



Building Character Education with The History an Islamic Empires in Nusantara: A Theoretical Study

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Abstract

Character is a basic value that builds individual personality. Character formation is influenced by genes or heredity and environment. The world of education, as one of the environments that shape individual personality is expected to have a maximum role in character formation. The importance of character studies is in response to moral decline, low ethics, lack of nationalism, and the emergence of instant generation. As a result, our generation easily violates the rules, not only the rules of society, and the rule of law but also the rules of religion. History learning is full of values, examples, patriotism, nationalism, and an unyielding spirit. One of the history learning materials in schools is the history of the Islamic kingdom in Nusantara. Resilience, tenacity and morality of Islamic leaders in building civilization and opposing western colonialism are real role model for students. Learning from experience, and the wisest learning is from the experience of people in the past (history).

Keywords: Character building, History, Islamic Empire, Nationalism

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Introduction

Character is a morality that settled in the nature of the individual, which gave rise to positive behavior, without lies and pretense, because it has become a habit. Character formation is strongly influenced by genes or heredity and the environment (Samani and Hariyanto, 2012: 43). The character attaches to the individual manifested in his attitude and behavior in everyday life.

Looking at two things that influence the formation of human character, heredity and environment. If the hereditary characters inherited to the individual cannot be changed, the characters that are influenced by the environment can be recycled or optimally influenced, one of them through the school environment (education).

Character education in schools rests on the basic human character that comes from universal moral values. Nashir (2002: 783) states, value is something that is considered valuable in human life and affect the attitude of his life. Value is something that is considered important, so maintained by individuals to give reference, starting point and purpose of life, (Adisusilo, 2013: 56 and Kartini, 1987: 533). Of the values that follow the character of a person is formed.

Asmani (2011: 33) says the values of basic human character are love for God and His creation, responsibility, honesty, courtesy, compassion, caring and cooperation, confidence, creativity, hard work, and never giving up, etc. In senior high schools, according to Permendikbud number of 20 years 2016, about the dimensions of attitudes or characters that students must have who are loyal and careful to God, character, honest and caring, responsible, true learners for life, and physically healthy and spiritual.

Character education is one of the answers to the moral decline that occurs in the generation of the nation. If previous problems teenagers ranged between drugs, brawl, and skipping school. But lately these negative behaviors are increasing and massive, such as rape, blasphemy, free sex, joining organizations of forbidden, even terrorism, such as news that is rife in the mass media today.

Education has a big role in shaping human personality for the better. Anies Baswedan in his speech explains the character that must be established and built in the world of education that is, moral character and performance character. Moral characters include; faith, taqwa, honest, and humble. Then, the performance characters are; hard work, tenacious, tough, not easily give up, and thoroughly. This character should be owned by every human being, especially learners as the younger generation, the reformer generation of the nation's life towards the better.

The complete dimensions of character that must be possessed by the learners are reflected in their daily life, of course requires innovation, approach, and strategy that qualified, so that the purpose of character education to fruition. Learning history as one of the compulsory subjects in school can play an active role in character education. Historical events are full of meaning, and have values with appropriate approaches and materials processing strategies, believed to be able to build a positive attitude in students.

Method

This research is a study of theoretical history, with the qualitative descriptive methods. Qualitative descriptive research is a study that describes or describes the object of research based on facts and all the symptoms or circumstances as they are (Nawawi and Martini, 1996: 73). Qualitative research is a research method based on the philosophy of post positivism, which is used to examine the condition of natural objects, where researchers are as a key instrument, data collection techniques with triangulation, data analysis is inductive or qualitative, and qualitative research results emphasize the meaning of generalization (Sugiono, 2012: 9).

Building character education through the history of the Islamic empire in Nusantara takes more research from negative phenomena that infect the younger generation. The study of literature through the media, documents, books, and main sources of study, which then analyzed and interpreted into a writing.

Results and Discussion

A. Character Education

The quality of the Indonesian people developed in every learning process at all levels must be in accordance with national education objectives, since the goal of national education becomes the basic foundation in the development of character education and nation culture. As contained in Undang-undang Sistem Pendidikan Nasional number. 20 year 2003 stated that,

National Education functions to develop and form the character and civilization of a dignified nation in order to educate the nation's life, aims to develop the potential of learners to become human beings who believe and taqwa to Tuhan Yang Maha Esa, have a noble character, healthy, knowledgeable, capable, creative, independent, and become a democratic and responsible citizen.

From the above description of the National Education Law can be analyzed that, actually education not only form a smart Indonesian man, but also has a strong foundation in terms of personality. Thus formed a generation that grows and develops in accordance with the character that breathes the religious values and noble values of the nation.

Essentially, the meaning of the characters according to Pusat Bahasa Depdiknas (in Gunawan, 2012 : 1-2) are matters that are psychological, morals or character that distinguishes someone from others. Character also means heart, character is soul, character is personality and akhlak. So that the human character is said to be a human who has a heart (conscience), soul personality and good manners.

Character education that is integrated in every learning process, according to Megawangi (2004: 95) is an effort to educate children to make wise decisions and practices in everyday life, so that they have a positive contribution to the environment. Character education in the learning process aims to integrate values into the nature and behavior of everyday learners. Gaffar as quoted by Kesuma (2011: 5) asserts that character education is a process of transforming the values of life to grow in personality so that personality becomes one in one's life behavior. Character education is a process of value transformation, then these values become a personality in students as a guide, the basis of an action.

Character education is the absolute answer to creating a better life in our society. Given the current changes of times, and every nation realizes that the character of every citizen is an important identity in global associations. Indonesia's world-famous human character with its friendliness, help, and having strong family ties, certainly does not want to only be in a story that does not make sense, because it is

eroded by changing times. Character education is a continuous effort to create and 'maintain' the personality of students as the nation's next generation to remain in its noble path.

B. Historical Learning and Character Education

In the curriculum, character education whose material directly exists and becomes a learning topic of religious education and civic education. To a certain extent, these two subjects discuss values, norms, ethics and internalize in the personality of the nation. However, it does not mean other subjects are out of character in character education. Historical subjects as one of the compulsory subjects in school, have a strategic meaning in the process of forming the character of learners.

In Permendiknas Number 22 Year 2006, historical material taught to learners,

1. It contains values of heroism, exemplary, pioneering, patriotism, nationalism, and unyielding spirit that underlies the process of forming the character and personality of learners.
2. Contents of the civilization of nations, including the civilization of the Indonesian nation. The material is a fundamental educational material for the process of forming and the creation of civilization of the Indonesian nation in the future.
3. To instill awareness of unity and brotherhood and solidarity to become the glue of the nation in facing the threat of nation disintegration.
4. Loaded of moral teachings and wisdom useful in overcoming multidimensional crises faced in everyday life.
5. Useful to instill and develop a responsible attitude in maintaining balance and environmental sustainability.

From the description of Permendiknas above, it can be concluded that learning history has an important role in the character formation of learners, because history learning contains the values of wisdom that can be used to train intelligence, shape the attitude, character, and personality of learners. The overall values contained in the learning history must be reflected in the attitudes and behaviors of learners.

In line with Permendiknas above Kartodirdjo (1988) reveals, in the framework of nation-building, learning history does not merely serve to provide historical knowledge, as a collection of historical fact information but also aims to awaken learners or raise awareness of history. As events that have occurred in the past, history becomes an experience that is capable of raising awareness for those who study it, then history is not only limited to knowledge, but also an awareness to 'learn from history' (Abdullah and Surjomiharjo, 1985: ix).

From this historical awareness, then learning history occupies an urgent position as a subject that is able to build the character or personality of learners in accordance with the culture of the nation. Moral of a leader in the past and courage in defending the truth, are some examples of attitudes that should be instilled in students, so that attitudes are attached to the eternal personality.

C. Character Education from the History of the Islamic Kingdom in Nusantara

The entry of Islam into Nusantara, became the beginning of the modern era in Nusantara (Ricklefs, 2004). Syiar Islam which is done peacefully by the Ulama who came from the Middle East around the century VII AD (Hamka, 1985) easily accepted by the community. Morals possessed by the mubalq and Muslim traders, is the main factor in the droves of people embracing Islam. What a good character, the basis for the people to sympathize and raise themselves becomes part of the Islamic ummah.

Here are examples of character lessons that can be applied in the discussion about the Islamic Kingdom in Nusantara;

Fact	The Sultanate of Aceh Darussalam reached its peak during the reign of Sultan Iskandar Muda, 1607 - 1636 AD
Concept	The Sultanate
Principle (cause and effect)	The leadership of Sultan Iskandar Muda in running the government with good politics People's progress in economy and trade The development of Islamic culture and values applied in the daily life of

	<p>the community.</p> <p>Has a formidable army, so the kingdom is safe from external threats</p> <p>Fostering good international relations, particularly with Middle East and developed countries in Europe and Asia.</p>
Character building	<p>Exemplary: Conducive political situation in the kingdom is a reflection of the Sultan Iskandar Muda's expertise in government in a fair, have a good character, and have a strong opinion.</p> <p>Hard work: Economic progress that provides comfort in people's lives is a testament to the hard work of a leader in managing the kingdom well.</p> <p>Religious: Implementation of Islamic religious values in the kingdom and society to regulate all aspects of life.</p> <p>Discipline: During the reign of Sultan Iskandar Muda, Aceh Darussalam Forestry has never been threatened by outside attacks, because the kingdom has a formidable army trained with high discipline.</p> <p>Friendly / Communicative: Able to establish good cooperation with foreign countries for mutual progress.</p> <p>Etc</p>

The current young generation will become the nation's leader in the future, the planting of strong leadership character is the first step of the nation's progress in the future. If all teachers contribute to the cultivation of values and character to learners, then Indonesia will become a developed nation, not only in terms of economy, technology, but also the extraordinary achievement in the welfare of the ummah that becomes the birth of civil society.

Conclusion

The fundamental thing that can change a person is education. The character that exists within everyone is the result of his or her education. The importance of character education is the main foundation to form a civilized generation, which is a generation that has moral, ethical, and ethical aspects in carrying out all aspects of life, both in personality and society, and in the world of work. The advanced and civilized nation is a reflection of the behavior of its people, because it is impossible for a civilization to be created if the human is immoral.

The importance of historical education in shaping the character of learners, because they can directly learn from experience or historical events in the past. History is built on facts, so the figure or leader who made the right example, not a mere fictional story that will not happen. Nusantara reaches the glorious period in civilization is when the empire and the Islamic sultanate reign in this country. So this period is worthy of being a role model in organizing the young generation who began to lack of moral, moral character and performance character.

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