



# The Connotative Meaning of Song Lyrics of “*Perjalanan Menjaring Matahari*” and “*Ketegaran Hati Seorang Pengemis dan Anaknya*” by Ebiet G. Ade

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**Abstract.** Ebiet G. Ade has his own notable style in creating songs lyrics. His songs are not only pleasant to the ears, but also contain consequential meaning. The purpose of this research is to analyse the meaning behind the lyrics of “*Perjalanan Menjaring Matahari*” and “*Ketegaran Hati Seorang Pengemis dan Anaknya*” produced by Ebiet G. Ade. The data are compiled using observation method by discovering through listening to the songs provided on Youtube. This research uses two songs with the title “*Perjalanan Menjaring Matahari*” and “*Ketegaran Hati Seorang Pengemis dan Anaknya*” as the subjects. The song lyrics fragments contain connotative meaning. To analyse the data, this research uses the semantic theory. The finding reveals that “*Perjalanan Menjaring Matahari*” contains implicit meaning about life of a boy who tries to get up from his misery. It is reflected in a lingual unit such as perjalanan kelam, aku harus jadi lelaki, yang seutuhnya lelaki, matahari, rembulan purnama, bintang-bintang berpijar, debur ombak, aku lebur dengan langit, aku lebur dengan bumi, dan perjalanan diam. “*Ketegaran Hati Seorang Pengemis dan Anaknya*” contains implicit meaning about resilience of a father facing the struggle of life, always be grateful, not giving up easily, and reflected in a lingual unit such as yaitu terik matahari, lapar, dahaga, keringat, jemari yang kurus, kristal kehidupan, dan mungkin yang buat kita masih tersimpan di surge, menunggu kita siap menerima.

**Keywords:** Connotation Meaning, Song Lyrics, “*Perjalanan Menjaring Matahari*”, and “*Ketegaran Hati Seorang Pengemis Dan Anaknya*”

## 1 Introduction

Ebiet G. Ade has a distinct style in creating song lyrics. His songs are not only pleasant to hear but also rich in meaning. Ebiet G. Ade frequently employs poetic and beautiful language [1]. In composing lyrics, Ebiet pays close attention to the meanings conveyed in his songs, evident in each song he wrote, which is filled with profound meanings and positive messages [2]. This is also reflected in his composition of songs like "Perjalanan Menjaring Matahari" and "Ketegaran Hati Seorang Pengemis dan Anaknya" found in the album "Menjaring Matahari". These lyrics often utilize linguistic units containing connotative meanings. Based on this background, the issue addressed in this study is to explore the connotative meanings embedded in the lyrics of "Perjalanan Menjaring

Matahari" and "Ketegaran Hati Seorang Pengemis dan Anaknya" by Ebiet G. Ade. The purpose of this research is to elucidate the connotative meanings present in these song lyrics.

Connotative meaning refers to additional meanings beyond their literal definitions. Connotative meanings can also be defined as the meanings associated with words or groups of words that do not have their actual meanings [3]. Connotative meanings are natural meanings, but they are combined with additional emotions, stimuli, and unexpected feelings [4]. Relevant studies include "The Meaning Of Connotations With Natural Symbols In Song Lyrics Of "Api dan Lautan", "Bahtera Cinta", And "Senandung Rindu" By Rhoma Irama" [5], "Analisis Makna Denotatif dan Konotatif pada Lirik Lagu "Dialog Hati" Karya Nadzira Shafa" [6] "Representasi Makna Denotasi dan Konotasi dalam Lirik Lagu Kun Fayakun (Analisis Semiotika Roland Barthes)" [7], "Denotasi dan Konotasi Dalam Lirik Lagu Album Bahasa Langit Karya Ebiet G. Ade" [8]. Based on these studies, the exploration of Connotative Meanings in the Lyrics of "Perjalanan Menjaring Matahari" and "Ketegaran Hati Seorang Pengemis dan Anaknya" by Ebiet G. Ade has not yet been conducted.

## 2 Methods

The object of this research is the songs "Perjalanan Menjaring Matahari" and "Ketegaran Hati Seorang Pengemis dan Anaknya" by Ebiet G. Ade. These songs were chosen because in the lyrics of "Perjalanan Menjaring Matahari" and "Ketegaran Hati Seorang Pengemis dan Anaknya" by Ebiet G. Ade, words with implicit meanings are used. In data collection, the observation method and note-taking technique were employed. After collecting the data, it was analyzed using semantic theory, specifically connotative meanings.

## 3 Result and Discussion

### 3.1 Analysis of Connotative Meaning in the Song "Perjalanan Menjaring Matahari"

Below is the connotative meaning analysis of the song "Perjalanan Menjaring Matahari".

<i>Perjalanan jiwa menelusuri waktu</i>	'The journey of the soul traverses time'
<i>Menata suratan takdir</i>	'Arranging the fate's decree'
<i>Ku langkahi sejuta kendala</i>	'I step over a million obstacles'
<i>Perjalanan kelam menjaring hari depan</i>	'A dark journey weaving the days ahead'

*Ku kubur mimpi buruk  
Semoga saja tak akan terulang*

‘I bury nightmares’  
‘Hopefully they won’t repeat’

This song verse depicts the life journey of a man filled with difficulties yet resilient. This is evident in the lines *perjalanan jiwa menelusuri waktu/menata suratan takdir/ku langkahi sejuta kendala*. *Menata suratan takdir* means ‘one can still change their fate through effort.’ This is affirmed in the next line *ku langkahi sejuta kendala* indicating the man’s courage to face all obstacles. *Perjalanan kelam menjaring hari depan/ku kubur mimpi buruk/semoga saja tak akan terulang* signifies overcoming dark journeys and burying bad dreams, hoping they won’t recur. The message conveyed in this verse is that we must always strive optimistically to achieve life’s goals.

*Aku harus jadi lelaki  
Yang seutuhnya lelaki  
Tangis ku buang dada ku busungkan  
chest’  
Duka dan derita ku sembunyikan*

‘I must become a man’  
‘A complete man’  
‘I cast away my tears, I puff out my  
chest’  
‘I hide my sorrows and suffering’

This verse portrays a man determined to become strong and resilient. This is evident in the line *aku harus jadi lelaki/yang seutuhnya lelaki*. To become a fully complete man, he must hide his sorrow. This is reflected in the following line *tangis ku buang dada ku busungkan/duka dan derita ku sembunyikan*.

*Matahari bangkitlah bersamaku  
Rembulan purnama bersamaku  
Bintang-bintang berpijar bersamaku  
Debur ombak gemuruh bersamaku  
Aku lebur dengan langit  
Aku lebur dengan bumi*

‘Sun, rise with me’  
‘Full moon, be with me’  
‘Stars shining bright, be with me’  
‘Roaring waves, thunder with me’  
‘I merge with the sky’  
‘I merge with the earth’

This verse of the song depicts nature as a source of strength. In this verse, the sun symbolizes energy source, the full moon represents tranquility and comfort, the shining stars symbolize guidance, inspiration, and hope, and the roar of the waves symbolizes strength in facing challenges. The line *aku lebur dengan langit* carries a spiritual meaning of unity between humans and God. *Aku lebur dengan bumi* signifies that humans should unite with the earth as a source of life.

*Perjalanan diam  
Menembus relung hati  
Menghimpun ketegaran  
Melewati segala rintangan*

‘A silent journey’  
‘Penetrating the depths of the heart’  
‘Gathering resilience’  
‘Overcoming all obstacles’

This verse depicts a *perjalanan diam/menembus relung hati* illustrating the importance of self-reflection in life's journey. *Menghimpun ketegaran/melewati segala rintangan* means that through introspection, we become stronger in facing challenges in the future.

### 3.2 Analysis of Connotative Meaning in the Song “Ketegaran Hati Seorang Pengemis & anaknya”

Below is the connotative meaning analysis of the song “Ketegaran Hati Seorang Pengemis & Anaknya.”

<i>Kututupi wajah dari terik matahari sun'</i>	'I shield my face from the scorching sun'
<i>Kuseka keringat dengan punggung tangan hand'</i>	'I wipe sweat with the back of my hand'
<i>Mari kita berteduh di bawah bayangan gedung shadow'</i>	'Lets seek shelter under building shadow'
<i>Sembunyikan duka, lapar, dahaga</i>	'Hide sorrow, hunger, thirst'

This verse depicts the struggle of facing life difficulties experienced by a beggar. Units describing life difficulties include the *terik matahari*, *keringat*, *lapar*, and *dahaga*. The third line explains that under the shadow of the building, the beggar hides his sorrow so that others cannot see that he is in trouble. So, he does not want his weakness to be seen by others.

<i>Kugandeng tanganmu, jemari yang kurus</i>	'I hold your hand, your slender fingers'
<i>Hayati kemiskinan merangkak ke depan</i>	'Feel the creeping poverty ahead'
<i>Anakku tercinta, tengadahlah ke langit</i>	'My beloved child, look up to the sky'
<i>Tuhan pasti mendengar doa kita</i>	'Surely God hears our prayers'

In this verse, *kugandeng tanganmu* symbolizes the love of parents towards their children in facing life's difficulties. Despite living in poverty, they support each other. *Jemari yang kurus* symbolize poverty. This is reinforced by the second line *hayati kemiskinan merangkak ke depan*. In living a difficult life, beggars remain steadfast. In fact, the next line of the song describes that the beggar believes that God will surely hear his prayers.

<i>Semua langkah yang kita buat</i>	'Every step we take'
<i>Meninggalkan jejak di bumi</i>	'Leaves a footprint on the earth'
<i>Semua nafas yang kita hirup</i>	'Every breath we take'
<i>Membawa kristal kehidupan</i>	'Carries the crystal of life'

This verse explains that all actions we have taken will leave a trace. *Langkah* means actions/deeds. These actions impact our future lives. Therefore, everything must be

done responsibly to leave a beneficial and good trace on Earth. This is reinforced in the next line *semua nafas yang kita hirup/membawa kristal kehidupan*.

<i>Singkirkanlah cemburu, buanglah tanda tanya question marks'</i>	'Cast away jealousy, discard the question marks'
<i>Tentang kehendak-Nya membagi nikmat, ho-ho blessings, ho-ho'</i>	'About His will in distributing blessings'
<i>Mungkin yang buat kita masih tersimpan di surga still stored in heaven'</i>	'Perhaps what is meant for us is still stored in heaven'
<i>Menunggu kita siap menerima receive'</i>	'Waiting for us to be ready to receive'

This verse instructs us to sincerely accept the blessings that God gives us without jealousy and without questioning why it happens. We must believe in His will. This is found in the line *Singkirkanlah cemburu, buanglah tanda tanya/tentang kehendak-Nya membagi nikmat, ho-ho*. The next line teaches us to be patient and believe that what we desire has not been granted because the time is not right yet. Therefore, we must become better individuals so that we are ready to receive the blessings. This is found in *Mungkin yang buat kita masih tersimpan di surga/menunggu kita siap menerima*.

#### 4 Conclusion

The lyrics of the song "Perjalanan Menjaring Matahari" contain the meaning of a man's life struggle to rise from adversity. The linguistic units used include perjalanan kelam, aku harus jadi lelaki, yang seutuhnya lelaki, matahari, rembulan purnama, bintang-bintang berpijar, debur ombak, aku lebur dengan langit, aku lebur dengan bumi, and perjalanan diam. The song "Ketegaran Hati Seorang Pengemis dan Anaknya" contains teachings about compassion, sincerity, resilience, and faith in facing life's difficulties and not easily giving up. The linguistic units used include terik matahari, lapar, dahaga, keringat, jemari yang kurus, kristal kehidupan, and mungkin yang buat kita masih tersimpan di surga, menunggu kita siap menerima.

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