UNDERSTANDING OF REGIONAL HISTORY AND PERCEPTION OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY IN DEVELOPING NATIONALISM

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ABSTRACT

This paper is a research article that aims to determine: 1) whether there is a relationship between the understanding of the history of the area and the attitude of nationalism, 2) the relationship between the perception between the cultural diversity and the attitude of nationalism, and 3) the relationship between the understanding and perception between the area’s history of cultural diversity and the attitude in the students of nationalism of History Education Program in FKIP Unlam Banjarmasin. The findings of this research are there is a significant positive relationship between the understanding between the history of the area and the perception of cultural diversity with the nationalism attitudes of students. This implies that fostering an attitude of nationalism among students of educational history should be done by strengthening the understanding of local history, especially the history of the struggle in the area and instill a positive perception of the nation’s cultural diversity.

Key Word: regional history, cultural diversity, attitude of nationalism, FKIP Unlam
Introduction

Nationalism could be understood by creating and maintaining the sovereignty of a state (nation) to realize the concept of a common identity of a group of Indonesian nationalism for humanity's group. Indonesia nationalism substantive has two elements: First; awareness of the unity of Indonesia which consists of many tribes, ethnics, and religion. Second, the awareness of the nation of Indonesia in eliminating all forms of colonialism and oppression in Indonesia.

Realizing the geographic, cultural, and ethnical, of the archipelago are inhabited by hundreds of tribes with diverse cultural and religious beliefs. This fact encourages independence in the era of pioneering struggle adopted the idealization that the nation is a group of people who have the same background in history, destiny, purpose and idealism. This is the formula that unites all ethnic groups in Indonesia to become one nation. This is precisely the formula of empirically Indonesia that has led the nation to independence gates (Soemintro, 1994:32).

Departing from the assumption that the attitude of nationalism should also have demonstrated by citizens of the nation is nationalism that is based on understanding the history of the struggle of the people in each region and the perception of the true local culture as a shaper of Indonesian identity intact. Understanding back the toughness and tenacity of various regions has led to a more neatly knit again unity and national unity. Community of nations consisting of ethnic unity does not grow on its own, and is formed through a long historical process. National identity is the result of the maturation process of national integration (Taufik Abdullah, 1996:13).

The study of history is often not understood as an effort to cultivate an attitude of nationalism, especially the history of the region that is often considered to be less unique and less critical. Purwanto (2006) points out, that if the principle of history as something unique is applied, it can be said that all history is actually local history. Meanwhile, the national history is nothing but a political representation of local history in a new frame of spatial dimension, when the development of nationalism has created a new identity in the context of the nation state. National history is essentially a collection of local history in a wider spatial frame, thus understanding local history as an effort to foster an attitude of nationalism is as important as understanding the national history.

In addition, the history of the struggle of the people of the area, which is not less important is the cultural diversity of the region. As explained upfront that Indonesian nationalism was formed in the cultural diversity of each region. So it cannot be denied that the Indonesian culture is essentially a manifestation of regional cultures themselves. Correct perception of the diversity of cultures will be able to direct every community in the region to have a strong identity and character as a human being in the frame of multiculturalism in Indonesia. In addition to this, the history of many large countries proves that people are able to develop into a world-class competitor in the nation is a nation that has a strong cultural identity and is able to maintain the greatness of their cultural roots.
Materials and Methods

Variable in this research is an understanding of the history of the area and the perception of cultural diversity as the independent variable (independent/predictor) and the attitude of nationalism as the dependent variable or criterium variables. The variables understanding of the history of the area is more focused on the history of the struggle in the region. Furthermore, because the data collected numerical data used quantitative analysis. This research is conducted in History Education of Teacher Training Program Education Faculty of the University of Lambung Mangkurat Banjarmasin.

This research uses correlational descriptive. Descriptive research (descriptive research) is a research method that describes phenomena exist, in the current or past time (Syoadih, 2008: 54). The correlational research: the research is to find out relation of variables with other variables (Syoadih, 2008: 56).

The data in this research uses a test to collect captured data on the area of understanding (X1), and the use a questionnaire to collect data on perceptions of cultural diversity (X2) as independent variables while the dependent variable is the attitude of nationalism (Y) also use questionnaires.

Results

Results of this study with the hypothesis testing using correlation and multiple regression analysis are described as follows:

1. Understanding the relationship between the history of the area with the attitude of Nationalism, and to test the hypothesis that there is a positive relationship between the understanding of the history of the area and an attitude of nationalism use correlation. Based on analysis of the calculation results of correlation analysis, the obtained value of $r_{hitung} = 0.984$ (positive values).

This calculation results gained through the consultation with $r_{table}$ with a significance level of 5% and degrees of freedom $N = 158$, the obtained $r_{table} = 0.159$. So the conclusion $r_{hitung} = 0.984 > r_{table} = 0.159$, so the hypothesis that there is a significant positive relationship between the understanding of the history of the area and the attitude of nationalism so the hypothesis his acceptable.

2. The relationship between perceptions of cultural diversity in South Kalimantan the attitude of nationalism. To test the hypothesis is that there is a positive relationship between the perceptions of cultural diversity with and the attitude of nationalism, use correlation analysis. Based on the calculation of the correlation analysis, earned value $r_{hitung} = 0.981$ (positive values).

This calculation results gained through $r_{table}$ with a significance level of 5% and degrees of freedom $N = 158$ obtained $r_{table} = 0.159$. So the conclusion $r_{hitung} = 0.981 > r_{table} = 0.159$, so the hypothesis that there is a positive relationship is significant, and between perceptions on cultural diversity is cultural nationalism manner is accepted.

3. Understanding the relationship between the history of the area and the perception of cultural diversity together with an attitude of nationalism. To test the hypothesis that there is a significant relationship between the understanding of local history and perceptions of cultural diversity and
the attitude of nationalism use multiple regression analysis. Based on the results of the regression processing with SPSS version 17, obtained resume in the analysis of variance as follows:

**Table 8.4.**

**Variant analysis summary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Sum of Squares</th>
<th>Df</th>
<th>Mean Square</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>11458.745</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5729.372</td>
<td>2594.371</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residual</td>
<td>342.300</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>2.208</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>11801.044</td>
<td>157</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Predictors: (Constant), Perceptions of Cultural Diversity, Understanding of History

b. Dependent Variable: Attitude of Nasionalism

Based on the above summary, the analysis of variance regression model between historical variable understanding and perception of the cultural diversity of attitudes towards nationalism has a significant relationship.

This statement is seen from the table above F-test, where the values obtained value of $F_{obtained} = 2594.371$. Then the value of $F_{obtained}$ in consult with $F_{table}$ with degree 1 = 2 and 2 = 155 degrees of freedom obtained $F_{table} = 3.054$. So, the conclusion is that $F_{obtained} > F_{table}$, which means that the hypothesis that there is a significant positive relationship between historical understanding and perception of the diversity of nationalism of culture manners.

The complete result in the history of the revolutionary period of physical understanding and perception of the diversity of cultural nationalism that influence the attitudes is at 0.985.

The value obtained from the result processing of SPSS version 17 on the model of summary is as follows:

**Table 8.5.**

**Donations regression of historical understanding on physical revolution and perception of cultures diversity in South Kalimantan with an attitude of nationalism**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>R</th>
<th>R Square</th>
<th>Adjusted R Square</th>
<th>Std. Error of the Estimate</th>
<th>Durbin-Watson</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>.985</td>
<td>.971</td>
<td>.971</td>
<td>1.486</td>
<td>1.819</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Predictors: (Constant), Perceptions of Cultural Diversity, Understanding of History

b. Dependent Variable: Attitude of Nasionalism

The purpose of this figure is the attitude of nationalism will increase to 0.985 if each student has an understanding to the history of the area and the perception of cultural diversity. Form of regression equations, can be seen on the coefficients, in the form of a summary analysis of the regression coefficients, as follows:

**Table 8.6.**

**Summary of multiple regression coefficient analysis**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Unstandardized Coefficients</th>
<th>Standardized Coefficients</th>
<th>t</th>
<th>Sig.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Std. Error</td>
<td>Beta</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>(Constant) 65.043</td>
<td>7.830</td>
<td>8.306</td>
<td>.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Understanding of History .806</td>
<td>.123</td>
<td>.670</td>
<td>6.566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Perceptions of Cultural Diversity .236</td>
<td>.076</td>
<td>.317</td>
<td>3.103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Dependent Variable: Attitude of Nasionalism

Summary of the analysis of the coefficients can be described by the
following equation: \( Y = 65.043 + 0.806 X_1 + 0.236 X_2 \). Interpretation of this equation is as follows: 

- \( b_0 = 65.043 \) means that the attitude of nationalism would decrease by 65.043 if the variable of historical understanding and perception of the cultural diversity is 0.
- \( b_1 = 0.806 \) means that the attitude of nationalism will increase 0.806 units if 1 unit increase understanding of the history of learning outcomes assuming perceptions of cultural diversity is 0.
- \( b_2 = 0.236 \) means that the attitude of nationalism will increase 0.236 units if variable perceptions of attitudes toward cultural diversity increases 1 unit assuming perception of historical understanding is 0.

1. Furthermore, to determine the contribution of each independent variable can be determined via the relative contribution amount and the effective contribution of each variable \((X_1, X_2)\) as follows: 

   a) For the historical understanding of the variables \((X_1) = 68.016\%\)
   
   b) For the variable perceptions of cultural diversity \((X_2) = 31.984\%\)

   These results indicate that the variable \(X_1\) has a role in the formation of 66.023\% and a variable linear regression \(X_2\) has a role in the formation of 31.047\% linear regression. Meanwhile, it remains of result about 2.93\% is a variable other than the two which variables that influence the formation of linear regression.

**Discussion**

Based on the results of hypothesis testing and data analysis that has been done, it can be discussed as follows:

**Understanding the relationship between the history of the area with the attitude of Nationalism.**

The result of hypothesis test above has found a positive relationship between the variables of historical understanding with nationalism attitudes of students. Based on the study of the theory, it can be seen that the area history is essentially a history of the struggle in which there is the spirit of integration, patriotism, and become of every citizen of Indonesian nationalism.

Understanding the history of the struggle is to understand how the Indonesian nationalism maintained and indirectly also the internalization process of emotional integration process that also characterizes the struggle in the region. Emotional integration according to Kochhar (2008: 471) does not involve geography, economic, social, or political; This is the intellectual aspect of integration is realized through education as the first stage and then followed by functional integration.
National integration is not aimed at uniformity of thought and action, but it gives a new realization that there are similarities among the differences. It is a harmonious blend of feeling and healthy. Emotions can be centered in around an object, person, family, or group. If emotion is built around the nation as its center, the result is emotional integration nationally. Emotional integration is manifested in the love for the country, feeling excited about the welfare obtained, as well as feelings of anger when danger threatens [its state] (Kochhar, 2008: 472).

Education is a process of internalization of values which including the value of nationalism. Beside, the understanding is one of the important aspects to the process of internalizing the values of nationalism. Understanding history in this nation’s history of struggle is a process of growing nationalism through awareness of the historical realities that shape national identity.

If someone has been able to achieve the level of critical awareness of the reality, people also started to enter into the process of understanding and not merely memorizing process. People who understand are not the ones who memorize, as he states himself or something based on “consciousness system”, while those who only claim to memorize or something mechanically without realizing what he was saying (Freire, 2007: xviii).

It explains why the hypothesis test obtained a high value contribution to the awareness of the history of nationalism attitude. Those who have a high understanding of the history of the struggle will tend to express attitudes based on awareness system that has been developed in the process of understanding, so that if there are significant differences in the understanding of aspects of the history it will automatically make a significant contribution to the attitude of nationalism.

The next important factor to explain why understanding the history of struggle in the area contribute to the attitude of nationalism is the strong spirit of patriotism in the narrative history of the struggle. The phrase “be patriotic nationalists” (Kohn in O’neil, 2008: 211) suggests that if the spirit of patriotism can be transmitted, in this case through a historical narrative of national struggle then becomes a necessity to foster an attitude of nationalism within the individual who has an understanding of history struggle.

Nationalism indicates a positive attitude, maintaining the independence and dignity of the nation and at the same time respecting other nations (Kansil, 2011: 199-200). Value of this attitude can be seen in the history of the struggle of the nation, especially the history of the physical revolution which maintains independence of Indonesia was proclaimed. Substantive linkage that is the important factor why understanding the history of the region is able to contribute significantly to the attitude of nationalism.

If a review of psychological used to see the relationship with the local historical understanding of nationalism student attitudes can be used or the correspondence approaches inter-relations. History of the area especially the physical revolution is clearly shown one side of heroic nationalism, this aspects is that it’s easy to understand their meaning by generation who did not experience physical struggle during the revolution. The heroic aspect is reinforced by the intellectual aspect of the construction of nationalism within the students will be very strong.
The historical fact explains that the ‘pure Indonesian nationalism was probably born in the group of Indonesian students both in the Netherlands and in Indonesia in the 20s’ (Kansil and Christine, 2011: 200). It shows that nationalism is born among students were the intellectual nationalism, nationalism is based on a synthesis of thought that became the nation’s dignity which means to be a nation apart from the tyranny of another nation. Nationalism is the model that has meaning in the process of understanding the history of the struggle.

Through the understanding of the meaning of nationalism is the history of this area meant by Freire (2007: 26), ‘according to him, history is dialectic because it used is to distinguish current conditions and those that still leaves the possibility for emancipation’. The given conditions in this study is the fact that the history of the struggle is the defense of nationalism, while the effort of understanding the history that will ultimately bring back the meaning of nationalism is the actual condition of the national attitude.

It can be concluded, that the understanding of the history of the area is re-purposing awareness and historical values that will contribute significantly to the attitude of nationalism. Variable understanding of history as such have an important position in the development of an attitude of nationalism.

**Relationship between perceptions of cultural diversity with an attitude of nationalism.**

Based on the results of hypothesis testing known, there is a significant or positive relationship between the variable perceptions of cultural diversity with an attitude of nationalism. If it is traced back to be known that Indonesian nationalism is basically a nationalism built on diversity, in other words the growing spirit of nationalism is an attitude that is based on the willingness to accept a variety of cultural diversity in Indonesia.

Willingness to accept a variety of cultural diversity is the first step to build a positive perception of cultural diversity as the nation’s wealth that will eventually give birth to the collective consciousness. Furthermore, to achieve the collective consciousness of a person must receive a set of values that will be the basis of consciousness.

Each culture has a collective consciousness - on a ‘national spirit’ (O’neill, 2008:207). At the time of the individual as a member of the public has had a collective consciousness on a national spirit of then basically these individuals also have an attitude of nationalism, it is because the attitude of nationalism is essentially also a manifestation of the collective consciousness of its ideals and collective identity as a nation. Clearly later, why the perception of cultural diversity can contribute to the attitude of nationalism.

A fact that cannot deny, that the Indonesian nation-state consists of a large number of ethnic groups, cultures, religions, etc., so that the Indonesian nation-state can simply be referred to as the “multicultural”. But on the other hand, the reality of “multicultural” is faced with an urgent need to reconstruct the past “Indonesian national culture” which can be integrated force that binds all ethnic and cultural diversity (Azra, 2011: 20).

The condition requires a strategy that is normative achievement in accordance with the principle of ideological diversity and to strengthen national unity. In this condition
a positive perception of cultural diversity become an important factor in instilling the attitude of Indonesian nationalism.

Interpretation cannot be separated from perception, in this case the interpretation is an attempt to identify and understand the culture of each element forms a mental attitude as interpretation of accepted knowledge about one’s culture. In this process each individual will bring a different view of the object of perception, in this case is the culture. Positive perception will arise when a person is able to accept and understand the cultural values outside its own cultural natural environment.

We are proud of Indonesian nation, is not solely due to the natural homeland of Indonesia, but also because our ancestors already had a high cultural value according to the size of the time (Kansil and Christine, 2011:154). This fact is the deciding factor why every tribe has a strong culture as their identity. This situation is a reality that became national colors of Indonesian nationalism, positive perceptions of cultural diversity is indirectly also a reflection of one’s attitude nationalism. The fact also illustrates the linearity between the perceptions of cultural diversity with an attitude of nationalism.

Another clarification which can be used to strengthen the relationship between perceptions of the assumption of cultural diversity with an attitude of nationalism is the fact that Indonesian nationalism is a nationalism that is based on the four pillars of the nation, namely Pancasila, the Constitution of 1945, the Republic of Indonesia, and Bhineka Tunggal Ika. If the fourth pillar of national life, the substance of the four patterns have a complementary relationship. Acceptance to of the concept of diversity has given rise to a unitary state with the 45 Constitution as the foundation of Pancasila as the state ideology and nationality. Thus receiving diversity means recognizing and accepting the Indonesian national identity.

As a nation stretching from Sabang to Merauke from various islands that just happen, then Indonesia has no choice but to accept that diversity. State formed from tens of thousands of islands, is by itself would accept that diversity. Rejecting diversity is tantamount to denying the existence of tens of thousands of people of the island. Its reject is tantamount to ignoring the existence of intrinsic and self-identity [on Indonesia] that are human beings (John Titaley, 2011: xxi).

It can be concluded that diversity is an Indonesian national identity. Receiving diversity through positive perception of cultural diversity is a characteristic attitude of Indonesian nationalism. Thus it can be formulated by a justification that the perception of cultural diversity contributes significantly to the attitude of nationalism.

Understanding the Relationship between the History of the Area and the Perception of Cultural Diversity Together with an Attitude of Nationalism

Based on the test results obtained by the contribution previously hypothesized regression together against nationalism attitude of 9.85 and found a significant relationship between historical understanding and perceptions of cultural diversity with an attitude of nationalism.

It has been argued that Indonesian nationalism is nationalism that emerged as a form of resistance against the tyranny of foreign nations and in the process the
strength of Indonesian nationalism based on the willingness to accept the diversity of the nation. Two of these factors are important factors for the formation of the identity of Indonesian nationalism. Understanding of the process of national struggle and the positive perception of cultural diversity is an important variable that will contribute to an attitude of nationalism at present.

Both have a complementary role in strengthening the attitude of Indonesian nationalism today, understanding history is a moral lesson about Indonesian nationalism, while perceptions of cultural diversity is a guideline for human attitudes and actions as Indonesia in the level of national life that has an identity of diversity. Both of these variables when owned by citizens of the nation have proven a significant contribution to the attitude of nationalism.

Understanding the history of the struggle meant to revive the spirit of nationalism, while developing a positive perception of cultural diversity meant being conscious of the reality that diversity is the nation’s identity. If both are owned by each individual citizen the building of Indonesian nationalism would be very strong. This is similar to the one described by Elson (2008:1001) that the nature of Indonesian nationalism that last a long time, due to its ability to inspire devotion to the nation as a multicultural tolerance while accommodating the interests of regional and tribal.

It means, that the understanding of the history of the struggle of the spirit of devotion inspires the fighters. In the process of the struggle we also can see that the unity that developed in the effort to union resistance is tolerant of diversity. It thus becomes very clear that the feel of multicultural always present in Indonesian history, even a typical color for the struggle of the Indonesian nation when compared with many other nations in the world. This pattern also explains why there is a relationship together between historical understanding and perceptions of cultural diversity with an attitude of nationalism.

There is a perception in the attribution process that is an attempt to understand the causes behind the social and cultural behavior, attribution process is often characterized by the existence of stereotype or prejudice group. This condition may be an alternative explanation for why perceptions of cultural diversity that give contribution less than the variable of regions of historical understanding. History of struggle relatively can be accepted because it does not concern the identity of tribalism, even, according to Hobsbawm (1990) to be ‘binding criteria’. So it is more universal and can therefore contribute effectively and relatively higher.

Indonesian nationality reflects a unity in diversity and novelty in the past (Latif, 2011:250). This means that to understand the diversity of Indonesian nationalism and historical elements cannot be ignored. In terms of both conceptual obviously has a real contribution to the understanding of Indonesian nationalism. Furthermore, Latif (2011:353) explains that ‘the national consciousness as the awareness of the culture since long been recognized by the pioneers of freedom’. The fact of history is one important thing that had re-interpreted when we study the history of struggle that would be reasonable if the understanding of the history and perception of cultural diversity contributes to the attitude of nationalism.

The conclusion of this analysis is the understanding of the area’s history that is the history of struggle and perceptions
of cultural diversity that contributes to the attitude of nationalism because both variables are essential elements in the development of the attitude of Indonesian nationalism. In other words, the synthesis of both will reflect the attitude of Indonesian nationalism.

Conclusion

Based on the analysis and discussion of research results, it can be concluded that:

1. There is a significant or positive relationship between the understanding of the history of the area with an attitude of nationalism. Students who have a high understanding of the history of nationalism will have a good attitude when compared with students who do not have an understanding of history.

2. There is a significant positive relationship between perceptions of cultural diversity with an attitude of nationalism. Students who have a positive perception of cultural diversity will have an attitude of nationalism which compared with students who do not have a positive perception of cultural diversity.

3. There is a significant or positive relationship between historical understanding and perceptions of cultural diversity with an attitude of nationalism. Students who have a history of high understanding and positive perception of the diversity of cultural nationalism would have a good attitude when compared with students who do not have an understanding of history and a positive perception of cultural diversity.

REFERENCES


