

Investigation Of Character Values In Students Through Festivals In Minangkabau Culture Subjects

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Abstract

This research aims to describe the instillation of character values in students through cultural festivals using a descriptive quantitative approach. Data collection was conducted through surveys, which assessed students' understanding of the character values imparted during various festival activities, such as *baralek gadang*, *randai*, traditional dance, *manampih bareh*, and *petatah petitih*. The results reveal that the majority of students possess a good to very good understanding of these character values, as demonstrated by the data analysis, which showed a score of 87.54%. The research findings suggest that the Minangkabau cultural festival plays a significant role in shaping students' positive attitudes and character development by promoting important values like cooperation, tolerance, responsibility, and cultural pride. These results underscore the effectiveness of using local cultural practices as a means of character education. The integration of local wisdom, such as the Minangkabau festival, can enhance students' personal growth and moral development, making it a vital component in higher education curricula. The study highlights the broader benefits of embedding cultural traditions within the educational system to foster a stronger connection between students and their cultural heritage, while simultaneously building essential character traits.

Keywords: *Character Values; Festival; Planting*

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Introduction

It is realized that character values in Indonesia can be used as a means of education considering that educational practices have so far been too Western-oriented. In fact, these existing values have many advantages, students do not need to imagine how to apply the values learned at university, because everything is reflected in their daily lives. This is an effort to carry out an indigenization process, namely a process of scientific refinement based on aspects of national culture which is often referred to as local wisdom.(Zulfa, 2019)

Students participated in the Minangkabau Cultural Festival activities Faculty Social Sciences and Humanities which consists of several study programs, namely the English language education study program with 66 students, the Guidance and Counseling education study program with 139 students, the Social Sciences education study program with 33 students, the History education study program with 33 students 31 people, Geography education study program with 32 students, Sociology education study program with 80 students(Husnita, nd-a)



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This activity was opened by the Chancellor of PGRI University, West Sumatra, Mr. Prof. Dr.

H. Ansofino, M.Si, on this occasion the Chancellor conveyed that The Minangkabau Cultural Festival and Entrepreneurship Expo at PGRI University of West Sumatra has been running for 5 years, and this activity will be able to create a generation that is able to maintain and pass on from generation to generation the Minangkabau culture itself. Furthermore, the Chancellor also said that there were several achievements from the festival activities, including: a. can create student personalities who are capable of good diplomacy, b. have religious skills or religious intelligence, c. able to create a person who has a philosophy of life (*duduak samo randah, tagak samo high*) which means that a person individually or in a group is equal to other individuals or groups, only different levels and roles, not degrees, d. able to create individuals who have a true entrepreneurial spirit (UPGRISBA Information Portal, 2024)

The Minangkabau Cultural Festival is a routine activity held every semester at the PGRI University of West Sumatra (UPGRISBA). This event not only enlivens the field with various live cultural performances, but can also be enjoyed by the entire community through live broadcasts on YouTube. There are several cultural festivals held, namely (a) Baralek Gadang; (b) Randai; (c) Petiti Decree; (d) Dance; (e) Winnowing Bareh. Based on the Cultural Festival, character values are instilled in students.

In fact, the Minangkabau Culture course places more emphasis on cognitive aspects. Character education learning should not only be oriented towards cognitive aspects but also affective and psychomotor aspects (Jannah, M, 2020). Character education can be developed by identifying the values found in society and then internalizing them to become habits in everyday behavior (Syarifah, S, 2023). This is caused by character which actually emphasizes behavior more than knowledge. Based on the problems that have been described, there is a need for a contemporary form of learning using Contextual Learning in Minangkabau culture courses as a strengthening of national identity for students in tertiary institutions. The problem formulation is as follows: How does the Minangkabau cultural festival influence the cultivation of character values, with the aim of describing the influence of the Minangkabau cultural festival on the cultivation of character values:

Method

This research describes or explains the existing phenomena in detail, systematically and in accordance with the actual facts in the field regarding "Instilling Character Values in Students Through Festivals in Minangkabau Culture Subjects," this method can be applied to measure and explain how this festival influences the instilling of character values in students.

The type and source of data is descriptive quantitative research, the primary data for this research is through the distribution of student questionnaires at the PGRI University of West Sumatra (UPGRISBA) Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities (FISHUM). Secondary data is written sources, photos or documents. Documentation data collection techniques in the form of RPS (Semester Learning Plan) for lecturers teaching Minangkabau Culture courses

The natural population for this research is all students from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities. The number of respondents was all students from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities who took Minangkabau Culture courses. Based on data from the course lecturer, Mrs. Liza Husnita M.Pd, students who took part in the cultural festival can see that there are 11 classes consisting of English language education, guidance and counseling education, social studies education, history education, geography education and sociology education. The instrument used to collect data is a questionnaire, which is a series or list of questions that are arranged systematically, then sent to be filled in by respondents.

Result and Discussion

Based on the results of interviews with Dr. Zulfa, M.Pd, M.Hum on August 16 2024 "The history of the birth of the Minangkabau Culture course at PGRI University, West Sumatra is an important step in enriching students' soft skills while preserving cultural heritage. This idea was first put forward by Mrs. Dr. Zusmelia, M.Si, who proposed the existence of mandatory courses that support student character development. "After going through a process of meetings and discussions with university

leaders, it was agreed that the Minangkabau Culture course would be part of the mandatory curriculum for all study programs at Universitas PGRI West Sumatra (UPGRISBA)."

In 2017, the first steps in preparing this course began with the development of textbooks, curriculum and Semester Learning Plans (RPS). Eight authors were involved in the publication of this first textbook, including Dr. Zusmelia herself, father Firdaus, Syamsiarni, Lira Hayu Afdetis Mana, Pak Budi Juliardi Rio Tutri, and mother Refni Yulia. They collaborate to produce material that is rich and relevant to the objectives of this course.

To ensure the quality and accuracy of the material, Universitas PGRI West Sumatra (UPGRISBA) also invited a history expert, Prof. Dr. Gusti Asnan, who played an important role in compiling and editing the textbook. After the books and curriculum were completed, this course was officially launched in 2017 and began to be taught to students of that generation. This Minangkabau Culture course consists of three credits, with one theory credit and two practice credits.

The Minangkabau Cultural Festival carries activities including; Baralek Gadang is a large-scale celebration which is the culmination of a series of traditional wedding ceremonies in Minangkabau culture. This event displays the rich traditions and customs of Minangkabau through various processions, such as Bajapuik (picking up of the groom by the bride's family), Manjalang (formal visit of the bride and groom to a relative's house), and Pasambahan (exchange of traditional rhymes). Randai is a traditional performing art from Minangkabau that combines elements of theater, dance, music and oral literature in one harmonious whole (Wibowo, et.al, 2023). This performance is usually performed by a group of performers who form a circle, where they interact through dialogue, dance movements and traditional musical accompaniment.

Dance festivals in Minangkabau culture are an important event to celebrate and promote the richness of traditional dance arts passed down from generation to generation. In this festival, various typical Minangkabau dances such as the Indang Dance, Alek Nagari Dance, Bagurau Dance, Kreasi Dance, Pasambahan Dance, Piriang Dance, and Bajamba Dance are performed with great enthusiasm and pride. The Petatah Petitih Festival in Minangkabau culture is a celebration that highlights the richness of local traditions and wisdom through various processions and rituals. Manampih Bareh is a tradition in Minangkabau culture that involves the process of selecting and cleaning rice after the rice harvest. This festival is a form of gratitude for the abundant harvest, where the community gathers to carry out this activity together, strengthen togetherness, and preserve traditional traditions.

Based on research and data analysis results on instilling character values in students through the Minangkabau cultural festival, the following results were obtained: *Hiduik baraka, baukue jo bajangko* (Life Thinking, measuring and future)

Based on the analysis of the student's character values questionnaire, the total number of statement items is 50 statements with the results per indicator totaling 11 indicators as follows:

Table 1. Indicators for assessing student questionnaire results for the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities

| No | Assessment Indicators | Percentage | Questionnaire Processing Results |
|----|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. | Hiduik baraka, baukue jo bajangko | 91.90% | Very Understanding |
| 2. | Baso stale - embarrassed and polite | 92.63% | Very Understanding |
| 3. | Graceful | 83.42% | Understand |
| 4. | Loyal (loyal) | 79.15% | Understand |
| 5. | Fair | 77.82% | Understand |

| | | | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|--------|--------------------|
| 6. | Save carefully | 90.43% | Very Understanding |
| 7. | Alert | 91.97% | Very Understanding |
| 8. | Dare because it's true | 89.25% | Very Understanding |
| 9. | Arif is wise, responsive and patient | 88.78% | Very Understanding |
| 10. | Diligent | 89.73% | Very Understanding |
| 11. | Humble | 90.26% | Very Understanding |

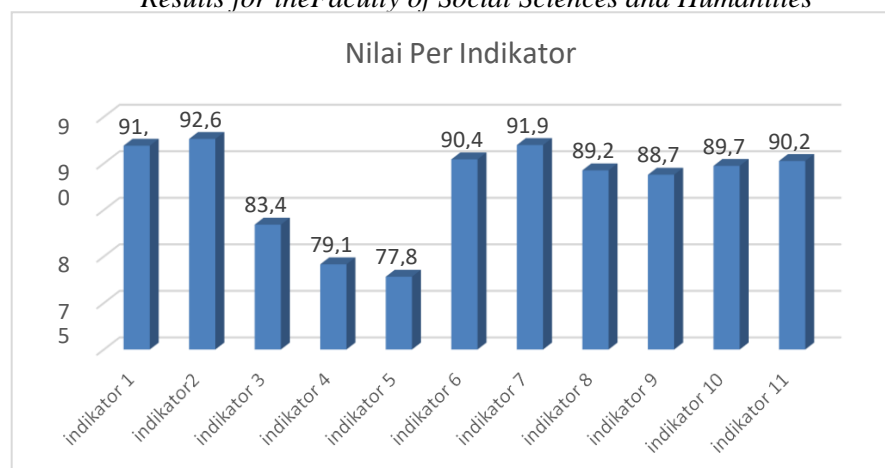
Source: Researcher Processed Data

Based on the results of questionnaire processing, students generally show a very good understanding of the character values measured. The indicator with the highest average is Basobasi - malu jo polite with 92.63%, followed by wary with 91.97%, and Hiduik baraka, baukuejo bajangko with 91.90%. All these indicators show that students really understand these values.

Additionally, indicators such as Conscientious thrift and Humility also show a high level of understanding with an average of 90.43% and 90.26% respectively. Being brave because you are right and being diligent also get very understanding results, with an average of 89.25% and 89.73%. Understanding of Arif's values of being wise, responsive and patient is slightly below with an average of 88.78%, but still in the "Very Understanding" category.

Meanwhile, there are several values in the "Understanding" category, namely Grace with 83.42%, Loyalty with 79.15%, and Fairness with 77.82%. This average shows that although students understand these values, the level of understanding is not as strong as other indicators. Overall, the majority of these cultural values were very well understood by students, with some areas that may require more attention to strengthen their understanding.

Figure 1. Diagram of Indicators for Assessment of Student Questionnaire Results for the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities



Source: Researcher Processed Data

The bar chart shows the level of understanding of 11 different indicators. Indicator 2 occupies the highest position with a value of 92.63, indicating that the understanding interval for this indicator is in the very understanding category. Indicators 1 and 7 also show a very understanding level, with values of 91.9 and 91.97 respectively.

Based on research and data analysis results on instilling character values in students through the Minangkabau cultural festival, the following results were obtained:

Table 2. Recapitulation of the Character Values Indicator Questionnaire

| No. | Research Indicators | Final score | Max Score |
|-----|--------------------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| 1. | Hiduik baraka, baukue jo bajangko | 1,397 | 1,520 |
| 2. | Baso stale - embarrassed and polite | 2,112 | 2,280 |
| 3. | Graceful | 1,585 | 1,900 |
| 4. | Loyal (loyal) | 1,504 | 1,900 |
| 5. | Fair | 1,183 | 1,520 |
| 6. | Save carefully | 1,031 | 1,140 |
| 7. | Alert | 1,398 | 1,520 |
| 8. | Dare because it's true | 2,013 | 2,280 |
| 9. | Arif is wise, responsive and patient | 2,699 | 3,040 |
| 10. | Diligent | 682 | 760 |
| 11. | Humble | 1,029 | 1,140 |
| | Amount | 16,633 | 19,000 |

Source: Processed Researcher Data

$$P = \frac{\text{Nilai Yang Diperoleh}}{\text{Skor Maksimal}} \times 100\%$$

$$= 16,633 : 19,000 \times 100\%$$

$$= 87.54\% \text{ (Very understand)}$$

Based on the results of research and discussions that have been carried out, it was found that the level of understanding of students from the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities regarding the cultivation of character values through the Minangkabau cultural festival is in the very understanding category. Students are in the understanding category with a value interval of 68% - 83% and really understand with a value interval of 84% - 100% because they obtained a final score of 87.54%. These data show that the majority of students have a very good understanding of instilling character values in this cultural festival.

Cultural festivals have a very important role in forming student character, especially in the context of teaching and deepening their understanding of Minangkabau cultural values. For example, through involvement in activities such as performing the Baralek Gadang, students not only learn about the implementation of these traditional ceremonies, but also explore the roles involved in them, such as being anak daro, marapulai, or accompanist.

Conclusion

Instilling character values in students through cultural festivals has proven effective in forming positive attitudes and behavior. Cultural festivals as a forum for social interaction and cultural exchange are able to introduce and instill values such as cooperation, tolerance, responsibility and a sense of pride in cultural identity.

Based on the results of data analysis on the hiduik baraka baukue jo bajangko indicator, the results were 91.90% in the very understanding category, the baso baso-malu jo polite indicator obtained a result of 92.63%, the results were in the very understanding category, the Tenggang Raso indicator obtained a result of 83.42. % are in the understanding category, the faithful (loyal) indicator gets a result of 79.15% is in the understanding category, the fair indicator gets a result of 77.82% is in the understanding category, the conscientious indicator gets a result of 90.43% is in the very understand category, the alert indicator obtained a result of 91.97% in the very understanding category, the alert indicator obtained a result of 89.25% in the very understanding category, the wise, responsive and

patient indicator obtained a result of 88.78% in the very understanding category, the indicator being diligent got a result of 89.73% in the very understanding category, and the humble indicator got a result of 90.26% in the very understanding category.

Based on the description above, instilling character values in students through festivals in the Minangkabau culture course received a final score of 87.54% in the very understanding category. Thus, cultural festivals play an important role in forming the character of students who are broad-minded, tolerant and responsible.

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