

# Strategy of Character Education to Increase the Nationalism and Patriotism of Students through Civics Learning at SMA Negeri 1 Ketanggungan, Brebes

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## Abstract

*Nowadays, nationalism and patriotism are eroding, fading and being replaced by new ideologies as the times develop. Because of the erosion of Nationalism and Patriotism, it needs to be raised through various activities. One of them is through instilling the value of Nationalism and Patriotism in education. Education-based Nationalism and Patriotism is a way out in the process of improving the nation and state of Indonesia. Therefore, to avoid the fading/ disappearing attitude of Nationalism and Patriotism in the school environment, the researcher took the title Character Education Strategy to Improve the Attitude of Nationalism and Patriotism of Students Through Civics Learning at SMA Negeri 1 Ketanggungan, Brebes. This study generally aims to understand the efforts of Civics teachers in instilling the value of Nationalism and Patriotism to their students in learning activities, to find out the attitudes of students after perceiving the value of Patriotism and Nationalism through Civics Teaching in daily activities at school, to find out the obstacles and efforts of teachers in instilling the value of Nationalism and Patriotism to students. The research process was conducted using a qualitative study whose research location was at SMA Negeri Ketanggungan, Brebes. The focus of the research is the planning, implementation and evaluation of instilling the values of Nationalism and Patriotism in students as well as the obstacles that appear in the process of instilling the values of Nationalism and Patriotism to students at SMA Negeri 1 Ketanggungan, Brebes with the number of informants 36 students of class XII MIPA 4 and teachers at SMA Negeri 1 Ketanggungan, Brebes. Conclusion, the importance of character education through Civics learning to improve the attitude of Nationalism and Patriotism of Students at SMA Negeri 1 Ketanggungan, Brebes.*

Keywords: Strategy, Character Education, Nationalism and Patriotism

## Introduction

Education is essentially an effort to provide knowledge, insight into certain skills and expertise to individuals in order to develop their talents and personality. With education, people try to develop themselves to be able to face all changes due to advances in science and technology. Therefore, education issues must include various issues related to quantity, quality and suitability.

In addition, education also has the aim of making humans or individuals pious, faithful to God Almighty, noble, intelligent, healthy, energetic, and sensitive, able to work and communicate, have culture and personality. In addition, national education is also regulated in the 1945 Constitution (amended pages 28-29). Article 31 paragraph 3 reads: "The government shall seek and organise a national education system that enhances faith and piety and noble character in order to educate the nation's life as regulated by law". Article 31

paragraph 5 clearly states: "The government promotes science and technology by upholding religious values and national unity for the advancement of civilisation and the welfare of mankind.

Based on the above statement, education is an effort made to produce intelligent human resources, have piety, faith and noble character. So with education will arise in a person to compete and motivate themselves better in all aspects of life. Various subjects contained in the curriculum, there is one subject that serves to instil the values of Pancasila in the younger generation. The subject in question aims to form a spirit of Nationalism and Patriotism, namely the subjects of Pancasila Education and Citizenship. One of the values contained in Pancasila is "Love of Nation and Homeland" or the value of Nationalism and Patriotism. This value lives and develops in Indonesian society and is believed to exist so that it can be realised in life.

By instilling the values of Nationalism and Patriotism, students are expected to become advanced human beings, namely generations who are able to implement and maintain the independence of the nation and state.

## **Literature Review**

### **1. Review of Student Character Education**

According to Mulyasa (2016) character education has a higher meaning than moral education, because character education is not only related to right-wrong issues, but how to instil habits about good things in life, so that children/students have awareness, and high understanding, as well as concern and commitment to apply virtues in everyday life. Thus it can be said that character is a person's nature in responding to situations morally, which is manifested in real actions through good behaviour, honesty, responsibility, respect for others, and other noble character values.

### **2. Nationalism Attitude Study**

According to Yatim (2001), Nationalism is the sense of togetherness of a group as a nation. Nationalism is the ideal and the only legitimate form of political organisation, and that the nation is the source

of all creative cultural energy and economic prosperity.

### **3. Patriotism Attitude Study**

According to the book "The Soul of Patriotism" Kartini (2020), patriotism comes from the words patriot and ism, meaning the nature of heroism or the soul of a hero. What is meant by patriotism is explained into several definitions.

- a. Patriotism is the attitude of someone who is willing to sacrifice everything for the glory and prosperity of their homeland, the spirit of patriotism.
- b. Patriotism is an attitude that is brave, unyielding, and willing to sacrifice for the sake of the nation and state.
- c. Patriotism is the attitude and behaviour of a person who is passionate, willing to sacrifice for the independence, progress, glory and prosperity of the nation.

### **4. Pancasila and Citizenship Education**

According to Cogan in (Winarno, 2013) the term Civics Education as "the foundational course work in school designed to prepare young citizens for an active role in their communities in their adult lives", or a basic subject in school designed to prepare young citizens, so that later as adults can play an active role in their society.

## **Research Methods**

This research uses descriptive qualitative methods. According to Sugiono, qualitative research is research where the researcher is placed as a key instrument, data collection techniques are combined and data analysis is inductive (Sugiyono, 2010).

The research process was conducted using a qualitative study whose research location was at SMA Negeri Ketanggungan, Brebes. The focus of the research is the planning, implementation and evaluation of instilling the value of Nationalism and Patriotism in students as well as the obstacles that appear in the process of instilling the value of Nationalism and Patriotism to students in SMA Negeri 1 Ketanggungan, Brebes with a total of 36 informants from students of class XII MIPA 4 SMA Negeri 1 Ketanggungan, Brebes & Pancasila and Citizenship Education teachers. This research uses several techniques to obtain accurate and

concise data, namely: interview, observation, documentation.

## **Results and Discussion**

The results of this study show that:

### **1. Teachers' Efforts in Instilling the Value of Nationalism and Patriotism**

Efforts to instil the value of Nationalism and Patriotism carried out by teachers through the learning process of Pancasila and Citizenship Education in class XII IPA 4 students, namely teachers always check the completeness of textbooks and student assignments before starting learning, teachers give direction to students to take part in extracurricular and social activities, teachers always give students the opportunity to ask questions, and teachers motivate students to increase a sense of unity and unity and love culture/ original domestic products.

### **2. Understanding the Value of Nationalism and Patriotism in Students**

The understanding of the value of Nationalism and Patriotism in class XII IPA 4 students is good, it can be seen from most students in participating in the learning process in class and in the school environment have always practised the value of Nationalism and Patriotism.

### **3. Teachers' Constraints in Instilling the Value of Nationalism and Patriotism**

The obstacles faced by Civics teachers in the process of delivering subject matter are that some students are difficult to understand and understand the value of Nationalism and Patriotism, so Civics teachers strive by giving continuous examples to students so that students know the form/practice of the value of Nationalism and Patriotism.

### **4. Implementation of Cultivating the Value of Nationalism and Patriotism**

The implementation of the cultivation of the values of Nationalism and Patriotism through the learning process of Pancasila and Citizenship Education in class XI IPA 4 SMA Negeri 1 Ketanggungan, Brebes in 2023 is reflected in the desire of students to be good citizens, loyal to the country, respect the country in any circumstances, and always love the country. The values of Nationalism and Patriotism are implemented in the learning

process in the classroom, the interaction of students with students and students with teachers both inside and outside the classroom.

## **Conclusion**

The importance of character education through Civics learning to improve students' Nationalism and Patriotism attitudes at SMA Negeri 1 Ketanggungan, Brebes.

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