Semiotics and Meaning in the Song "Cundamani" by Denny Caknan: Pierce's Approach

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Hana Tri Wardania, Mursia Ekawatib, Sylvi Purwihemawatic

Universitas Tidar

Corresponding Author:

ahana.tri.wardani@students.untidar.ac.id

ABSTRACT

This research analyzes the lyrics of the song "Cundamani" by Denny Caknan using Peirce's semiotic approach, which involves the concepts of icon, index, and symbol. The purpose of this research is to reveal the deep meaning in the song lyrics through the identification and interpretation of linguistic signs. This song was chosen because it contains some lyrics that contain symbolic meanings that can be analyzed using Peirce's semiotic approach. The method used is a qualitative analysis of the song lyrics, where data is collected through translation and classification of icons, indices, and symbols. The results show that the meaning of the song "Cundamani" is built through the interaction between the signs. Icons in the lyrics, such as tears and light, represent real objects, while signifiers associate feelings with actions, and symbols refer to social concepts such as love and hope. The star symbol, for example, depicts guidance and support in the face of life's difficulties. In conclusion, this semiotic analysis reveals the emotional, spiritual and relational messages contained in the song, including the theme of love.

Keywords: Cundamani, Semiotics, Meaning

INTRODUCTION

The study of semiotics and meaning in the song "Cundamani" by Denny Caknan can be analyzed through several relevant theories, including the semiotic theory developed by Charles Sanders Peirce. As explained by (Laila 2022), language is a complex research object in linguistic studies, with complex grammatical structures and changes that occur over time. In the context of the song "Cundamani", the complexity of the language used includes linguistic elements such as word choice, rhyme, rhythm, and aesthetic expressions that describe deep meaning.

(Isodarus 2021) explains that an in-depth study of language allows us to understand how humans think, feel and interact. In the song "Cundamani", the use of language not only expresses emotions, but also reflects the social and cultural interactions that exist in the context of the song's creation. Through semiotic analysis, this song can provide further understanding of symbols and signs that represent human emotions and experiences. This is in line with (Kridalaksana 1993:21 2018) who reveals that linguistic relationships in literary works also include interactions between language structure, meaning, and aesthetic expression. In the song "Cundamani", the relationship is reflected through the use of linguistic signs that enrich the

meaning of the song. Linguistics provides a foundation for understanding the formal and semantic aspects of literary works,

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including songs. Conversely, literature as a verbal work of art, such as songs, can not only be analyzed linguistically but also enrich understanding of the diversity and use of language in social and cultural contexts (Nurkhayati et al., 2022). The analysis of signs and signifiers in the song "Cundamani" will highlight how these elements depict human emotions and experiences. This is relevant to Peirce's semiotic theory, which emphasizes the importance of understanding signs in a broader context and how the meaning of a sign is not isolated but influenced by its relationship with other signs (Gunalan & Hasbullah, 2020). Thus, the semiotic analysis of this song will explore how the meaning and structure of the language in the song "Cundamani" is constructed through the interaction of linguistic signs. According to Piliang in his research on semiotics, it is explained that within the framework of Peirce's structuralism, understanding signs and their meanings must take into account the systematic relationship between these signs. This is very relevant in analyzing the song "Cundamani" because the meaning of each lyric and language element in the song is interrelated in forming a larger system of meaning. (Arif 2021) also emphasizes that the meaning of signs in Peirce's theory is not static, but is formed through complex interactions between the signs themselves.

The song "Cundamani" was chosen because it uses Javanese lyrics that have a local cultural context and symbolic meaning. There are still rare studies that use Javanese lyrics as the object of semiotic studies. The song "Cundamani" depicts emotions packed with traditional Javanese values and popular music. This makes the lyrics of this song interesting to be studied in depth using Pierce's semiotic approach which focuses on the relationship between signs and meanings.

Songs are said to be literary works that have a distinctive language structure, meaning, and expression (Iswatiningsih & Fauzan, 2021). In the context of the song "Cundamani", the language structure used by Denny Caknan reflects a combination of linguistic elements such as rhythm, rhythm, and word choice that create a deep meaning and rich emotional interpretation. (Siregar 2023) asserts that each stanza of the song combines linguistic elements to create a deep aesthetic experience. The song not only describes feelings through lyrics, but also relies on language structure to build atmosphere and meaning.

In literature, songs are often considered the most memorable art form in expressing feelings and thoughts (Viola & Sobur, 2023). The song "Cundamani" can be analyzed as a work that uses strong metaphors and rhetorical figures to express feelings of love and longing. The language structure in this song combines the use of alluring words, strong rhythms, and profound metaphors (Lahay, 2022), thus creating a work that is able to speak through linguistic beauty. Peirce's theory of signs and signifiers plays an important role in interpreting the meaning of literary texts, including songs (Puspita, 2023). The song "Cundamani" can be analyzed through the lens of literary psychology to reveal the symbolic meaning and feelings that the author wants to convey. This song was chosen because it contains several lyrics that contain symbolic meanings that can be analyzed using Peirce's semiotic approach. The novelty of this research lies in the use of Pierce's semiotic theory which is still rarely done on Javanese songs in popular music. This research also connects the symbolic meaning of the song lyrics with the culture of modern Javanese society.

This research shows that the interpretation of signs in the song involves a deep understanding of the feelings and thoughts behind the song lyrics, both from the perspective of the writer and the listener (Riswari, 2023). In analyzing the semiotics and meaning of the song "Cundamani", relevant research such as (Pribadi Eda, 2020; Ferdinan et al., 2021; Gerung et al., 2023; Sidik, 2018; UIN Bandung et al., 2008) will be used to compare and deepen this study. Such research will help understand how language structures and signs in songs shape broader meanings and how the interaction between lyrics and music creates a deep emotional experience.

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METHODS

This research uses a qualitative approach with a lyric analysis method. The qualitative research method of lyric analysis is a research approach used to explore and understand the meaning and messages contained in the lyrics of a song or literary work. This method aims to reveal every semiotic meaning in the lyrics of the song "Cundamani" by Denny Caknan with an approach based on Charles Sanders Peirce's semiotic theory.

In this study, data in the form of song lyrics will be analyzed into three types, namely icons, indices, and symbols according to Peirce's concept. The first step taken is to collect data on the lyrics of the song "Cundamani" by transferring the language from Javanese into Indonesian. Next, the linguistic signs used in the text will be identified. Each sign will be categorized based on Peirce's classification of signs, namely icons, indices, and symbols, to understand how the meaning of the sign is formed through the relationship between the sign and its meaning. Every word, phrase or sentence that contains emotional and symbolic meaning will be selected as the object of analysis. The classification of icons, indexes, and symbols is seen from the words or phrases conveyed in the lyrics of the song "Cundamani" that imply or signify something. Words that show visual connections are categorized as icons, words that show causal relationships are categorized as indexes, and words that show meaning by convention or social agreement are categorized as symbols.

After data collection and identification, the analysis stage is carried out by interpreting the relationship between signs in the lyrics. The meaning of signs will be analyzed not only independently, but also in the context of interactions between signs that form a broader meaning system. Thus, the meaning of the lyrics of the song "Cundamani" will be revealed through the interaction between existing signs.

This approach will prioritize the interpretation of the hidden or implicit meaning contained in the song lyrics. The data obtained will be interpreted hermeneutically, namely by understanding the signs in the context of the entire text and the meaning resulting from the interaction of these signs. Through this analysis, the messages, emotions, and meanings contained in the song "Cundamani" will be revealed more deeply.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION CUNDAMANI SONG LYRICS BY DENNY CAKNAN

Saben wayah wengi Mikirna isi ati Apa tenano tresna iki Dadi siji Jurnal Bahasa Indonesia Prima (BIP) Vol. 7 No. 2 September 2025 E-ISSN: 2684-6780

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Mantep anggonku mikir

Ra ana sitik kuatir

Cerita iki

Bakal apik keukir

Yakin-yakin no

Yakin aku tenanan

Sumpah ing janji

Iluhku netes tenan

Kurang-kurange

Kurangku sepurane

Cen anane ngene

Sayang..

Titip ragaku

Titip rasa tresnaku

Seneng iki mung koe seng ngerti

Dadio kanca ceritaku

Sepanjang uripku

Lintang..

Suwun ngancani

Suwon sampun nyekseni

Padangi dalan seng tak lewati

Cidro ne ati

Gusti pun ngrampungi

Kurang-kurange

Kurangku sepurane

Cen anane ngene

Translation of Cundamani Song Lyrics

Every night

Thinking about the contents of this heart

Is this love true

So one

Steadily I think about it

Nothing makes me worry

This story will be beautifully engraved

Be sure

Be sure that I am serious

Swear on the promise

My tears drip

Lack of- Lack of

Lack of I apologize

It's like this

Dear

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Leave my body
Leave my love
This happiness only you understand
Be my story friend
Throughout my life
Lintang (Star)
Thank you for accompanying
Thank you for watching
Light the way I go
The pain of this heart
God has healed
Lack of
Lack of I apologize
It's like this

The results of data analysis and research findings in Denny Caknan's "Cundamani" song lyrics include several things, namely icons, indexes, and symbols. The form of the three signs will be shown in the following table.

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Table 1. Types of Signs in the Song "Cundamani"

Pieces of Lyrics	Sign Type
"Iluhku netes tenan"	Icon
"Padangi dalan seng tak lewati"	Icon
"Lintang Suwun ngancani"	Icon
"Kurangku sepurane"	Index
"Saben wayah wengi mikirna isi ati"	Index
"Cidro ne ati, Gusti pun ngrampungi"	Index
"Tresna"	Symbol
"Lintang"	Symbol
"Padangi dalan seng tak lewati"	Symbol
"Dadio kanca ceritaku sepanjang	Symbol
uripku"	

Forms of Icons in the Lyrics of Denny Caknan's "Cundamani" Song

Icon in Peirce's semiotics refers to a sign that resembles the object it refers to or is similar in nature (Gerung et al., 2023). In the song "Cundamani", some icons can be found from words that directly describe things that are real. The study can be presented as follows.

The lyrics are a sign that describes the real action of tears that can be imagined visually. It can also be said to be a sign of emotional sadness that can be seen directly through tears.

The lyrics are a sign that the Light that illuminates the road is a visual image that can be identified directly.

[&]quot;Iluhku netes tenan" (My tears are dripping)

[&]quot;Padangi dalan seng tak lewati" (Light up the road I'm on)

[&]quot;Lintang... Suwun ngancani" (Star..Thank you for accompanying me)

The lyrics are a sign that the lintang or star is iconically depicted as a light or something that illuminates the darkness. This is in accordance with the role of stars in the sky that emit bright light. The meaning of the word star in the context of the song is someone who illuminates the poet's life when he is in a difficult time.

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Forms of Index in Song Lyrics "Cundamani" by Denny Caknan

According to (Wulandari and Siregar 2020), an index is a sign that describes the natural relationship between sign and signifier through a causal relationship, or refers directly to existing reality. In this song, several indexes that signify causal relationships or emotional experiences can be found in lyrics such as:

"Kurangku sepurane" (My lack, please forgive)

The lyrics show that there is a lack in the speaker that affects the emotional relationship. This is a marker that links the lack of self with the apology, showing a cause-and-effect relationship between the two.

"Saben wayah wengi mikirna isi ati" (every night thinking about the contents of the heart)

The lyrics illustrate that there is brooding activity at night. This signifies an unsettled, restless, anxious or other emotional state of the heart. This suggests that the brooding activity is a result of the person's emotional state.

"Cidro ne ati, Gusti pun ngrampungi" (This heartache, God has cured it)

The lyrics are a Marker that shows the connection between the heartache experienced by the singer and the act of healing done by God. It is a direct response to the emotional state experienced, directly linking the cause (heartache) with the outcome (healing by God).

Symbol Forms in the Lyrics of Denny Caknan's "Cundamani" Song

A symbol is a sign whose relationship to its object is based on social convention or agreement. In this song, many symbols contain deeper and more conventional meanings, which refer to the themes of love, sacrifice, and sincerity:

"Tresna" (love)

In this song, it symbolizes the universal, socially accepted feeling of a strong emotional bond between two people. Tresna here also refers to commitment and trust.

"Lintang" (star)

The word *lintang* is a symbol often used in Javanese and Indonesian cultural contexts in general to describe someone or something that provides hope, light or direction in life. In the song, this star is symbolized as an entity that illuminates the singer's path, providing hope and calm in the face of adversity.

"Padangi dalan seng tak lewati" (Illuminate the path I'm on)

The lyrics are symbolic of asking for support, illumination, or guidance from a lover or even God, in facing life's challenges. The word *padangi* or terangi means to ask for illumination or guidance.

"Dadio kanca ceritaku sepanjang uripku" (Be my storyteller throughout my life)

The lyrics are symbolic of a love story or a relationship. The word story is not the literal meaning of "story", but it can mean a symbol of a life companion or making their love story a long one. In another sense, a life partner.

CONCLUSION

From this research, it can be concluded that the meaning of the lyrics of the song "Cundamani" by Denny Caknan is analyzed through Peirce's semiotic approach that uses the concepts of signs, markers, and symbols. The signs in the lyrics are identified to describe various meanings related to emotional, spiritual, and relational experiences. These meanings are revealed through the relationship between icons, signifiers and symbols, where icons represent tangible things such as tears and light, signifiers reflect causal relationships between feelings and actions, and symbols depict social concepts such as love, stars and spiritual support. Through this approach, the profound messages of love, sacrifice and emotional healing implied in the song can be interpreted more clearly.

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This research contributes theoretically that song lyrics as culture in the form of text can be used as an object of semiotic study. While practically, this research can be used as a reference for other researchers who will conduct similar research using Peirce's semiotic theory. As a suggestion, researchers who will conduct further research are expected to expand the study to other songs that are not only popular, but can be Javanese Pop or Modern Campursari to show different cultural and emotional patterns.

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