity repeatedly during the day and night. One day he dicided to finish the holy book for fourty times ending and he stayed longer in the mosque until falling down to floor and taken to the hospital as stating in the following:

It's been seven days and seven nights he stayed in Nabawi mosque. Day and night he brazing himself soluble by *munajab* and *taqarrub* to the Divine ... he sat cross-legged facing the Qiblah. His eyes were closed as his mouth kept muttering verses of the holy Quran. P.1

He did this activity because he wanted to be closed to Allah, to be loved by Allah in order to be in *Jannah* after dying and this is the part of his faith and belief. As part of the belief, he should, therefore, recognize that Allah does what He wills for reasons that are only known to Him. Any attempt to comprehend the wisdom of it all using our limited faculties, or to understand how our current situation fits in His overall plan can only lead us to erroneous conclusions resulting in increased frustrations .

Fahmi, as a Muslim, should accept Allah's Decree both as it manifests itself around him and in his lives. It should be a relief to him that only Allah is the master of our destiny and he is only going to be tested about whether he reacted to what befalls as true believer and Mu'min, i.e. being patient in adversity and grateful in prosperity.

A strong faith can keep Fahmi focused on the fact that Allah alone ultimately controls all destinies and has power over all things. Remembering that fact alone at the moment of affliction can help him in conquering the pain and provide him hope and the energy to keep moving forward after staying in the hospital for days. Believe in Islam is his faith in Allah, and by believe in Allah he will be saved in the world and in Judgment Day. So, that why Fahmi said that "Religion is the heart torch, while science is the torch of civilization sense. p.305

As a believer he should recognize that only Allah's Grace and Mercy can deliver him from challenging situations. Namely, the condition while he was memorizing the holy book seven days and nights to rush for fourty endings. Different from Syeikh Badiuzzaman, he tried to deliver the religion of Allah to the whole Turkey without caring who and what they are. His spirit was to be died in Allah way or jihad fi sabilillah in order to be in the heaven of Allah.

So, when the authority in Turkey blamed and requested him not provoke the community to be involve with his member, to hear his sermon or speech. However, Badiuzzaman never stop his activity by conducting sermon, teaching and recitation the holy Quran for his people, old and young generation eventhough he would be jailed. And he is brave enough to say “If I had a thousand lives, I am ready to sacrifice everything for the sake of defending the truth of the Shari'a. Since, it is the source of happiness and prosperity, true justice and virtue. BUT NOT THE WAY TO BE TAKEN BY rebels and rioters! P.366

This means that he knows from the Quran that when he remembers Allah in good times, Allah will help him in tough times. He learns that lesson from the story of Prophet Yunus (A.S.) when he was swallowed by a whale. Out of His mercy, Allah finally relieved him out of that calamity. Finally, this cannot be forgotten what Allah told us the following in the Quran: “Say: ‘Nothing shall ever happen to us except what Allah has ordained for us. He is our Maula (Lord, Helper and Protector).’ And in Allah let the believers put their trust” Quran (Surah Taubah: 51).

Here, faith in the context of religion is very defining for a person, like Fahmi and Badiuzzaman. It places the person in a belief system that develops into a way of life and provides its own unique system of logic to explain the phenomena of life around us. Faith in God (ALLAH) enables humans to be thankful for the blessings they enjoy, and to be patient in times of difficulty, for they believe that nothing can happen without His will. Faith in the Divine Being also prompts people to be more in tune with their souls and to maintain a constant connection through prayer, supplication, and reflection. Ultimately, faith enables them to develop a deeper vision, one which goes beyond the sight of their eyes and the signals of their minds. As he said “God is a God that should not be existed same and equal. And there is no god except Allah. That is the doctrine of monotheism throughout the prophets of Allah”. p.79 In Islam we called this faith (iman) the things which one must believe.

Love and Faith in Allah

When talking about love and faith for a real Muslim a little bit difficult because most of them think that love is appropriate with Quran and Islamic concept. Islam according to the Quran teaches love and compassion for every human being, no matter their religion. He believes the problem for the majority of Muslims is that some groups are following traditions and superstitions invented centuries after the Quran was first sent and the Prophet lived, and these have gotten more radical over time. That's what makes Fahmi's friends pray for him by saying “O Allah with our love for the prophet, and with our love for the martyrs of Uhud, give healing to our beloved brother, Fahmi. P.13

The values of the Qur'an hold a Muslim responsible for treating all people, whether Muslim or non-Muslim, kindly and justly, protecting the needy and the innocent and “preventing the dissemination of mischief”. Mischief comprises all forms of anarchy and terror that remove security, comfort and peace.

In acknowledgment of this fact, as Muslims, Fahmi and Badiuzzaman have an inner love and compassion for people of all faiths, races and nations, for they consider them as the manifestations of God in this world and treat them with an heartfelt respect and love. This is the very basis of communities administered by Islamic morality. As Nursi said “Al-Quran is a revelation of Allah, I prove and demonstrate to the world that the Quran is like the sun which will not be extinguished light. Al-Quran will not be able to destroy by them. P293

Through this statement, Nursi wanted the Governor to build a madrasah, and all madrasah must be able to teach reciting the Quran and scientific knowledge. By understanding the content of the Quran, they will love the Quran and strengthen their faith. Hence, faith is first mentioned as a necessary component of achieving Love for God. It is misplaced when feelings for created things, or beings, causes a diversion from focusing on the

Conscious Reality that created all. The Conscious Reality that sustains all. Faith is the decision of the believer to worship that which is unseen and un-seenable in this life.

In the end, Fahmi as a hafidh of 30 juz attacked by the former husband of Aysel because he tried to protect this lady and put him in the container in order to be eaten by dogs. However, he realized that he believes that nothing can happen to him since Allah always care for him and said "O Allah, I memorize your holy book solely for Your good pleasure. Do you allow the flesh and blood which are used to memorize Your holy book is eaten by dogs. O Allah I begged for the honor of Your holy book, O Allah. p.537

The knowledge of the Qur'an is the knowledge of tawhîd (divine unity). In this instance, rahmah may also mean the tawhîd of the Wâhid, the One. Access to Him is through the knowledge of His decree, which is the Book. Creation took place according to the decree. The bayân is an outcome of the nature of that creation.

The Relationship between Love and Faith

The relationship between love and faith for Fahmi cannot be separated since he proposes the prayer to Allah. He stayed and itikaf in Nabawi mosque while memorizing the holy book and he decided not to stop his itikaf before finishing the whole Quran forty times. By doing this, he hopes that he can forget his wife (his love), and forgetting seven second kissing on her lips. Itikaf is part of faith, through itikaf sadness will be loosen because he wants to fight his pure shining love of his wife closely joined with the best shining love, namely the love for Divine, and says the Prayer of prophet Yacob "*asyku batstsi wa Inna khuzni ilallah*" I complain only to Allah distress and grief. P.68

As a pious young man who stayed far away from his wife always try to avoid meeting with other women directly even when he meets Ernel and Aysel in the villa and in the hotels while making a tour in Turkey. One way to avoid making sin, he always recites the following prayer:

Allahumma ajirna min syarrin nisa'

Allahumma ajirna min balaa in nisa'

Allahumma ajirna min fitnatin nisa'

Allahumma ajirna min adzabil kabri

Allahumma ajirna min adzabil yaumil qiamah p.113

By reciting this prayer without realizing repeatedly, he will be safe from the woman, persuade and deceive from woman, woman detractor, grave and judgment day tortouring. This is happened because he still dreamed about Nuzula, she is the only love he has, and his love is rooted in the sanctity and always bear blessing. Fahmi drip is started from the sanctity of love between Siti Hajar and Ibrahim. All the prophets and servants of Allah were elected based on the sanctity of love. He said "that most deserves to be loved is love itself, and the most feasible for hostility is hostility itself. P.374

What happened to Fahmi is humanistic because his love to Nuzula and Nuzula to him is a human feeling that comes from nature created by Allah SWT in the human soul, which is the tendency to the opposite sex when it has reached the maturity of mind and physique.

This act of divine love works to reconcile all humanity with God and bind them together in a close relationship of love through the educative and inculcative effect of miraculously chosen words that are still accessible to everybody; and often a relationship built on the basis of proper education is far more secure than one based on a totally incomprehensible mystical belief founded on a myth.

According to Islam, God's love and mercy have always been available to him, from the creation of Adam through his rise to consciousness until the Last Day for humanity in this temporary, yet purposive, existence.

In Islam a believer's relationship with God begins with a consciousness of God who is always present. It starts with remembrance of Him (zikr); it is inculcated and maintained by acts of devotion such as the regular daily prayers (salah), pilgrimage to Makka, fasting and reciting on rosary the praises of God (tasbih). When a person becomes conscious of His ever-presence, he turns for His support and help whenever he needs some, which is often. He is fully assured that God hears him when he calls upon Him. [It is like a constant and direct connection between the self and the Reality].

Fahmi and Badiuzzaman as the main character in the novel able to keep and stay patient in their hard times because of faith and feel of love they have. One of the best remedies for tough times is to be patient. A state of patience requires that we not resort to complaining, and remember Allah often. We take this lesson from the story of Prophet Yousuf (A.S.) who went through various ordeals in life only to be rewarded with a large kingdom in his later years.

Conclusion

Based on the above explanation, it can be concluded that the two the characters in the story show their love and faith in God are exceptional. The difference between them only on the side of love with a human as real love, such as Fahmi managed to get her love Nuzula as the companion for his life with the power of faith he had because he always submits to the divine. While Sheikh Bediuzzaman, is almost never shown as the man who gets a wife, but only as Sufis and enforcement religion of Allah in various conditions until the end of his life. Finally, if someone so loves something then let his/her body and soul, he/she gives for that something. Similarly, the love of one person he loved, he had to give everything to those he loved, and not the opposite.

If he/she can not give *Muhabba* - love into the hearts, then he cannot connect from one world to another world. His goal is to make people love each other. Not may people love each other without the love of God. Only within a single lane can be shared. No jealousy, hatred, and enmity among them. When someone meets with others in the ocean of Divine Love is not possible to feel jealousy, hate, hostility, and envy.

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