

**THE ENLIGHTENING MESSAGE OF EVANGELICAL MOVEMENT:  
A GENETIC STRUCTURALISM STUDY ON A CHRISTMAS CAROL  
BY CHARLES DICKENS**

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***Abstract***

*A Christmas Carol* is a novel by Charles Dickens full of social criticism and is framed in the story of Christmas majesty. This study aims to reveal the structure of the novel *A Christmas Carol* concerning the Evangelical movement in England during the Victorian era. This study employs the theory of Genetic Structuralism by Lucien Goldmann. The analysis shows that the Christmas ghosts can change the characters, setting, and plot of the novel because they deliver the main idea of the novel, which is the enlightenment message of the Evangelical movement. The message is about human kindness, mutual assistance, and death.

***Keywords:*** character, setting, plot, enlightenment message, Evangelical movement

**INTRODUCTION**

Human is literary creator and connoisseur. Literature is born from the thoughts and daily lives of humans. Therefore, literature is a picture of human thought and life. Damono (2009:1) states that "literature presents a picture of life; and life is a reality." The quote explains that literature is a picture of human life. Human is dynamic creature, so literature is also dynamic. It will go along with the flow of human thought in a certain era. Therefore, literature is a valid medium for recording human lives and changes in thought. The writers and connoisseurs of literature are closely connected to the literary works. Writers create literary works with a specific purpose, yet readers may have different views. The meaning of a literary work is closely related to the surrounding social conditions.

The novel *A Christmas Carol* was released in the Victorian era. This era was marked by the reign of Queen Victoria in England (Ashton, 1948:6). It describes the progress of the industrial revolution in England. It also talks about the era of mechanization, which replaces human power with mechanical power. However, humans also act like machines to survive, acting on time, being disciplined, and not being influenced by others outside of work.

The Victorian era was the setting for the emergence of a social movement called Evangelism. The movement held a Christian basis (Russel, 1915: 30). The Evangelical

party of the Church of England (the established church) flourished from 1789 to 1850, and during that time increasingly dominated many aspects of English life and, with its dissenting or nonconformist allies, was responsible for many of the attitudes today thought of as "Victorian" (Landow, 2007:15). However, it focused on duty, which was the obligation of humans to one another. The movement reminded all to help one another. The rich must help the poor, the strong must help the weak. The evangelist in some churches travels from town to town and from church to church, spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ (Wright, 2006:57). This movement also convinces people to believe that kindness comes from the church.

The novel *A Christmas Carol* tells the life of Ebenezer Scrooge. He was miserly and indifferent about other people. He didn't give his employees a day off, even Christmas Day. On Christmas Eve, a ghost named Jacob Marley visited him. The ghost appeared as a former colleague who had passed away. Marley said that he would be visited by three spirits called Ghost of Christmas Past, Ghost of Christmas Present, and Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come. They came to Scrooge and showed a shadow about his life and the people around him. By the end of the story, the Future-Christmas Spirit showed the picture of his death, which could change his behavior to the people around him. He turned out to be generous and friendly to others. A previous study conducted by Waluyo et al., (2020) showed relationships between Charles Dickens's ideas and social aspects in the novel that could change the main character's attitude.

The novel divides society into two, shaped by the industrial revolution and formulated during the Puritan era. The society formed during the industrial revolution is disciplined in time and efficient in spending, and those formed during the puritan era glorify religious values in everyday life. The novel raises an issue as it explores two contradictory forces. Therefore, this paper examines the novel *A Christmas Carol* by using the genetic structuralism theory to analyze the two forces more clearly as the society formulated in the puritan era shows how the Evangelical movement works.

Genetic structuralism theory aims to reveal the author's worldview expressed in the literary text that could only be seen after analyzing the intrinsic element of the literary work, the author's social background, and the sociological and historical background influence at the time the work was written (Faruk 1986, 2). Genetic structuralism believes that understanding only the structure, or the intrinsic element of the novel, without considering the author's presence would not produce a meaningful and coherent analysis (Goldmann 1975, 7).

## METHOD

The current study employed a qualitative research method, commonly used to examine sources in the form of words. It used the sociology of literature approach, which believes that literature cannot be separated from society. This approach then adopted the theory of genetic structuralism of Lucien Goldmann (1977) to understand the spirit of a particular era within British society. The primary data analysis comes from the novel *A*

*Christmas Carol*, and the secondary data analysis come from books, articles, and e-books. The researcher read in detail the novel to separate some important data to find out the novel's structure and enlightening message. Finally, the researcher is able to conclude.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### The Structure of the Novel *A Christmas Carol*

The structure study of the novel *A Christmas Carol* focuses on three points: characters, setting, and plot. It can provide a clear picture of the direction and purpose of the novel. First is about the characters in the novel *A Christmas Carol*. The characters studied in this research are Marley, Scrooge, Scrooge's Nephew, Bob Cratchit, Ghost of Christmas Past, Ghost of Christmas Present, and Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come. These characters are examined in terms of look, the narrator's speech, and the conversations.

The first character is Marley. His full name is Jacob Marley. He is a co-worker of the main character, Scrooge. The narrator explains that Marley is a person who has died seven years ago, as described in the following excerpt:

*Marley was dead: to begin with. There is no doubt whatever about that. The register of his burial was signed by the clergyman, the clerk, the undertaker, and the chief mourner. Scrooge signed it. And Scrooge's name was good upon 'Change, for anything he chose to put his hand to. Old Marley was as dead as a door-nail (Dickens, 1843:3).*

The look of Marley when he was alive is not clearly explained, yet it is physically described in more detail when after he has passed away or become a ghost, as briefly explained in the following excerpt:

*The same face: the very same. Marley in his pigtail, usual waistcoat, tights and boots; the tassels on the latter bristling, like his pigtail, and his coat-skirts, and the hair upon his head. The chain he drew was clasped about his middle. It was long, and wound about him like a tail; and it was made (for Scrooge observed it closely) of cash-boxes, keys, padlocks, ledgers, deeds, and heavy purses wrought in steel. His body was transparent; so that Scrooge, observing him, and looking through his waistcoat, could see the two buttons on his coat behind (Dickens, 1843:23).*

The difference between Marley before and after the death lies in the fact that he carries a long chain that bound his body after he dies. The chains are cash boxes, padlocks, cash books, notebooks, and iron-forged wallets. Marley's ghostly body is translucent, so Scrooge can easily see the back of Marley's vest. The chains and other items that bind the ghost of Marley can illustrate that Marley is a character who idolizes money.

The second character is Scrooge's Nephew. The novel *A Christmas Carol* does not reveal the full name of Scrooge's nephew. It only describes the character as Scrooge's Nephew. She is the only family member that Scrooge still owns. She is illustrated as a cheerful character by the narrator.

*'A merry Christmas, uncle! God save you!' cried a cheerful voice. It was the voice of Scrooge's nephew, who came upon him so quickly that this was the first intimation he had of his approach (Dickens, 1843:7).*

The dialogue explains Scrooge's Nephew loudly mentions Scrooge as his uncle. He wishes Scrooge a merry Christmas. He also says a prayer to his uncle that God will always protect his uncle. It shows that Scrooge's Nephew is a kind character. The dialogue in the novel also shows that Scrooge's Nephew was not a capitalist. He shows some good things if someone respects other people and of course the Christmas. It was different with his uncle's characters.

*'There are many things from which I might have derived good, by which I have not profited, I dare say,' returned the nephew; 'Christmas among the rest. But I am sure I have always thought of Christmas-time, when it has come round – apart from the veneration due to its sacred name and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that – as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow-passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys. And therefore, uncle, though it has never put a scrap of gold or silver in my pocket, I believe that it has done me good and will do me good; and I say, God bless it!'* (Dickens, 1843:7).

The nephew also added that Christmas celebrations never made him rich but Christmas brought him good and happiness. Scrooge's Nephew saw that his uncle was in a bad mood. This did not match with the cheerful Christmas spirit, so Scrooge's Nephew said "Come, then, returned the nephew gaily. What right have you to be dismal? What reason have you to be morose? You're rich enough" (Dickens, 1843:8). The quote indicates that Scrooge's Nephew wanted his uncle to be cheerful. His uncle had no reason to be sad because Scrooge had enough money to have fun.

Based on the explanations regarding Scrooge's Nephew character, Scrooge's Nephew character is the nephew of Scrooge's character. He is a handsome, cheerful, and kind character. He is a character who is not concerned with wealth above all else. He is always prejudiced against everyone, including Scrooge. He is a character who doesn't get hurt because someone doesn't treat him well.

The third character is the Ghost of Christmas Past. In his dream, Scrooge meets three ghosts: the Ghost of Christmas Past, the Ghost of Christmas Present, and the Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come. The Ghost of Christmas Past is a ghost that shows Scrooge's past. The narrator describes him as a fickle ghost. Sometimes he can be a child and some other time can be an old man. His hair is white like the hair of an old man but his face does not show any wrinkles. His long and muscular arms show incredible strength. The ghost's legs are as long and strong as its two hands. The ghost is wearing a very white robe with a glittering belt. He is holding tree branches with a sign indicating winter. He wears a shirt adorned with a summer flower motif inside his robes.

*It was a strange figure – like a child: yet not so like a child as like an old man, viewed through some supernatural medium, which gave him the appearance of having receded from the view, and being diminished to a child's proportions. Its hair, which hung about its neck and down its back, was white as if with age; and yet the face had not a wrinkle in it, and the tenderest bloom was on the skin. The arms were very long and muscular; the hands were the same, as if their hold were of uncommon strength. Its legs and feet, most delicately formed, were, like those*

*upper members, bare. It wore a tunic of the purest white, and round its waist was bound a lustrous belt, the sheen of which was beautiful. It held a branch of fresh green holly in its hand; and, in singular contradiction of that wintry emblem, had its dress trimmed with summer flowers. But the strangest thing about it was, that from the crown of its head there sprung a bright clear jet of light, by which all this was visible; and which was doubtless the occasion of its using, in its duller moments, a great extinguisher for a cap, which it now held under its arm (Dickens, 1843:37).*

The fourth character is the Ghost of Christmas Present. The Ghost of Christmas Present is the second ghost that Scrooge encounters. He wears a simple cloth, a green bathrobe. The robe looks loose, so the chest of the ghost is visible. The legs of the ghost can also be seen clearly because the robe can't cover them adequately. He also wears a wreath on his head. The wreath is decorated with frozen water droplets shimmering in the light. His hair is long and flowing freely. The ghost's face is cheerful with sparkling eyes. His hands open and his voice sounds cheerful. He wears a scabbard on his waist, but there found no sword within.

*Scrooge reverently did so. It was clothed in one simple green robe, or mantle, bordered with white fur. This garment hung so loosely on the figure, that its capacious breast was bare, as if disdaining to be warded or concealed by any artifice. Its feet, observable beneath the ample folds of the garment, were also bare; and on its head it wore no other covering than a holly wreath, set here and there with shining icicles. Its dark brown curls were long and free; free as its genial face, its sparkling eye, its open hand, its cheery voice, its unconstrained demeanour, and its joyful air. Girded round its middle was an antique scabbard; but no sword was in it, and the ancient sheath was eaten up with rust (Dickens, 1843:66).*

The fifth character is Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come. He is the scariest ghost character. He never speaks. He only points something out with his fingers. He is described similar to the angel of death. The description is as follows:

*It was shrouded in a deep black garment, which concealed its head, its face, its form, and left nothing of it visible save one outstretched hand. But for this it would have been difficult to detach its figure from the night, and separate it from the darkness by which it was surrounded (Dickens, 1843:101).*

Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come, in the above excerpt, is described as a ghost who wears dark clothes covering his entire body. His face is not visible because dark clothes cover it. The only visible part of the ghost's body is his hand pointing at something. The narrator adds that it is difficult for anyone to distinguish between the ghost and the darkness of the night.

The sixth character is Scrooge. Scrooge is the main character in the novel A Christmas Carol. The events in the novel are centered on him. The narrator describes him as a talkative, greedy, jealous, and big sinner. He has a heart as hard as a flint, which means that the belief of Scrooge will not be conquered by anything. Scrooge, in the following excerpt, is described as a character who thinks that he can do anything without the help of others. Therefore, he also never cares about other people.

*Oh! But he was a tight-fisted hand at the grind- stone, Scrooge! a squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous, old sinner! Hard and sharp*

*as flint, from which no steel had ever struck out generous fire; secret, and self-contained, and solitary as an oyster. The cold within him froze his old features, nipped his pointed nose, shrivelled his cheek, stiffened his gait; made his eyes red, his thin lips blue; and spoke out shrewdly in his grating voice. A frosty rime was on his head, and on his eyebrows, and his wiry chin. He carried his own low temperature always about with him; he iced his office in the dogdays; and didn't thaw it one degree at Christmas (Dickens, 1843:4-5).*

The excerpt, in addition to explaining the mental qualities of Scrooge, also reveals the physical characteristics of Scrooge. He has a sharp nose, cheeks with many wrinkles, red eyes, and thin lips. The description illustrates that Scrooge is a physically unattractive character. The other 'terrible' characteristic is that his voice sounds like a knife cut; annoying and painful to the ear. The 'cold' impression of his character comes from his body; from his head, eyebrows, to the chin. When he enters the room, cold air spreads throughout the room. The narrator's explanation of Scrooge's character in the excerpt thoroughly explains his strong, miserly, and 'evil' character.

Scrooge is antithesis of his nephew's ideas about Christmas. Scrooge in the beginning of story shows that he is a capitalist who hates Christmas. It is different from his nephew who glorifies Christmas. Scrooge always says bad things about Christmas when his nephew come to his office. "Bah!" said Scrooge. "Humbug!" (Dickens, 1843:7).

Scrooge also shew his antithesis of Cristiani and Christmas when two people came to his office and asked for some mercy and help. This help will be given to poor people in London. And again, Scrooge give a bad word to the two people who came to his office.

*'I wish to be left alone,' said Scrooge. 'Since you ask me what I wish, gentlemen, that is my answer. I don't make merry myself at Christmas, and I can't afford to make idle people merry. I help to support the establishments I have mentioned – they cost enough: and those who are badly off must go there.' 'Many can't go there; and many would rather die.' 'If they would rather die,' said Scrooge, 'they had better do it, and decrease the surplus population. Besides – excuse me – I don't know that.'* (Dickens, 1843:20).

The quotation above shew that Scrooge never want to be a good person even though in Christmas. He also said that the poor people would rather die to reduce the population. So Scrooge hates the poor people because they are idle people who do not deserve any help.

The second study is about the setting, place and time of the novel A Christmas Carol. The setting mainly illustrates about the atmosphere of the situation in the big city of a country. It is located around the area of business center because some offices line up along the streets. According to the excerpt below, the city is significant because it has a court and a large clock in downtown.

*Old Scrooge sat busy in his counting-house. It was cold, bleak, biting weather: foggy withal: and he could hear the people in the court outside, go wheezing up and down, beating their hands upon their breasts, and stamping their feet upon the pavement stones to warm them. The city clocks had only just gone three, but it was quite dark already – it had not been light all day – and candles were flaring in the windows of the neighbouring offices, like ruddy smears upon the*

*palpable brown air. The fog came pouring in at every chink and keyhole, and was so dense without, that although the court was of the narrowest, the houses opposite were mere phantoms. To see the dingy cloud come drooping down, obscuring everything, one might have thought that Nature lived hard by, and was brewing on a large scale (Dickens, 1843:6).*

Scrooge has an office in the city. The office is illustrated somber. It is dark and cold for in intended thrifty fireplace.

*The door of Scrooge's counting-house was open that he might keep his eye upon his clerk, who in a dismal little cell beyond, a sort of tank, was copying letters. Scrooge had a very small fire, but the clerk's fire was so very much smaller that it looked like one coal. But he couldn't replenish it, for Scrooge kept the coal-box in his own room; and so surely as the clerk came in with the shovel, the master predicted that it would be necessary for them to part. Wherefore the clerk put on his white comforter, and tried to warm himself at the candle; in which effort, not being a man of a strong imagination, he failed (Dickens, 1843:7).*

Scrooge lives in a gloomy mansion. It is the house of his co-worker, Marley. There is an opposite thing we can see in phrase gloomy mansion. Usually, mansion is a great place and peaceful. But the narrator explains that no one else is willing to live in the house but Scrooge because the house is no longer livable. So, it is look gloomy.

*Scrooge took his melancholy dinner in his usual melancholy tavern; and having read all the newspapers, and beguiled the rest of the evening with his banker's-book, went home to bed. He lived in chambers which had once belonged to his deceased partner. They were a gloomy suite of rooms, in a lowering pile of building up a yard, where it had so little business to be, that one could scarcely help fancying it must have run there when it was a young house, playing at hide-and-seek with other houses, and forgotten the way out again. It was old enough now, and dreary enough, for nobody lived in it but Scrooge, the other rooms being all let out as offices. The yard was so dark that even Scrooge, who knew its every stone, was fain to grope with his hands. The fog and frost so hung about the black old gateway of the house, that it seemed as if the Genius of the Weather sat in mournful meditation on the threshold (Dickens, 1843:17).*

Second discussion is about the time. The story in the novel A Christmas Carol begins when the day is approaching night. It starts right at three o'clock in the afternoon, but it is getting dark, as explained in the excerpt below:

*Once upon a time – of all the good days in the year, on Christmas Eve – old Scrooge sat busy in his counting-house. It was cold, bleak, biting weather: foggy withal: and he could hear the people in the court outside, go wheezing up and down, beating their hands upon their breasts, and stamping their feet upon the pavement stones to warm them. The city clocks had only just gone three, but it was quite dark already – (Dickens, 1843:6).*

Then, it ends up in the morning, in which sunlight already shines. We can clearly feel the situation when the main character looks out the window and then sunlight greets him, as described in the following excerpt:

*Running to the window, he opened it, and put out his head. No fog, no mist; clear, bright, jovial, stirring, cold; cold, piping for the blood to dance to; golden sunlight; heavenly sky; sweet fresh air; merry bells. – (Dickens, 1843:119).*

The third study examines about the plot of the novel *A Christmas Carol*. It begins with the death of Scrooge's co-worker named Marley. The description of Marley is the initial illustration of Scrooge's character. He is described as a miserly and gloomy character. He does not care about the suffer of others. It goes on for years before things finally change after the arrival of Marley's ghost.

The point of attack in the novel comes up from Scrooge's meeting with the ghost of Marley. Scrooge is not afraid of ghosts but he has an analysis that he will end up like Marley. It crosses over Scrooge's mind because he and Marley have a lot of characters in common.

*'You are fettered,' said Scrooge, trembling. 'Tell me why?' 'I wear the chain I forged in life,' replied the Ghost. 'I made it link by link, and yard by yard; I girded it on of my own free will, and of my own free will I wore it. Is its pattern strange to you?' Scrooge trembled more and more. 'Or would you know,' pursued the Ghost, 'the weight and length of the strong coil you bear yourself? It was full as heavy and as long as this, seven Christmas Eves ago. You have laboured on it, since. It is a ponderous chain!'* (Dickens, 1843:27).

Marley passes away miserably. No one mourns him except Scrooge. His bad behavior when he was alive makes others loathed about him. After his death, Marley is depicted as a ghost bound by chains, unable to move freely and die quietly. He is enslaved by the treasure he has collected during his life. The horrific look of Marley's ghost reminds Scrooge of himself, from which a series of conflicts that Scrooge encounters arises.

Scrooge's first conflict is his meeting with the Ghost of Christmas Past, the ghost that represents Scrooge's past Christmas mood. The ghost takes Scrooge to look back on his past. He ushers in a picture of Scrooge's childhood when he was in the elementary school.

*They left the high-road, by a well-remembered lane, and soon approached a mansion of dull red brick, with a little weathercock-surmounted cupola, on the roof, and a bell hanging in it. It was a large house, but one of broken fortunes; for the spacious offices were little used, their walls were damp and mossy, their windows broken, and their gates decayed. Fowls clucked and strutted in the stables; and the coach-houses and sheds were over-run with grass. Nor was it more retentive of its ancient state, within; for entering the dreary hall, and glancing through the open doors of many rooms, they found them poorly furnished, cold, and vast. There was an earthy savour in the air, a chilly bareness in the place, which associated itself somehow with too much getting up by candle-light, and not too much to eat* (Dickens, 1843:42).

Scrooge was born from a poor family. He went to a bad school outside the city. The school was described as a slum and uncleaned school. Students who study in this school come from poor families who lack of food. The school is sufficient to explain that Scrooge was, in the past, a poor man.

Reminding of the past shown by the Ghost of Christmas Past makes Scrooge feel happy, much different from him who is always gloomed. The joy that Scrooge has makes everyone who see him surprised. He feels back to being a human without any burden from anything. It is illustrated in the following excerpt:

*To hear Scrooge expending all the earnestness of his nature on such subjects, in a most extraordinary voice between laughing and crying; and to see his*



*heightened and excited face; would have been a surprise to his business friends in the city, indeed (Dickens, 1843:44).*

The second conflict experienced by Scrooge is when he meets the Ghost of Christmas Present; the a ghost that shows the conditions around Scrooge. He shows the people around Scrooge who are always happy even in a state of deprivation. One of the examples of people around Scrooge that the Ghost of Christmas Present visits is his employee, Bob Cratchit.

*There was nothing of high mark in this. They were not a handsome family; they were not well dressed; their shoes were far from being water-proof; their clothes were scanty; and Peter might have known, and very likely did, the inside of a pawnbroker's. But, they were happy, grateful, pleased with one another, and contented with the time; and when they faded, and looked happier yet in the bright sprinklings of the Spirit's torch at parting, Scrooge had his eye upon them, and especially on Tiny Tim, until the last (Dickens, 1843:84).*

Bob Cratchit's family is described as a happy family despite the lack of finances. The family has little property but loves each other. They live in joy; much different from Scrooge's gloomy life. Scrooge lives in wealth but his heart is never happy.

The climax of the novel occurs when Scrooge meets the Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come, which tells about the future. The ghost shows a tomb that reads Ebenezer Scrooge, the full name of Scrooge. Seeing this, Scrooge sheds tears and regrets his disgraceful behavior.

*Scrooge crept towards it, trembling as he went; and following the finger, read upon the stone of the neglected grave his own name, Ebenezer Scrooge. 'Am I that man who lay upon the bed.' He cried, upon his knees. The finger pointed from the grave to him, and back again. 'No, Spirit. Oh no, no.' The finger still was there (Dickens, 1843:124-125).*

After the climax, the plot goes slower or decreases (falling action). The conflicts presented by the Christmas ghosts successfully changes Scrooge's behavior. He promises that he will be nice to everyone and will remember the message of the Christmas ghosts. His promise is a resolution to the conflicts experienced by Scrooge, as illustrated in the following excerpt:

*'I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach. Oh, tell me I may sponge away the writing on this stone' (Dickens, 1843:125).*

The novel A Christmas Carol closes with an event that depicts Scrooge raising the salary of his employee, Bob Cratchit. Further, he also promises to help Bob's family finances. It finally concludes that Scrooge has turned to be a philanthropist.

*'A merry Christmas, Bob,' said Scrooge, with an earnestness that could not be mistaken, as he clapped him on the back. 'A merrier Christmas, Bob, my good fellow, than I have given you for many a year. I'll raise your salary, and endeavour to assist your struggling family, and we will discuss your affairs this very afternoon, over a Christmas bowl of smoking bishop, Bob. Make up the fires, and buy another coal-scuttle before you dot another I, Bob Cratchit' (Dickens, 1843:136).*

The plot begins with a description of the stingy Scrooge. Then, it moves up as Scrooge encounters Marley's ghost. The meeting is the beginning of Scrooge's encounter with the Christmas ghosts. The plot is turbulent as the Christmas ghosts leads Scrooge through various events. The climax occurs after Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come leads Scrooge to witness his own death. Seeing the death, he promises to become a better person. In the end, he becomes a philanthropist.

### **The Enlightening Message behind *A Christmas Carol***

Charles Dickens, the author of the novel *A Christmas Carol*, denoted that he writes the novel to cultivate an idea within the readers. He hopes that the idea is instilled in the reader smoothly and without coercion, as explained in following excerpt:

*I have endeavoured in this Ghostly little book, to raise the Ghost of an Idea, which shall not put my readers out of humour with themselves, with each other, with the season, or with me. May it haunt their houses pleasantly, and no one wish to lay it (Dickens, 1843:2).*

The novel aims to deliver the teachings goodness. In terms of English literature, the novel is classified as a Parable novel. Gowler (2000:99) explains "a parable is a succinct, didactic story, in prose or verse, which illustrates one or more instructive lessons or principles". Parable is a type of literary work that teaches about goodness. It consists of several teachings which we can find in the literary work.

The story of the novel refers to the industrial revolution in England, which we can see from the setting of the place and the atmosphere depicted in the novel. The industrial revolution has changed humans' character to resemble a machine. They behave like machines in the sense that they prioritize benefit without any concern on humanity. The trait is illustrated in the main character, Scrooge. He is very disciplined, cold, and untouched by humanity issues. Therefore, he is the perfect person to describe the human from the industrial revolution. The industrial revolution raised several problems at that time, so the Evangelical movement emerged. The movement holds the teachings of Christianity, but it did not bring up the Christianity label. The movement focused more on humanitarian aid rather than attempting to recruit new Christians. In the previous study by Rakhman et al., (2015) concluded that Charles Dickens had a world view of philanthropism inserted in his novel. Philanthropism is one of good things that is similar with Evangelical Movement.

The Evangelical Movement has several teachings, such as helping one another, building moral society, rejecting slavery, eradicating poverty, being open to social problems, and believing the direct relationship between humans and God. The researcher believes that the teachings are rewritten by Charles Dickens in the form of a novel titled *A Christmas Carol*.

The first message Scrooge received is about human kindness. The message is delivered by the Ghost of Christmas Past. The ghost invites Scrooge to look back on his past, his cheerful childhood, to take a look at the old school. The school reminds Scrooge

of his carefree childhood. Scrooge used to be a poor boy, but he was always kind to his friends.

*They left the high-road, by a well-remembered lane, and soon approached a mansion of dull red brick, with a little weathercock-surmounted cupola, on the roof, and a bell hanging in it. It was a large house, but one of broken fortunes; for the spacious offices were little used, their walls were damp and mossy, their windows broken, and their gates decayed. Fowls clucked and strutted in the stables; and the coach-houses and sheds were over-run with grass. Nor was it more retentive of its ancient state, within; for entering the dreary hall, and glancing through the open doors of many rooms, they found them poorly furnished, cold, and vast. There was an earthy savour in the air, a chilly bareness in the place, which associated itself somehow with too much getting up by candle-light, and not too much to eat (Dickens, 1843:42).*

The next message of the novel *A Christmas Carol* is about helping fellow humans. The message is brought by the Ghost of Christmas Present. He provides the picture of his surroundings.

*They walked along the road, Scrooge recognising every gate, and post, and tree; until a little market-town appeared in the distance, with its bridge, its church, and winding river. Some shaggy ponies now were seen trotting towards them with boys upon their backs, who called to other boys in country gigs and carts, driven by farmers. All these boys were in great spirits, and shouted to each other, until the broad fields were so full of merry music, that the crisp air laughed to hear it. 'These are but shadows of the things that have been,' said the Ghost (Dickens, 1843:41).*

Ghost of Christmas Present leads Scrooge to see togetherness among people. He brings a message that helping each other will create joy. The ghost shows that helping people will not make people miserable, in fact giving help can improve the quality of life.

The message of human death can also be seen in the novel *A Christmas Carol*. The message is closely related to the suggestion to help each other. People who do not help each other during their life will find a terrible death, as depicted from the following excerpt:

*The air was filled with phantoms, wandering hither and thither in restless haste, and moaning as they went. Every one of them wore chains like Marley's Ghost; some few (they might be guilty governments) were linked together; none were free. Many had been personally known to Scrooge in their lives. He had been quite familiar with one old ghost, in a white waistcoat, with a monstrous iron safe attached to its ankle, who cried piteously at being unable to assist a wretched woman with an infant, whom it saw below, upon a door-step. The misery with them all was, clearly, that they sought to interfere, for good, in human matters, and had lost the power for ever (Dickens, 1843:32-33).*

The ghosts who do not help others during their lifetime, in the excerpt, will be chained and unable to move freely. Their feet will be weighed down by the possessions they had collected during their life. They will be very miserable ghosts. The picture is terrifying because every human being will die in the end. Scrooge is afraid because he is one of those who never help anyone. Therefore, do good while you are still in the world so that you are not miserable after death, and you will find other good things in the world.

## CONCLUSION

The structure of the novel *A Christmas Carol* contains certain messages to convey. The main character in the novel undergoes a behavioral change after meeting the Christmas ghosts. The setting of place and time turns to be more fun after the rise of the Christmas ghosts. Finally, they become a conflict and climax that determines the conclusion of the plot.

The Christmas ghosts can change the structure of the novel *A Christmas Carol* because they carry messages that the novel wants to convey. The messages are about human kindness, mutual help, and death. They are in line (homologically) with the teachings of the *Evangelical* movement, a humanitarian movement in England in the Victorian era that breathes Christianity. Therefore, the researcher believes that the novel is a medium to spread the teachings of the *Evangelical* movement. The teachings contain a message of enlightenment to the readers to always help one another.

The novel *A Christmas Carol* brings the Victorian era's philanthropic spirit (mutual help). This motivation grows due to social issues that rise after industrial revolution, which is clearly illustrated through the message of enlightenment within the novel. The Victorian era is crucial for British society as it helps shape their character. The study on the enlightenment message of the *Evangelical* movement in the novel *A Christmas Carol* concludes that British are not much concerned with religion. They are concerned on the philanthropic spirit more than dogma. Religion is only a background; not a goal.

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