

## ***A Brief Introduction of Indonesian Culture and Its National Identity to College Students in the University of Nueva Caceres***

### **Pengenalan Singkat Budaya Indonesia dan Identitas Nasionalnya kepada Mahasiswa Universitas Nueva Caceres**

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#### **Abstract**

Culture is the identity of a nation. The cultural diversity of the archipelago will further strengthen the identity of the Indonesian nation. The purpose of this service is to introduce Indonesian culture and its national identity to English-language education students at the University of Nueva Caceres, Naga City, Philippines. This Community service activities are carried out for English language education students at the University of Nueva Caceres, Naga City, Philippines. In this activity, data is gathered through observations, interviews, and studies of the literature. There are three steps to this activity: planning, implementation, and evaluating. The result showed that both English education lecturer and students at the University of Nueva Caceres in Naga City, Philippines, learnt more about Indonesian culture and national identity, and they also acquired more vocabulary in the Indonesian language. This means that the activity had a good effect.

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#### **Abstrak**

Kebudayaan merupakan identitas suatu bangsa. Keanekaragaman budaya nusantara akan semakin memperkuat jati diri bangsa Indonesia. Tujuan pengabdian ini adalah untuk memperkenalkan budaya indonesia dan identitas nasionalnya kepada mahasiswa pendidikan bahasa inggris the University of Nueva Caceres , Naga City, Philippines. Kegiatan Pengabdian masyarakat dilakukan pada mahasiswa pendidikan bahasa inggris the University of Nueva Caceres , Naga City, Philippines. Pengumpul data dalam kegiatan ini menggunakan observasi, interview and studi literature. Tahapan dalam kegiatan ini ada tiga yaitu perencanaan , pelaksanaan dan evaluasi. Hasil dari kegiatan adalah bahwa baik dosen maupun mahasiswa pendidikan bahasa inggris the University of Nueva Caceres , Naga City, Philippines, ada mengalami penambahan wawasan dan pengetahuan mengenai budaya indonesia dan identitas nasionalnya serta menambah kosakata dalam bahasa indonesia artinya kegiatan ini memberikan dampak yang positif.

*Keywords:* indonesian culture, national identify

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#### **1. Introduction**

No matter where one resides, one cannot be removed from culture. Culture is an interesting idea because it has to do with how people live, think, feel, believe, and do what is right according to their culture. In this sense, culture is behaviour and social phenomena that describe the identity and image of a society and are passed down from one generation to the next. From generation to generation, via a variety of procedures, a style of life is developed that is optimally matched to its surroundings. (Sumarto, 2019; Syaiful Sagala, 2013; Wibowo, 2013). Every nation has its own culture, where culture represents the national identity. Indonesia is a country that has a multitude of unique cultures because it is made up of many islands. The cultural diversity of the archipelago will strengthen Indonesia's sense of who it is as a country. This means that this is a concrete example of a country's character.

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The study by Handayani (2013), culture is also a way for the work, taste, and creativity of the community to come out. Objects created by humans as cultured creatures, such as patterns of language use, living tools, social organisations, religion, art, and other things that have been shown to help humans survive in society, are the physical manifestations of culture. The identity of the Indonesian nation can be seen in the country's culture and history, which have been around since before the country was independent. National identity will show up in the nation's character, which is what the nation's good values look like in real life. For the people of Indonesia, the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia, or Pancasila, is the source of the country's good values. Pancasila is made up of the ideas of religion, humanity, nationality, sovereignty, and sociality. Building the identity of the Indonesian nation means building the identity of every Indonesian person, which means building the Pancasila person. Identity will show itself in the way subjects, individuals, or entities respond to the problems they face( Handayani, 2013).

Each country is required to comprehend or be aware of the culture of invited partners. For example, the Philippines is required to learn about Indonesian culture because it works with Indonesia. On the other hand, all of this is done to prevent culture shock while travelling abroad. Additionally, it will develop a feeling of mutual respect among nations. The study by P. G. Handayani and Yuca (2018) define culture shock as the process of adapting to and engaging with a new environment. This process often leaves students feeling unprepared for their new surroundings. According to Ward and Furnham (2001), culture shock is the process of adapting to a new environment in the face of change. Culture shock can cause stress and tension in people who have never experienced things like differences in language, style of dress, food and eating habits, interpersonal relationships, weather (climate), study time, eating and sleeping patterns, and the way men and women act. Systems include things like regulations, political systems, changes in the economy, education and teaching systems, hygiene systems, financial arrangements, dress codes, and public transportation(Indrianie, 2012; Zhou et al., 2008). Also, Sandhu & Asrabadi (1994) say that cultural changes cause international students to feel discriminated against, homesick, afraid, guilty, angry, and stressed. Other research indicate that culture shock will have a negative effect on a visitor to a region or nation (McInnes, 2012; Siregar & Kustanti, 2018), this means that you have to learn about the culture of a place or country before you go there to avoid getting "culture shock."

Based on this explanation, the authors do community service "A Brief Introduction of Indonesian Culture and Its National Identity to College Students in the University of Nueva Caceres"

## 2. Methods

This activity is conducted by Zoom at The University of Nueva Caceres on J. Hernandez Avenue in Naga, Camarines Sur, Philippines.

### 1) Data collection technique

For this activity, these methods are used to collect data: a).Observation is the act of directly observing what's going on to get complete and accurate information. In this observation method, the author uses Zoom to watch a University of Nueva Caceres English class and make direct observation.b) Interview, this action is performed by talking to each other directly and indirectly through online tools like Zoom. To get complete information, the author asked English professors and students at the University of Nueva Caceres questions about how much they knew about Indonesian culture and Its National Identity.c) A Study of Literature, this method helps authors find references to back up their work in books, journals, seminars, and other online sources.

### 2) Activity Method

This community service activity employed the teacher-centred, question-and-answer, speech, and PowerPoint presentation methods. These are the steps involved in this procedure:

- a) Planning. This phase initiates the activity process in preparation for the next phase. An English professor at the University of Nueva Caceres invited Amrizal, M.Pd., an English lecturer at STAIN Mandailing Natal, to be a speaker and present "A Brief Introduction to Indonesian Culture and Its National Identity". At this point, the author asked his colleague, Zohri Hamdani, M.Pd., to make observation about how much the teachers and students at the University of Nueva Caceres knew about Indonesian culture.
- b) Implementation

This action occurred between November 16 and November 23, 2020. During the implementation of this activity, two activities were conducted: pre-implementation, which consisted of data collection, observations, and

interviews; and core activities, which were conducted through Zoom and comprised questions and answers, discussions, and ice-breaking.

### c) Evaluation

This activity's writers reviewed and then published this community service, which will be included in the article, so that it may be valued by all people, domestically and internationally.

### 3) Material

Here, the author provides material about the meaning of Bhinneka Tunggal Ika that is distinct from that found in Mpu Tantular/Empu Tantular's book or Sutasoma book. Bhineka Tunggal Ika has a profound significance. Even though there are several tribes, religions, ethnicities, arts, cultures, and languages in Indonesia, they remain one nation and one country. Having a common flag, national anthem, currency, language, etc. The phrases Bhinneka Tunggal Ika also appear on the Garuda Pancasila Bird, the emblem of the Republic of Indonesia. At the Garuda's foot, the Pancasila Bird grasps a ribbon that says Bhinneka Tunggal Ika (Pursika, 2009). These terms may also be understood as: distinct, but identical the students seemed interested in this activity. There were pupils who clicked the menu button and waved, indicating that they wished to question. Next, describe traditional foods and indigenous knowledge. In the archipelago, traditional meals (foods inherited from ancestors) are often related with social and spiritual rites. Traditional foods are an integral part of social and religious festivities, particularly those commemorating birth, marriage, or death.

The study by Dewi (2011), In Sundanese or Javanese culture, for instance, Nasi Tumpeng is a traditional meal served during the Selamatan (selamatan) event. Tumpeng rice is brimming with indigenous knowledge in the form of human duty to respect the Creator, the cosmos, and other people. This lines with study by Rondhi (2007), in addition to being offered for the purposes of offerings (sesaji), which are an expression of reverence for the Creator, tumpeng rice is also served for the purposes of giving (sadaqah) and *Punjung* (bulubekti). Giving (sadaqah) and punjung (bulu bekti) are gestures of respect for one's fellow humans. As a symbol of solidarity, sadaqah is the gift of food from the affluent (higher social strata) to the poor (lower social strata), and vice versa. Punjung/Bulubekti is the practice of donating food from lower social strata to higher social strata as a gesture of allegiance and commitment. In Indonesia, three languages are spoken: the mother tongue, the national language used for academics and everyday activities, and foreign languages utilised for scientific endeavours. In this session, the author also introduces frequently used essential words, such as greeting, *selamat pagi* (good morning), and *selamat malam* (good night). express thanks to others (*terima kasih*) and so on.



**Figure 1.** The activity process



**Figure 2.** The activity process

#### 4) Subject of The Community Service

The subject of this program were English language Education students University of Nueva Caceres, Naga City, Philippines

### 3. Result and Discussion

The community service activities conducted in English language education students at the University of Nueva Caceres, Naga City, Philippines are proceeding without a hitch. During community service activities, people still try to keep and make a cheerful and pleasant atmosphere. This is essential so that students' interest and concentration are maintained. If this exercise is conducted seriously, students will experience anxiety. Obviously, if students are terrified, some tasks cannot be completed.

Additionally, lecturers support activities. The strong excitement of the students and lecturers energised the service group. Students were asked a number of questions on the delivered material at the conclusion of the program. Students replied enthusiastically. On a regular basis, his peers urge him to assist students who cannot answer questions. The eagerness of the participants to ask questions indicates both a reaction and a development in the students' abilities. In this scenario, students have a deeper understanding of Indonesian culture.

### 4. Conclusion

Based on direct observations and questions and responses during the exercise. This act of community service can take conclusion the following results: 1) Enhance the understanding of lecturers and students at the University of Nueva Caceres about Indonesian culture. 2) Improving the Indonesian language abilities of lecturers and students at the University of Nueva Caceres. 3) introducing to the world audience the English Education Study STAIN Mandailing Natal Program.

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