

SUNDANESE AS A COMPULSORY SUBJECT AT SCHOOL FOR THE FORMATION OF IDENTITY AND CHARACTER TO YOUTH

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Character is a system of beliefs and practices that direct the actions of an individual. Experience and habits of life form the entire program of the human mind, the mind is a major factor forming the character, including the use of language to communicate. Sundanese is one of vernacular that spoken by at least 38 million people and is the mother language with the second largest number of speakers in Indonesia after the. Vernacular as one of the cultural heritage, and also a wealth of each region is the one that characterize a particular area, because of its diversity. In the current era of globalization, the balance of the use of language is a problem in itself. Especially among young people, many thought no longer important receipts Sundanese, as outdated. Position of the vernacular lately is not just showing identity of a particular area, but also can form a positive character to its users, with utter smoothness, choice of words appropriate interlocutors, dialect spoken, it is a unique creation that is actually a media to form character, behavior, manners and life learning tool. Sundanese language teaching in schools is a surefire steps to help build the character of youth.

INTRODUCTION

In this globalization era, users of national language and vernacular is decreasing. Many factors can give effect like that. But, by teached in School, especially vernacular like Sundanese will make it balance between good informatioan or new cultures that come to us and we could keep preserve our own cultures such as vernacular. Sundanese is one of 546 vernaculars in Indonesia (the results of research from the Ministry of Education and Culture: 2012) Sundanese is the language of about 39 million people from the West Java society or about 15% of the Indonesian population. Sundanese language has three levels namely basic manners. *Lemes* (Thoroughbred) , *Loma* (colloquially) and Ribaldry language. In additional there is pattern of *Lemes* that use for ourself. Sundanese including regular languages and has a lot of manners. Those Speaking manners are highly valued and their use completely unnoticed users own laguage which is Sundanese.

Lemes used in certain situations and is used for a particular speaker . *Lemes* bases used by the lower position of the interlocutor of higher social status , such as the person who is respected , the younger to the older and is used also to everyone who's just known . *Lemes* is also used for greetings , in the writing of a variety of personal writing (letters , etc.) as well as when speaking in a formal state or in public.

Loma used for everyday life, used between friends or peer to friends who have known each other or familiar . *Loma* is also the harsh language , but of the Sundanese do not think so as long as the context is still in *loma* situation (familiar) . Anything as outrageous as if the peer , it will not be a problem , even quite odd if using *lemes* in the situation.

Ribaldry Language, Usefulness of abusive language usually for animals and also to express anger and derogatory interlocutor . Abusive language differences with *loma*, it's rougher than *loma* , despite some ribaldry language vocabulary may be used in situations *loma* (Usak-Usuk Basa Sunda , 1997) .

FORMATION OF IDENTITY AND CHARACTER FOR YOUTH

A person's character is not formed in a matter of seconds, but requires a long process and through certain business. Language is media for communiacion, it is a reflection of one's personality, it means we can know personality and character through language, (Pranowo, 2009:3). How great you are communicating, give indicatioan how good your character, Language also has central purpose on developing of intellectual, social, and emotional students. And by learning language, students are aslo expected to know more about their culture, another culture, as realization what character is all about. indeed it is, language is one of the pillars which plays an important role in the formation of character. In addition, language is also one of cultural heritage, which must be conserved its use, because language is one of the main identity of certain regions.

Sundanese is the second largest vernacular in Indonesia has a unique variety of uses. It has three tiers as we know it. The use of words in Sundanese that spoken can not be arbitrary, How to use *Lemes* in certain situations and is used for a particular speaker, or *Loma* used for everyday life, used between friends or peer to friends who have known each other or familiar and Ribaldry Language, Usefulness of abusive language usually for animals and also to express anger and derogatory interlocutor . Here's some example of using words in a sentence "I will go to market" in Sundanese.

| Lemes | Loma | Ribaldry |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Abdi bade ameng ka pasar | Urang bade ulin ka pasar | Aing bade ulin ka pasar |

Table 1. Example of how yo use three levels language in Sundanese

In Sundanese, it's governed how we use words when we talk to other person, when we talk to older, or someone who's just know, we must use *Lemes*. Because we have to be very respectful to them. Beside that, *Lemes* can be used too when we talk to childern. Because, we need to teach them and give a good example about how we use words for talking to other person.

The second pattern is *Loma*. It is a way that we can use for daily activity with our peers. Iit's very inappropriate if we use *Lemes* for talking to my friend in class, it's gonna be awkward. And also, we couldn't use Ribaldry for this. Ribaldy is pattern we have to know that but that we need to avoid it. So, we can be carefull because of that. Moreover, use of different words like the example in the table , dialect pronunciation will also be very different . It really reflects how we behave .

When we could get used to using the appropriate word , , learned in school and keep continues to

be practiced, it will be used to. so this is one of long process to form the character of the students and also preserve local identity

SUNDANESE AS A COMPULSORY SUBJECT AT SCHOOL

National education aims to develop the potential of students, one of them is having a good character and manners. Sundanese language, is one of the compulsory subjects in schools, especially West Java, government policy through Dept. of Education circulars West Java Province with No. 423/2372/Set-disdik dated March 26, 2013 about Local Content Local Language Learning in Elementary Level (SD / MI), Junior High School (SMP / MTs), Senior High School (SMA / SMK / MA) is a very appropriate step to solve this problem. while still preserving the heritage of language, the use of Sundanese language itself is very influential on how to behave so as to good character.

| School Level | Number Of Students |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Elementary School | 4.414.227 |
| Junior High School | 1.733.332 |
| Senior High School | 1.136.992 |
| TOTALS | 7.284.551 |

Table 2. Total students Elementary School to High School in West Java Province (Source : recent data from Department of Education West Java Province <http://disdik.jabarprov.go.id>)

Total students above is 16% of Population in West Java that is 45.423.259 peoples. they are the future generation , who are prepared to build a nation , a generation of good character and identity prepared , one of them through the sundanese teaching in schools.

Authors did a research about how the students’s opinion about this topic. Here’s the figure.

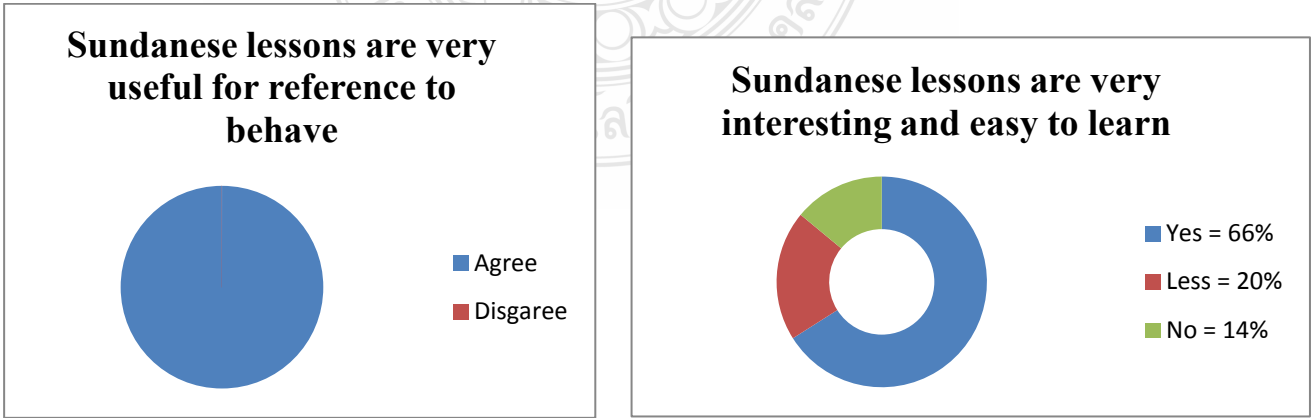


Figure 1. Students’s Opinion

From 50 respondents, which is senior high school students in west Java. they argue that they agree 100% that Sundanese very useful to learn. whereas when questioned how Sundanese learning experience at school, 35 respondents enjoyed and did not encounter any trouble. whereas, 10 respondents admitted a little trouble, grounded as they come from Cirebon area, one of the districts in West Java which used to use other vernacular, namely Cirebonese. And the other students answer is really hard to learn Sundanese language, because of those students come from outside of West Java.

CONCLUSION

West Java government policy through Dept. of Education circulars West Java Province with No. 423/2372/Set-disdik dated March 26, 2013 about Local Content Local Language Learning in Elementary Level (SD / MI), Junior High School (SMP / MTs), Senior High School (SMA / SMK / MA) is a very appropriate step to formation Identity and Character for youth, as a future generation. views of any student opinion, their enthusiasm is very good, and agree with this decision.

Thus, it can be maintained and in order to be found attractive method for the foreseeable future. and should also be applied in other provinces. Ultimately created identity generation, and good character

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