

International Journal of Students Education



Page 309-312

ISSN 2988-1765

Vol 2 No 1 2024

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PANCASILA AND CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION AS A BASIS FOR CHARACTER AND NATION IMAGE DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

In recent times, the character and image of the nation have slowly faded along with the times. So it is important to rebuild the character and image of the nation through learning in schools. The aim of this research is to determine the role of Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn) as a basis for character development and national image. The research method used is literature study, namely collecting data by understanding and exploring the theories contained in various literature that are relevant to this research. The research results showed that learning Pancasila and Citizenship Education has a vital role in shaping the character and image of students. The image of the Indonesian nation is reflected in the spirit of mutual cooperation, tolerance between religions and cultures, and solidarity in facing challenges and difficulties. The concept of Bhinneka Tunggal Ika also reflects the character and image of a nation that values differences as wealth, not as a cause of conflict. It is necessary to re-evaluate the extent to which the implementation of PPKn has been successful as a basis for building the character and image of the nation contained in Pancasila and Indonesia's motto.

Keywords : Citizenship education, character, national image

Introduction

The long journey of the Indonesian nation in realizing a system of social justice continues to inspire the values it upholds. This concept of justice covers various aspects, such as the right to access proper education and adequate facilities. However, challenges in the implementation of education often arise, including in terms of fulfilling access, educational structures, and lack of public interest in education (Dewi & Ulfiah, 2021). Education in Indonesia is recognized as a human right of every citizen, which must be obtained after fulfilling their obligations as members of society. Article 31 paragraphs 1 and 2 of the 1945 Constitution confirms that every citizen has the right to adequate education. Therefore, the government is responsible for implementing the national education system which is regulated by law (Kariadi, 2017). The nation's ideals stated in the 1945 Constitution emphasize that education is a right for all citizens. Since colonial times, access to education has been limited only to nobles and privileged people. Many struggles have been made by the Indonesian people to gain the right to education, even though sometimes they have to go through a hidden learning process. However, the enthusiasm to advance education never dies. Several figures such as Soetomo through his founding of Budi Utomo, and Ki Hajar Dewantoro in fighting for equal education without discrimination, have made a major contribution in shaping the nation's character. In recent times, the image of the Indonesian nation in the eyes of society has become a serious concern, especially with the emergence of various media reports regarding various issues involving legal issues, the banking sector, divisions of opinion, tensions between religious groups, disturbed national stability, quality and facilities. inadequate education, unequal welfare, high levels of unemployment, and violations of moral ethics. As a large nation that has a national character and image, it is hoped that all elements of society are willing to introspect and make concrete changes in an effort to build the nation through various aspects of life. One strategic route that can be used is through education, which has great potential to shape national morality, as long as moral education is

implemented effectively, and supported by a supportive social environment. The key to achieving a better future for the Indonesian nation is through education that strengthens character and noble values. Pancasila and citizenship education is an important instrument in forming national character, however, unfortunately, interest in these subjects tends to decline, especially among the current younger generation. Therefore, greater efforts are needed from the government and related *stakeholders* to increase public interest and understanding of the civic values and morality inherent in national identity. Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKN) has a very important role in shaping the character and image of the Indonesian nation. In the midst of the dynamics of globalization and technological progress, the challenges faced by the Indonesian nation are not only limited to economic and technological aspects, but also to the sustainability of moral and cultural values which are the basis of national identity (Budi & Sumaryanto, 2020). PPKN as a mandatory subject in schools in Indonesia is intended to internalize the values of Pancasila, national spirit and citizenship in the younger generation. However, in recent years, there have been concerns regarding the effectiveness of this education in forming strong character and supporting the positive image of the Indonesian nation in the eyes of the world (Subali, 2021). An in-depth analysis of the role of PPKN as a basis for building character and national image is important to evaluate the extent to which the implementation of the PPKN curriculum and teaching methods has been successful.

Research Methodology

The research carried out in this study is a type of normative legal research, which is better known as library legal research. In this context, research was carried out by reviewing various primary literature material, which was then reinforced with secondary data (Soekanto & Mahmudji, 2012). The literature material used consists of primary references that discuss Pancasila and Citizenship Education to build the character and image of the Indonesian nation. The literature study approach is a research method that relies on the views of experts and findings from previous research. This approach involves collecting data by understanding and exploring theories contained in various literature that is relevant to the research (Adlini et al., 2022).

Result & Discussion

Goals of Pancasila and Citizenship Education (PPKn)

Citizenship education is a lesson that aims to guide citizens in understanding their rights and obligations in living together in society and the state. The focus of citizenship education learning is on the values of Pancasila and citizenship. Citizenship education includes a process in which the younger generation is prepared to take on roles and responsibilities as citizens through the teaching process so that they can adapt and respond to challenges in the community, nation and state (Saputro et al., 2021). The main goal of citizenship education is to focus attention on educators and students in a structured teaching and learning process. Characteristics of citizenship education subjects include citizenship knowledge, citizenship skills, and citizenship attitudes or personalities. Based on the essence of citizenship education that has been described, it can be concluded that citizenship education is learning that discusses the relationship between individuals and the state, including the rights, obligations and responsibilities of being a public citizen. In an effort to form quality citizens through citizenship education subjects, who have good knowledge, skills, attitudes and personalities, a more effective learning process is needed. Quality participation requires a deep understanding of certain knowledge, the development of intellectual abilities that support active participation, the formation of strong character, and a commitment to basic principles and values in democracy. Mastery of these abilities by each student will form a character with high morality. The aim of citizenship education can be interpreted as an effort to help citizens use common sense and act in accordance with good norms in their participation and responsibility in political life, in accordance with constitutional values and principles, as well as to form an active character. in political participation and responsibility in social life, both at the local and national levels.

National Character and Image

Character refers to the unique values in a person's morality, personality and attitudes, which are formed through the internalization of various norms and principles that are considered, and expressed through the way individuals observe, think, act, speak and behave in everyday life (Dewi et al., 2021). National identity is an idea that reflects the unique characteristics and image of a nation, including common values, culture, history, and distinctive images that describe a country. This national identity is the core of a shared awareness of national identity and the values upheld as a community. On the other hand, national character is the result of the interaction between internal and external factors that shape the characteristics of a nation in its worldview. In Indonesia, national identity is very complex because there are many diverse tribes, ethnicities, languages, religions and

cultures. The motto "Unity in Diversity" is an expression of this diversity, which shows that even though we are different, we are still one. Citizenship education has an important role in strengthening Indonesia's national identity by teaching about Indonesian history, culture, values and symbols. Through a deeper understanding of national identity, students can develop a sense of love and pride for Indonesia as well as a passion for defending the integrity and sovereignty of the country. This concept emphasizes diversity as wealth for the Indonesian nation. Indonesia's national identity is also closely related to the formation of the Pancasila State which is based on values such as belief in the Almighty God, just and civilized humanity, Indonesian unity, a people with a spirit of wisdom in deliberation/representation, and social justice for all Indonesian people. The decline in moral values in society has a negative impact on the weakening of national identity, so that cultural identity and local wisdom values are no longer considered something that needs to be maintained. Factors such as the use of English in educational settings also have an impact on reducing the love of one's own language, which is an important tool in developing students' character. The history of the struggle against colonialism, important events in the independence process, and the role of figures such as Soekarno and Hatta also played an important role in shaping Indonesia's national identity. Indonesian as a unitary and national language is also an important symbol in strengthening national identity. The characteristics and image of the Indonesian nation are reflected in the spirit of mutual cooperation, tolerance between religions and cultures, and solidarity in facing challenges and difficulties. The concept of Bhinneka Tunggal Ika also reflects the character and image of a nation that values differences as wealth, not as a cause of conflict (Budiman et al., 2023) .

The role of PPKN as a basis for character and national image development

Learning Pancasila and Citizenship Education has a vital role in shaping the character and image of students. This learning aims to strengthen the spirit of nationalism and maintain national identity, especially for the younger generation to maintain the unity and unity of the country (Sudrajat, 2018). In an effort to strengthen national identity, citizenship education based on local values and wisdom is very important. This involves recognition and understanding of national values, history of struggle, and local wisdom that exist in various regions in Indonesia. By understanding national identity and national characteristics, the younger generation will be better prepared to contribute to building a strong and competitive nation, and uphold human values and solidarity. Shaping and developing a person's character for the better is a process that is not easy, because each individual has a different background. A person's character can be formed through internal and external factors. Internal factors arise from within the individual, such as thoughts and character that are characteristic from birth. Meanwhile, external factors that shape character come from the environment and teaching, which then become determining factors in character development. The process of character formation cannot be separated from the instillation of values that individuals obtain when attending elementary school. The target of developing national character is human resources who still need encouragement and learning about the nation's noble values. Every citizen has an obligation to practice these values in state and social life. In a broader context, efforts to build human resources with character must face the global challenges facing Indonesia today. If elementary school children can implement the values in citizenship education through simple actions, then the younger generation must also have the attitude and courage to face global challenges. Global challenges in citizenship education can undermine the nation's cultural values. Therefore, Indonesia needs the nation's next generation who have strong character. The values in citizenship education not only include Indonesian insight and moral values, but also the values of professionalism, responsibility and national awareness. The government's incessant efforts to build national character are changing society's perception of a person, where a person's character is judged by his morality and how good he is as an Indonesian citizen. Forming good citizens is the government's effort to form an integrated consensus, taking into account different cultural, religious and ethnic backgrounds. One way to unite is through citizenship education, which builds a person's character with the nation's noble values, so that they can become good citizens who uphold the values of Pancasila as the basis of the country.

Conclusion

Citizenship education has the main aim of guiding citizens in understanding their rights and obligations in living together in society and the state. With a focus on Pancasila and Citizenship values, this education aims to prepare the young generation to be able to take on roles and responsibilities as citizens in facing challenges at various levels of life, from local to national levels. Pancasila and Citizenship learning also has a vital role in shaping the character and image of students. The image of the Indonesian nation is reflected in the spirit of mutual cooperation, tolerance between religions and cultures, and solidarity in facing challenges and difficulties. The

concept of Bhinneka Tunggal Ika also reflects the character and image of a nation that values differences as wealth, not as a cause of conflict.

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