



Integrating Javanese Culture in Modern Education: Preserving Traditions in the Modern Era

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Keywords

Abstract

Javanese Culture, Traditionalism, Modern Education

This research delves into the crucial significance of integrating Javanese culture into modern education, serving as a vital measure in safeguarding traditional values amidst the rapid waves of social transformation. The study meticulously applies the systematic literature review method, centering its focus on Javanese culture, modern education, and holistic learning approaches. Careful selection of relevant literature, based on rigorous criteria including methodology, validity, and relevance, precedes the thorough organization and synthesis of the findings related to the research theme. The outcomes underscore the pressing need to integrate Javanese culture into modern education. Within this context, approaches encompassing literature, folklore, traditional arts, and collaborations with local communities wield profound positive impacts on students' understanding of Javanese culture. Learning experiences enriched through stories, oral traditions, artistic expressions, and direct engagement with local communities cultivate a profound sense of cultural identity among students. Furthermore, these interactions nurture a deep appreciation for cultural diversity, instilling in students a profound pride for their cultural heritage. Integrating these cultural elements into education not only fortifies students' connection with their heritage but also nurtures a global perspective, essential in today's interconnected world.

INTRODUCTION

The rapid advancements in the modern era have brought significant changes to the field of education. Modern learning approaches often emphasize global perspectives, technology, and ever-evolving information (Cuban, 2010; Shofwan et al., 2023). However, in the pursuit of holistic and balanced education, it is crucial not to overlook the richness of local cultural heritage. One such culturally affluent and deeply rooted heritage is Javanese culture (Sunarti & Fadel, 2021).

Javanese culture encompasses a unique system of values, norms, and traditions that reflect local wisdom passed down from generation to generation. Yet, within the context of modern education, Javanese culture is often neglected or not fully integrated into the learning process. This neglect can lead to rapid cultural changes, loss of cultural identity, and a lack of appreciation and understanding for valuable cultural heritage (Ajeng Rahadini & Nurhayati, 2022; Saddhono, 2018).

The implementation of a holistic, Javanese culture-based learning approach can be a fitting step to reinforce traditional aspects within modern education. By incorporating local cultural values into the learning process, students can develop a deeper understanding of their cultural heritage and connect it to the modern context. This not only enriches students' experiences but also helps preserve and transmit the rich Javanese cultural traditions (Saddhono et al., 2020).

Holistic learning involves the development of interconnected aspects, including: 1) cognitive aspects involving the enhancement of knowledge, understanding, and critical thinking skills; 2) emotional aspects encompassing the development of emotional intelligence and an understanding of emotional management; 3) spiritual aspects involving the comprehension of values and the meaning of life; 4) physical aspects involving the development of motor skills and an understanding of the importance of physical fitness; and 5) social aspects involving learning about social interactions,

cooperation, and the development of effective communication skills (Setyawan, 2021).

Despite the rapid innovation and technological advancements offered by the modern era, it is essential not to overlook the traditional aspects of culture. Through a holistic learning approach that integrates Javanese cultural values, a deeper understanding of local culture can be achieved, thereby strengthening traditional aspects within modern education. This holds the potential to preserve and pass on the Javanese cultural heritage to the younger generation in the era of modernity.

The aim of this research is to investigate and analyze the implementation of the Javanese culture-based learning approach within the context of modern education. This study seeks to comprehend how the integration of Javanese cultural values in the learning process can enrich students' experiences, deepen their understanding of Javanese cultural heritage, and aid in the preservation of Javanese cultural traditions amid modern advancements.

METHODS

The literature review method employed in this research involves several systematic steps. The scope of the study is determined by focusing on specific topics encompassing Javanese culture, modern education, and holistic learning approaches. Identification of information sources is carried out using existing scholarly article databases on website, followed by the establishment of literature selection criteria to choose relevant references. Literature search is conducted using specific keywords and systematic search strategies. Once relevant literature is identified, a selection and assessment of literature are performed based on the research methodology, validity, and relevance to the research topic. The collected data is analyzed and organized into a synthesis of findings from various literature sources. The literature review is structured by summarizing the most relevant findings, categorizing literature based on themes, and linking these findings to the research focus.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the increasingly globalized era of modern education, internalizing Javanese culture within learning processes has become imperative. In this context, the

incorporation of Javanese cultural values and traditions into modern teaching methods not only enriches students' cultural identities but also fosters an inclusive attitude and mutual respect towards other cultures. This article will elucidate the results and discussions concerning the importance of internalizing Javanese culture in contemporary education, considering the aspects outlined in the following table.

Tabel 1. Results

Aspects	Result
Javanese cultural context	Rich and unique cultural values and norms
Modern learning	Global and technology-focused education
The importance of internalizing Javanese culture in modern education.	Enhances cultural identity and heritage preservation
Learning approaches and strategies	Holistic Javanese culture-based approach
Impacts and implications	Strengthened cultural identity
Recommendations and challenges	Recognition and integration of Javanese culture into educational frameworks

The cultural context of Java

The background of Javanese culture is rich and complex. Javanese culture has a long history, influenced by factors such as the Hindu-Buddhist religion, the kingdoms that once ruled the Java region, and interactions with foreign cultures such as China and Arabia. Over time, Javanese culture has developed into a unique culture with distinct values, norms, and traditions (Rochayanti et al., 2012).

The value system in Javanese culture is closely related to the concept of harmony and compatibility. Values such as family ties, mutual cooperation, respect for parents and elders, and solidarity among Javanese people serve as the foundation for daily life. The social norms upheld in Javanese culture include etiquette, customs, ethics, and protocols for interacting with others. Traditions such as ceremonial rituals, important celebrations, performing arts, and spiritual activities also play a vital role in Javanese culture (Budiono et al., 2017).

However, Javanese culture faces challenges in preserving and maintaining its

richness in the modern era. Globalization, modernization, and the influence of foreign cultures have brought changes in the mindset, behavior, and lifestyles of the people. The younger generation tends to have a decreased understanding, appreciation, and involvement in Javanese culture. The use of the Javanese language has also declined, and traditional Javanese arts face challenges in maintaining interest and relevance among the modern society (Ilyas et al., 2020).

The three references underscore the richness of Javanese culture and the significance of its values, norms, and traditions in the daily lives of the Javanese people. They all agree that Javanese culture has been influenced by historical factors and interactions with foreign cultures. These sources highlight values such as family ties, cooperation, respect for elders, and solidarity as the fundamental pillars of Javanese culture. Additionally, they all note the challenges faced by Javanese culture in the wake of globalization, modernization, and the influence of foreign cultures, especially concerning the understanding, appreciation, and involvement of the younger generation, as well as the preservation of the Javanese language and traditional arts.

The differences lie in the perspectives and focus of each reference. The first reference (Rochayanti et al., 2012) emphasizes the history and development of Javanese culture, while the second reference (Budiono et al., 2017) delves deeper into the values and norms of Javanese culture. On the other hand, the third reference (Ilyas et al., 2020) examines the challenges faced by Javanese culture in the context of modernization and globalization, particularly concerning the decline in understanding, appreciation, and involvement of the younger generation and its impact on the Javanese language and traditional arts.

The analysis of these similarities and differences indicates that while Javanese culture remains rich and relevant in its traditional values, contemporary challenges pose serious threats, especially in maintaining the interest and involvement of the younger generation. Understanding and responding to social and cultural changes are crucial keys to preserving the sustainability of Javanese culture.

In facing the challenges of globalization and modernization, it is essential for Javanese culture to integrate

traditional values into the modern context. Approaches that engage the younger generation through relevant educational initiatives and cultural activities can help sustain Javanese culture. Collaboration among local communities, educators, and governmental bodies is imperative to create sustainable solutions for preserving the richness and relevance of Javanese culture in the contemporary era.

Modern Learning

Modern learning is characterized by several key features, including a technology-based approach, the utilization of global resources, and the application of innovative methods. The technology-based approach involves incorporating information and communication technology into the learning process, utilizing electronic devices, digital platforms, and learning applications. According to Adekola et al. (2017), this approach facilitates access to information, interaction with diverse learning resources, and the development of digital skills.

The utilization of global resources entails making use of learning materials originating from various countries and cultures. Smith et al. (2017) demonstrates that exposing students to global resources can broaden their perspectives on different cultures and enhance their understanding of cultural diversity worldwide. By accessing global resources, students can compare Javanese culture with other cultures, identify similarities and differences, and foster an inclusive attitude that appreciates diversity.

Furthermore, the application of innovative methods in modern learning involves creative, collaborative, and interactive approaches. According to Fauzi (2018), innovative methods such as project-based learning, cooperative learning, or problem-based learning can encourage students to actively participate in the learning process and engage more deeply with Javanese culture. Through these innovative methods, students can directly experience Javanese culture, interact with cultural stakeholders, and develop a deeper understanding of Javanese cultural values, norms, and traditions.

In the context of modern education, these three approaches exhibit significant similarities and differences. The technology-based approach, emphasized by Adekola et al. (2017), establishes an interactive platform where students can access information easily and engage with various learning resources.

Similarly, the utilization of global resources, as described by Smith et al. (2017), underscores the importance of broadening students' perspectives on diverse cultures. However, the technology-based approach emphasizes the development of students' digital skills, whereas the utilization of global resources focuses on fostering appreciation for cultural diversity.

On the other hand, innovative methods in modern education, researched by Fauzi (2018), introduce a crucial dimension to the learning process. These methods, such as project-based learning and problem-based learning, enable students to engage directly with Javanese culture. Nonetheless, significant differences emerge when these innovative methods are compared to the technology-based approach and the utilization of global resources. Innovative methods highlight social interaction and direct experiences with Javanese culture, whereas the technology-based approach and the utilization of global resources are more virtual in nature.

Overall, the combination of these three approaches in the context of modern education provides unique opportunities for students to deepen their understanding of Javanese culture. The technology-based approach facilitates access to information and the development of digital skills, while the utilization of global resources expands students' insights into cultural diversity. Simultaneously, innovative methods enable direct experiences and social interactions with Javanese culture. Thus, the holistic integration of these approaches enriches students' learning experiences, resulting in a profound understanding of Javanese cultural values, norms, and traditions, and promotes appreciation for global cultural diversity.

The Importance of Internalizing Javanese Culture in Modern Learning

Internalizing Javanese culture in modern learning, as it is today, is essential as it brings about positive impacts on students. According to Muharom Albantani & Madkur (2018), incorporating Javanese cultural aspects in education helps Javanese students develop and strengthen their cultural identity. By understanding and appreciating Javanese culture, students can feel more connected to their cultural roots, preserve their cultural heritage, and enhance their pride in their Javanese identity.

Furthermore, according to Purnami (2020), incorporating Javanese cultural aspects in education promotes the

development of holistic understanding. Javanese culture encompasses various aspects of life, such as values, religion, arts, traditions, and customs. By studying Javanese culture, students can develop a comprehensive understanding of its complexity and uniqueness, as well as its relationship with social, historical, and environmental contexts. This helps students acquire a broader understanding of their own cultural heritage, increase appreciation for the beauty of art, comprehend values, respect religious differences, and foster an inclusive attitude in a multicultural society.

In the context of modern education, the emphasis on internalizing Javanese culture reveals several important similarities and differences. Both Muharom Albantani & Madkur (2018) underscore the significance of incorporating Javanese cultural elements in education as a means to strengthen the identity of Javanese students and promote the development of holistic understanding.

A striking similarity between the two studies is their emphasis on valuing and comprehending Javanese culture within the educational framework. Javanese students derive significant benefits from understanding their cultural roots, encompassing the appreciation of Javanese values, traditions, arts, and religion. Both Muharom Albantani & Madkur (2018) and Purnami (2020) highlight that this understanding helps students feel more connected to their cultural identity, enhances their pride in Javanese culture, and instills a sense of ownership of their cultural heritage.

However, a significant difference lies in the approaches employed in these studies. Muharom Albantani & Madkur (2018) focuses on the development of individual student identities, whereas Purnami (2020) places a greater emphasis on holistic understanding through exposure to the broad spectrum of Javanese cultural aspects. Muharom Albantani & Madkur's approach centers on individual pride and recognition of personal identity, whereas Hadiyanto's approach emphasizes a deeper and more inclusive understanding of the complexity of Javanese culture and its relevance within the social and multicultural framework.

Consequently, the conclusion drawn from this comparison is that internalizing Javanese culture in modern education has a significantly positive impact on students. Both studies indicate that this approach strengthens students' cultural identity, albeit with differing focal points. A more holistic approach, as proposed by Muharom Albantani

& Madkur (2018), provides a deeper understanding of the richness of Javanese culture and supports the formation of an inclusive attitude within multicultural societies. As a result, integrating Javanese culture into modern education not only enriches students' personal identities but also fosters an inclusive and mutually respectful learning environment, crucial in the context of the increasingly diverse and globalized world.

Approaches and Learning Strategies

In integrating Javanese culture into modern education with a holistic learning approach, there are several strategies that can be applied. One of them is the storytelling strategy through literature related to Javanese culture, such as books, short stories, poems, or novels that address Javanese cultural themes (Handayani, 2023). Through stories, students can understand the values, traditions, and unique cultural perspectives, as well as engage their imagination in the learning process.

Furthermore, Javanese folklore plays an important role in passing down cultural values to the younger generation. Incorporating Javanese folklore in modern education can help students understand Javanese cultural heritage, uncover the values embedded in the stories, and enhance their holistic understanding of Javanese culture (Budiyono et al., 2017).

Learning traditional Javanese arts is also a significant aspect of introducing and understanding Javanese culture. Through learning gamelan, Javanese dance, wayang kulit (shadow puppetry), or traditional visual arts, students can delve into the history, techniques, and symbolic meanings of these traditional arts. Engaging in the practice and exploration of Javanese traditional arts provides direct experiences that enrich students' understanding of Javanese culture holistically (Handayani, 2023).

In addition to these strategies, involving the local community is an effective approach to internalize Javanese culture. Students can visit Javanese villages or communities to interact directly with the local people, learn from Javanese cultural practitioners, and observe or participate in cultural activities organized by the community. This way, students can deepen their understanding and appreciation of Javanese culture through direct experiences that involve social and spiritual aspects (Syarifuddin & Hasyim, 2021).

From the existing literature regarding strategies for learning about Javanese culture, there is a commonality in their holistic approach to introducing Javanese culture. Whether through literature, folklore, or traditional arts, all aim to enrich students' understanding of Javanese values, traditions, and worldview. Each strategy provides deep, either real or imaginative, experiences, actively engaging students in the learning process.

The utilization of Javanese literature, folklore, and traditional arts in modern education significantly contributes to students' understanding of Javanese culture. This holistic approach creates a rich and profound learning experience, enabling students to directly experience and immerse themselves in Javanese culture, both physically and imaginatively. Involving students with the local community also broadens their social and spiritual perspectives, fostering a deeper appreciation for Javanese culture and nurturing an inclusive attitude in multicultural society. Therefore, integrating these strategies in modern education can be an effective approach to internalize Javanese culture in the contemporary educational context.

Impact and Implications

The internalization of Javanese culture within modern education has various effects or impacts on students. According to Handayani (2023), students can develop a greater sense of care for their cultural heritage through Javanese cultural learning. They will understand the importance of preserving and conserving aspects of Javanese culture, such as language, traditions, arts, and the values embedded within them.

Another impact mentioned by Saddhono & Rohmadi (2014) is that internalizing Javanese culture in modern education can help students develop intercultural skills. They will learn to appreciate cultural differences, understand the perspectives of others, communicate with people from different cultural backgrounds, and work effectively in multicultural environments.

According to Saddhono (2016), gaining a deep understanding of Javanese culture also helps students broaden their understanding of cultural pluralism in the world. They will appreciate cultural diversity and understand that each culture contributes uniquely to the richness of the world. This can foster inclusive attitudes, tolerance, and mutual respect for

other cultures.

In the context of internalizing Javanese culture in modern education, several similarities and differences can be observed in the impacts outlined by various studies. A notable similarity from the three research is that internalizing Javanese culture enhances students' awareness of their own cultural richness. They develop respect and a sense of ownership for Javanese cultural heritage, including language, traditions, arts, and values inherited from their culture.

However, there are differences in the focus of the impacts resulting from the internalization of Javanese culture. Handayani (2023) emphasizes the importance of preserving Javanese cultural aspects and understanding their values. Students are encouraged to preserve and continue the Javanese cultural heritage. On the other hand, Saddhono & Rohmadi (2014) highlight cross-cultural skills acquired by students through internalizing Javanese culture, including appreciating cultural differences and effective communication abilities in multicultural environments. Meanwhile, the research by Saddhono (2016) emphasizes a broader understanding of global cultural pluralism. They indicate that internalizing Javanese culture can lead to inclusive attitudes, tolerance, and mutual respect for other cultures worldwide.

Overall, the integration of Javanese culture in modern education has significant positive impacts on students. Besides enriching their cultural identity, students also develop cross-cultural skills and broaden their understanding of global cultural diversity. Although the focus of impacts may vary based on the research perspectives, the overall findings demonstrate that internalizing Javanese culture plays a vital role in shaping inclusive attitudes, appreciating differences, and enhancing students' understanding of a multicultural world.

Recommendations and challenges

To implement the internalization of Javanese culture within modern education, several key factors can facilitate its implementation. According to Saddhono & Rohmadi (2014), the development of a Culture-Based Curriculum is necessary to design a curriculum that includes Javanese cultural elements as an integral part of the learning material. This involves identifying relevant Javanese cultural concepts and

integrating them into various subjects. Additionally, the use of diverse learning resources and materials, such as literature, folklore, music, art, and videos related to Javanese culture, is crucial. Providing diverse and engaging learning materials will help students develop a better understanding of Javanese culture.

According to Prastowo (2018), collaboration with the local community is also essential. Involving the local community in the learning process, such as inviting Javanese cultural practitioners, artists, or community members to share their knowledge and experiences, enables students to learn directly from Javanese cultural experts and experience the culture authentically. Furthermore, teacher training on Javanese culture, including values, norms, traditions, and relevant practices, is necessary. With a good understanding of Javanese culture, teachers can effectively integrate it into students' learning experiences.

However, there are several challenges faced in implementing the internalization of Javanese culture within modern education. According to Santoso (2012), limited resources, such as textbooks, learning materials, and infrastructure, may hinder the integration of Javanese culture. To overcome this, the development of more resources and the use of technology can help expand access and enrich learning. Some teachers may not have adequate understanding of Javanese culture or may not be accustomed to integrating local culture into their teaching. Adequate training and mentoring are needed to assist teachers in understanding and implementing Javanese culture in their instruction. In some cases, the demands of a packed curriculum can also be a challenge in integrating Javanese culture.

In the effort to integrate Javanese culture into modern education, various key factors facilitate its implementation. According to Saddhono & Rohmadi (2014) as well as Prastowo (2018), the development of a Culture-Based Curriculum is a pivotal element. Both emphasize the importance of designing a curriculum that encompasses Javanese cultural elements as an integral part of the learning materials. This involves identifying relevant Javanese cultural concepts and integrating them into various subjects. Additionally, both studies highlight the role of collaboration with the local community, involving Javanese cultural practitioners, artists, and community

members in the learning process.

However, there are challenges in implementing the internalization of Javanese culture in modern education. As stated by Santoso (2012), limited resources, including textbooks, learning materials, and infrastructure, can hinder the integration of Javanese culture. Overcoming these challenges requires the development of more resources and the utilization of technology to broaden access and enrich the learning experience. Moreover, some teachers may lack adequate knowledge about Javanese culture, and insufficient training can pose barriers. Therefore, proper training and guidance for teachers are essential to help them understand and effectively integrate Javanese culture into their teaching methods. Additionally, the demands of a dense curriculum can also impede the integration of Javanese culture.

Overall, despite facing challenges, collaboration with the local community, the development of a culture-based curriculum, and teacher training are crucial strategies in introducing Javanese culture into modern education. By overcoming resource constraints and enhancing teachers' understanding, the implementation of Javanese culture in the curriculum can provide students with a deep and enriching learning experience. This approach strengthens their cultural identity, fosters appreciation for cultural diversity, and promotes a sense of belonging within the multicultural educational environment.

CONCLUSION

This research highlights the importance of integrating Javanese culture into modern education. In this context, approaches involving literature, folklore, traditional arts, and collaboration with the local community have a positive impact on students' understanding of Javanese culture. Learning through stories, oral traditions, arts, and direct interactions with the local community creates profound experiences that strengthen students' cultural identity, enhance their appreciation for cultural diversity, and instill pride in their cultural heritage.

While this research provides valuable insights, it is acknowledged that there might be limitations. The focus of this study primarily revolves around the integration of Javanese culture into modern education, potentially leaving other cultural aspects less explored. Additionally, the research does not delve deep into the social and psychological

implications of this cultural learning process on students, which could be a subject for further research.

Based on the findings of this research, it is recommended that future studies broaden their scope to delve deeper into the understanding of cultural integration in modern education. It is crucial to investigate the social and psychological impacts of this cultural learning process on students' personal and social development. Furthermore, research can identify more effective teaching strategies and involve the development of curricula that are more seamlessly integrated with local cultures. This should include supporting teacher training programs to address the challenges faced in implementing these approaches.

By delving deeper and addressing these aspects comprehensively, research on cultural integration in education can provide more insightful guidance, steering the development of a more inclusive and diverse modern education system.

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