

# Religiosity Representation in Sore Band's Song Lyrics Tatap Berkalam

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## ABSTRACT

### Keywords

Representation  
Semiotics  
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This study examines the representation of religiosity in the lyrics of the song "Tatap Berkalam" by Sore Band. In this study, the qualitative method is interpretive with data analysis techniques using text analysis with a semiotic approach. Sources of data obtained from primary data directly from the object of research and secondary data from various supporting references. The music itself has many essential elements, such as arrangement, composition, instruments, and lyrics, which can represent a view of society. The song face to face also represents how one's life journey is to get closer to God. The result obtained is that religiosity in the song is described as a manifesto of life spoken by God Almighty.

## 1. Introduction

Music is the art of arranging sound to form an orderly and regular melodic pattern produced by the human voice and musical instruments. Music contains several elements, such as melody, rhythm, harmony, and timbre (Syukur, 2005). So, music is soundly placed in a particular space and time concerning the sequence, combination, and temporal relationship of sounds and patterns of silence to express ideas, emotions, and moods.

Music is a medium that is universal and very complex. In music, key elements, such as arrangements, composition, instruments, and lyrics, have their meaning. Various experiences, feelings, and phenomena can be expressed through the lyrics. Jan Van Luxemburg defines lyrics as a verse or a poem, or it could be a prayer. Lyrics are verbal signs created by humans that can represent captured signs supported by visuals, symbols, and metaphors. Humans are creatures that know how to react to their physical environment and their signs/symbols (L. Rivers & Peterson., 2003).

In practice, the majority of the scene in Indonesia is still dominated by bands or pop-Malay; each song is the theme of love. Many musicians are furious about it and consider it because they think music is only used as a field for profit and popularity without regard to quality. Musicians who don't want to be mainstream and only sell these goods are considered independent musicians (indie). Indie musicians produce and promote their music without being tied to a major label. They feel that music is a creative work that is independent, free, and not mainstream (Fajri, 2014).

Talking about indie band, it only feels right if we talk about the Sore Band. This band from Jakarta was founded in 1995 by; Ade Paloh (guitar, vocals), Awan Garnida (bass, vocals), and Bemby Gusti (vocals, drums). Groups by genre folk are identical to the touch of sound that is heard as catchy and modern. Sore is one of the bands that often bring issues about social reality into people's lives. Until now, Sore has produced three major albums, namely Centralismo (2005), Ports of Lima (2008), and Los Skut Leboys (2013).

Tatap Berkalam is one of the songs on Sore's third album, which incorporates religious values . Religiosity is seen as a relationship between humans and God through spiritual teachings that have

been integrated into a person and are reflected in his attitudes and behavior (Ros Mayasari, 2014). Meanwhile, according to Islam, the main manifestation of religiosity is that a person can feel inwardly the presence of God, the apocalypse, and other religious components (Daradjat, 1995). The purpose of this study was to determine the representation of religiosity in the song "Tatap Berkalam" by Sore. Representation itself is a process of producing meaning through language (Hall, 1997:15). Where in the lyrics of the song, religiosity is shown in the form of searching for the meaning of life by surrendering and self-reflection to God.

Neng Tika Harnia had time to research the meaning of love, mentioning that love is openness in a relationship so that both partners can fill the spaces between the two. Although sometimes, the end of a relationship does not match expectations (Harnia, 2021). Meanwhile, in Clarissa Aulia Praharsacitta, Silvia Damayanti, and I made Budiana's research on the meaning of the song Sakura, it was stated that in Japan, the word sakura is commonly used to express deep sadness at being left by someone valuable, such as a friend, partner, family, and others (Praharsacitta, Damayanti, Budiana, 2016). There is also research from Henny Sri Kusumawati, Nuryani Tri Rahayu, and Dwi Fitriana about the meaning of the song Rembulan which states that the moon is an idiom that describes the beauty of a woman. But on the other hand, the moon symbolizes loyalty despite many obstacles (Kusumawati, Rahayu, Fitriana, 2019). In contrast to the previous research, the focus of this research is on the Sore song entitled "Tatap Berkalam" which tries to describe the relationship of religiosity between humans and God. Where this is shown through the metaphors in the lyrics of the song.

## 2. Method

This study uses a qualitative interpretive method to obtain in-depth data, namely data that emphasizes meaning rather than generalization (Sugiyono, 2005). In this study, the researcher used Roland Barthes' semiotics to reveal the meaning of the Sore song Tatap Berkalam. Roland Barthes is one of the figures who developed Saussure's concept of semiotics. Barthes' semiotics has two signified forms: denotation, connotation, and myth (Fiske, 2007: 118-120).

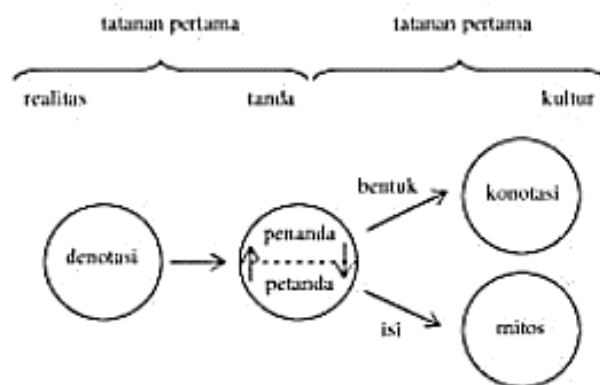


Fig. 1. Roland Barthes Signification

Later, the researcher will use primary data sources obtained directly from the object of research in the form of Sore's song lyrics Tatap Berkalam and secondary data taken from various references such as books, the internet, literacy, and previous research on semiotic studies. Then in data analysis, researchers used text analysis. Data analysis will be carried out through several stages as follows:

1. Looking for song lyrics and video clips of Sore Band's Tatap Berkalam
2. Dissecting song lyrics into parts and observing the signs in them
3. Analyze and interpret the symbols found in the lyrics of the song Tatap Berkalam
4. Make conclusions from the analysis data

### 3. Result and Discussion


In this section, the researcher will present the results of his research on the representation of religiosity in the lyrics of the song "Tatap Berkalam" by Sore Band using Roland Barthes' semiotics. In this study, researchers will dissect the lyrics of the song Tatap Berkalam and look for denotation, connotation, and mythical meanings. The results obtained from the analysis of the representation of religiosity in the lyrics of the song "Tatap Berkalam" by Sore are as follows.

**Table 1.** Verse I and Video Clips

Song Lyrics	Video Clip
Sang kelana tertatih mengasuh lara yang menganga Di hati yang berkicau menjarah luka Gulana menyimpulkan keriangsan yang terasa Berjarak menjauh dari binasa	

In verse 1 of the lyrics of the song Tatap Berkalam, the meaning of the denotation is explained through how people who believe in God will be faced with difficulties and feel anxiety within themselves but must still try to be comforted and grateful. This is shown by a video clip where a builder wipes his sweat while continuing his work. Meanwhile, the connotative meaning obtained is in the form of feelings of anxiety and wanting to give up that are experienced by people who are migrating when given difficulties by God, but on the other hand, they must remain firm in their stance and always be grateful for whatever they feel. From the denotation and connotation meanings obtained, there is a myth where religiosity is considered a form of people's efforts to know themselves and get closer to their God. But on the way to God, he will be faced with various tests given by God according to his abilities as God's word in QS. Al-Baqarah verse 155.

**Table 2.** Verse II and Video Clips

Song Lyrics	Video Clip
Mengalungkan anugerah Bersanding di arus bulan Terang berkabunglah duka Jelas berkaca asa	

The meaning of the denotation in verse 2 of the lyrics of the song "Tatap Berkalam" describes how He gives grace on a night full of sorrow and sadness but still has hope. This is shown by a video clip where a hand writes the word "Anugerah" on a white paper. Then the connotative meaning obtained is that the writer wants to convey that God will give gifts to people who consistently perform prayer at night even though they are sad. The myth in verse 2 of the song Tatap Berkalam is also explained in QS. Al-Isra 'verse 79 that whoever prays at part of the night, God will raise (his degree) to a commendable place. In the last third of the night, it is believed that God sent his angel to descend to earth and record his servants who were praying to Him.

**Table 3.** Verse III and Video Clips

Song Lyrics	Video Clip
Yang melumat raga di muara hitam yang sesatkan Segenap suka	

The denotation meaning of verse 3 of the song Tatap Berkalam explains about saving men from the darkness filled with fleeting happiness. This is shown by the video clip where a straight road is stepped on with bare feet. Then the author wants to convey the connotative meaning that God will guide believers in the form of a path to goodness and keep them away from all forms of evil. The myth presented in verse 3 is that God will also always elevate and give instructions in the form of a straight path for those who believe in him by keeping him away from the momentary happiness of the world and the torments of hellfire.

**Table 4.** Verse IV and Video Clips

Song Lyrics	Video Clip
Tanda berkalam Dia bersanding alam	

In verse 4 of the lyrics of the song Tatap Berkalam, the meaning of the denotation obtained is that the author explains the command to do good because He is always near us. This is shown by a video clip showing a balanced scale between rice and mobile phones. The connotative meaning meant to be conveyed is that God gives the word to all his people to always have faith and always do well because God is the ruler of this world and the hereafter. This follows the myth that doing good is part of faith and a form of religiosity. As stated in QS. An-Nisa' verse 136 contains the word of God to continue to believe in Allah and His Messenger, as well as in the Al-Qur'an and the books that were revealed before.

In this research on the representation of religiosity in the lyrics of the song Tatap Berkalam, religiosity is described as a person's journey to get closer to his God. In an effort to get closer, a person will be tested to be more accepting of himself and always be patient. If, according to Dads' research, religiosity is gratitude to the Creator, then in the lyrics of the song "Tatap Berkalam" by Sore Band, religiosity is represented through a construction worker who always works hard and surrenders as an effort to get closer to God.

#### 4. Conclusion

Music is a complex universal communication medium because it can convey information from the songwriter (communicator) to the listener (communicant) (Shuker, 1998). As a communication medium, in music, there are song lyrics that can contain protests, messages, ideas, or ideas. Roland Barthes also argues that readers can interpret music based on the realm of the reader's understanding.

When the reader can produce a new text arrangement from the elements in it, then the reading is considered successful (Barthes, 1978:155).

Sore Band, through the song Tatap Berkalam also wants to communicate to the listeners how we humans should make God the foundation of our lives. The depiction of religiosity in the lyrics of the song is shown by the patience of people who are emigrating, surrendering themselves to God for all their difficulties. He knows that God will always provide guidance to his faithful people and will not give trials beyond the ability of his people. By being patient, he believes that God will raise his rank and save him both in this world and the hereafter. Because, in truth, religiosity is a manifesto of life that God Almighty has spoken.

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