

**ANALYSIS ON FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE IN ZOULFA KATOUEH'S
NOVEL *AS LONG AS THE LEMON TREES GROW***

THESIS

Submitted to State Islamic University of Syekh Wasil Kediri in Partial Fulfilment of The
Requirement for Degree of Sarjana (S.Pd) on English Language Education



Written by:

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DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION

FACULTY OF TARBIYAH AND TEACHER TRAINING

STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY (UIN) OF SYEKH WASIL

KEDIRI

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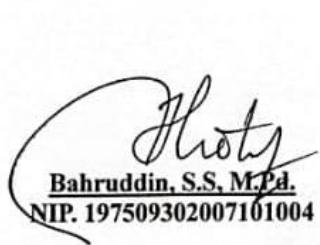
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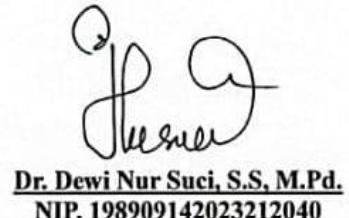
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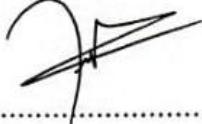
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MOTTO

“Language is a mirror of mind in a deep and significant sense.”

— Noam Chomsky

“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way.”

— Frank Smith

DEDICATION

With full gratitude to Allah SWT, who has given me grace, guidance, and strength to enable me to complete this thesis. I dedicate this thesis to:

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ABSTRACT

Aliyah, Darojatul. 2025. *Analysis on Figurative Language in Zoulfa Katouh's Novel As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow*. Thesis. Department of English Language Education, Faculty of Tarbiyah, State Islamic University Syekh Wasil Kediri. Advisor: (I) Bahruddin, S.S, M.Pd. and (II) Dr. Dewi Nur Suci, S.S, M.Pd.

Keywords: *Figurative Languages, As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow, Figurative Meaning*

The background of this study is the novel *As Long as the Lemon Trees Grow*, which attracted global readers' attention and went viral since its publication in 2022. This novel has been translated into around 22 languages, indicating its thematic relevance and narrative power. One of the important elements in literary works that contributes to this power is figurative language, which not only serves to enrich the text, but also conveys messages implicitly and creates certain emotional effects. This study aims to classify the types of figurative language and interpret its meanings.

This study focused on chapters 20 to 27, which represent the climax of the narrative. This research also aims to contribute academically to language and literature studies through a deeper understanding of how literary works reflect human emotional and social realities. Using qualitative descriptive design, the research applies document analysis as its primary method and employs Laurence Perrine's theoretical framework to identify and interpret figurative expressions. Data were collected through close reading and systematic marking of all figurative language found in the selected chapters, followed by data reduction, data display in tables and narrative descriptions, and conclusion-drawing. Expert validation was used as a triangulation technique to ensure the credibility of the findings.

The analysis revealed nine types of figurative language out of Perrine's twelve categories, to find a total of 144 instances. There include simile, metaphor, personification, apostrophe, synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, hyperbole, and irony, with personification emerging as the dominant type. The figurative expressions identified in the novel convey implicit meanings related to trauma, fear, loss, love, and courage experienced by the protagonist amid the Syrian conflict. Additionally, the study offers educators a useful reference for designing literature-based learning activities focused on contextual interpretation and the functions of figurative language.

This study offers valuable contributions to English language teaching, particularly in helping learners recognize and understand figurative expressions within authentic narrative contexts. For students, the novel provides rich material for developing sensitivity to emotional nuances and symbolic meanings in literary texts. Additionally, the results serve as a useful reference for educators in designing context-based instructional activities that integrate real literary examples to teach the identification, function, and interpretation of figurative language.

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