Analysis of the Influence of Literacy Culture in Building Students' Character in Elementary School

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Abstract

The importance of literacy culture in building the character of elementary school students. The background of this study is the Literature Review obtained from other people's research. The purpose of writing this article is to describe the influence of literacy culture in shaping the character of students in elementary schools. The method used in writing this article is a literature review of various relevant previous research results. The writing was carried out by means of a Literature Review literature study, using research materials in the form of journals sourced from Google Scholar and other media, which were then appointed as a complement to the discussion material in the research. With the research design in the form of an analysis of descriptive forms. The subjects in this study were elementary school students. The results of the study show that the influence of literacy culture in the formation of student character is very influential with the existence of a literacy culture. To achieve the success of a literacy culture, it must be supported by all elements, namely teachers, parents, and the government in order to facilitate the formation of good character in elementary school students. Character education that can be instilled through a literacy culture is the character values of honesty, responsibility, social care, curiosity, communicative, and fond of reading.

Keywords: Literacy Culture, Character building, Primary School

INTRODUCTION

Education is an interaction between educators and their students who have specific goals. However, to meet the needs of human life itself, humans must be given education from birth or at a young age. (Prasetya et al., 2022) . According to (Ningrum et al., 2019) character education is n values related to character that combine knowledge, awareness, or will, as well as action, towards the realization of these values and towards God Almighty, oneself, other people, the environment, and one's country. Based on national education goals, the main emphasis of the Elementary School curriculum is on

character development. The character learning material used is then known as character education material. (Ningrum et al., 2019) .

Internalization of values that can be believed and used becomes a reference as a standard and basis for thinking and behaving towards character, which functions as the foundation of human personality. In line with what Hasan (2010) said, character refers to a person's behavior, morality, or personality when they develop as a result of internalizing various values that serve as the basis for perspective, way of thinking, acting, and behaving. Character is very important so that students have a noble personality and behave according to the norms and values that apply.

Literacy is an ability to understand information. This is in line with (Sari et al., 2021) stating that literacy is a person's capacity to process information and understand whether reading or writing a book or essay . Reading is one of the most important skills in life to get the right understanding and information. Students must be able to read because learning in schools is based on reading. Students who enjoy reading have broad knowledge and understanding. Therefore, reading must become a habit for students to succeed. As stated by Mulyo (Teguh, 2013), when reading skills are instilled in the child himself, the level of success at school and in life in society will create opportunities for success.

In a study (Sari et al., 2021) entitled Literacy Culture as an Effort to Develop Character in Students at the Muhammadiyah Elementary School, Bantul Kota, it was explained that literacy habits will gradually help students develop good character. Students' self-esteem will increase due to a literacy culture that fosters good character . However, in reality the literacy rate in Indonesia still low. As carried out by previous researchers The Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) shows that 8 years ago, Indonesia was recorded at a very low literacy level because it was in 64th position out of 72 countries. With a person's lack of interest in reading can have a negative impact for himself and for society (Priasti & Suyatno, 2021) . Many problems are also related to the character of elementary school students that are often encountered both at school and in the community. In the study (Lestari et al., 2023) problems were also found with regard to student character, namely there were students who uttered inappropriate language then students could not control their emotions properly resulting in chaos and fights. Not only that, the research conducted (Ningrum et al., 2019) found a problem, namely the level of interest of students at SD N Klampok 01 Brebes was still quite low, and only a few children started to dare to ask questions while studying.

Based on the description above, the researcher said that character education must be taught in schools. To grow character education in schools can be through culture in schools , namely with literacy. With a literacy culture, you can help children develop their potential, their sense of self-worth, and their good character. Thus the researchers took the title for this scientific article, namely "Analysis of the Influence of Literacy Culture in

the Formation of Students' Character in Elementary Schools". The purpose of writing this scientific article is to analyze the influence of literacy culture in building the character of elementary school students using the literary method or scientific literature review of various articles in indexed journals.

METHODS

This research uses qualitative type research . As for The methodology used to write this scientific article is a literature review review of several important previous research findings. The form of this research design is in the form of a descriptive form of analysis, namely a structured explanation of the data obtained through articles related to the discussion of the topic of study , and also equipped with an understanding of the study and topic explanations to increase the understanding of the readers. The author looks for related research articles that have been published on Google and Google Scholar so that they have become general studies . The topic in the discussion of this article consists of a literature review in the form of scientific articles taken from journals regarding literacy culture and character education. The two topics studied This more directed at explaining the literature review regarding the influence of literacy culture on the formation of the character of elementary school students. This literature review uses literature reviews of scientific article study materials published approximately in 2017 to 2023 from Google Scholar and other internets and can be accessed in full in PDF format (Latif, 2020) .

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Literacy Culture

In facing the 21st century students really need various skills such as basic literacy skills, competence and character. This basic literacy relates to the capacity of students to apply their reading skills in practical situations. The capacity of students to deal with increasingly complex problems is related to competency. These characters then determine how the child's attitude in dealing with environmental changes is expressed. (GLS Task Force of the Directorate General of Primary and Secondary Education in (Wiratsiwi, 2020)). Literacy is talents or skills that involve a variety of tasks including writing, reading, and language. In line with this, (Sari et al., 2021) revealed that Literacy is an activity that aims to improve students' reading, writing, and telling stories. In line with (Yunianika & ., 2019) revealed that literacy generally refers to a person's expertise to read, write, and process information. Being able to read and write has many advantages, such as: The ability to teach students to get used to reading correctly, to familiarize students with being able to understand information that is read and summarized or information in a language they understand , to cultivate students ' reading analysis skills, for students to develop reading skills. A passion for reading in students and fostering students' ability to study or read books (Sari et al., 2021) .

In nature (Wiratsiwi, 2020) According to the Ministry of Education and Culture literacy is defined as, a) carrying out reading, writing, counting and speaking activities as well as the ability to find information and also how to use it, b) find and use information involved in social activities both at school and in the community which is influenced by various factors, c) the learning activities in it include activities ranging from reading books, writing what they know, calculating things in which they are used to improve, investigating for their knowledge themselves, questioning what is not known, and criticizing what has been learned to increase their knowledge, d) using reading materials that vary both in subject, object, flow, and complexity of the language they are learning.

The success of the younger generation is greatly influenced by their literacy skills. The younger generation will be better able to capture information by having strong reading skills. The ability of the younger generation to learn literacy is very important to enhance their abilities throughout life. (Ningrum et al., 2019) . In line with this, learning in elementary schools will be better when implementing a literacy approach in it. Because the literacy approach will increase positive habits so that when in the learning process several benefits can be obtained, namely habituation in applying a literacy culture and character building in elementary school students (Puspita & Santosa, 2019) .

Based on the research results of Muhammad Sadli and Baiqarnika Saadati (2019) with the title "Analysis of the Development of a Literacy Culture in Increasing Interest in Reading for Elementary School Students" . Increasing literacy culture can be done by

giving students access to an adequate and comfortable library, putting up literacy posters in the school yard, and making monthly bulletin boards in class to accustom children to reading and researching various things.

There are three stages that can be carried out by school principals and teachers in implementing and developing a literacy culture, first is by planning the development of a literacy culture because planning to develop a literacy culture can improve the character of students, this can be realized in the form of formulating goals for developing a literacy culture. formulating literacy culture programs that can be discussed by school principals and teachers, formulating strategies to suit the goals of developing a literacy culture, and managing facilities and infrastructure properly, so that what is planned and goals can be managed properly. Second , carrying out the development of a literacy culture to the fullest, consisting of the beginning, namely the process of good habituation, then continuing with the development of good habits and teaching to students. The third is evaluating which can be measured to find out the progress of the success rate of the programs that have been implemented so that deficiencies can be seen that must be corrected. This evaluation can be carried out in the form of weekly, monthly and annual evaluations. (Saadati & Sadli, 2019)

At the implementation stage there is a habituation process, the habituation process can be carried out by (a) reading aloud for 15 minutes before learning and this applies to low grades, then the habit of reading silently for high grades (b) creating a reading corner for literacy in each classes, (c) provide library facilities for schools as well as possible. Literacy culture programs can also be packaged by creating a text-rich environment, designing school libraries and mini libraries in class, implementing effective Saturday literacy habits to increase students' interest in reading.

In line with (Yunianika & ., 2019) that in an effort to properly improve literacy culture, the government through the Ministry of Education and Culture launched the Literacy Movement (GLS) in accordance with the Minister of Education and Culture Number 23 of 2015 concerning the Development of Good Character. GLS is an overall effort to turn schools into learning organizations whose citizens are lifelong literate through public involvement. It is hoped that through this activity it can foster students' love of reading and provide a fun learning experience as well as stimulate the imagination of elementary school students.

The research results from (Yunianika & ., 2019) entitled "Implementation of the School Literacy Movement in SD Dharma Karya Open University (UT) ". The supporting factors in the GLS emerged that the principal had a good attachment to carrying out the GLS, teachers, students, and all other components of the school were also involved. to uphold the success of GLS activities in elementary schools, while the obstacle factors in the implementation of GLS include (a) reading books are very minimal (b) students' interest in reading is very low (c) this activity has not been fully implemented by the

teacher (d) Provision from the Office Education is so lacking that GLS does not work, (e) and parents of students are less concerned about their children's wishes for GLS activities.

While the results of research from Wirastiwi (2020) with the title "Implementation of the School Literacy Movement in Elementary Schools . " That there is a solution to minimize disruption during GLS implementation. The solutions or efforts that can be implemented to minimize distractions during the GLS implementation are (a) Giving freedom to students to read whenever they want, not just 15 minutes before class, so that there is a carpet in the reading corner for students to use as a seat mat when they want to read, (b) trying to fulfill the books they read and the facilities in the library by allocating funds from the government, namely School Operational Assistance (BOS), (c) trying to fulfill the quality of GLS implementation by occasionally talking and working with other schools when gathering . (Wiratsiwi, 2020)

Therefore literacy must be cultivated in schools starting from the elementary school level to a higher level above it. If it becomes a culture, it will certainly help improve the quality of human resources in our country. The more qualified human resources a country has, the more advanced the country will be.

Character building

Character education means one of the channeling tools that helps improve character. One of the good efforts of the school is character education, which aims to form the next generation of a nation that is virtuous, caring and responsible. Character is the nature or behavior of a person that can be shaped by family, environmental, and community factors, and can also be innate to identify that person (Lestari et al., 2023) . In line with this, (Nilalohita, 2021) reveals that this character can be created it just depends on conditions and contextual factors that influence how the character is created.

Character education is part of educational regulations in which students can instill character values, including components of curiosity, awareness or desire and action to realize these character values. . According to Santrock in (Puspita & Santosa, 2019) states that *Character education* is education delivered directly to children in an effort to develop moral ideals and teach students about moral understanding in an effort to stop unlawful behavior. In line with this, (Priasti & Suyatno, 2021) reveals that character education is education that teaches the morals and personality of students.

According to (Ningrum et al., 2019) character education is education of values that can be related to character that combines knowledge, awareness, or decisions, as well as actions, towards the realization of these values and towards God Almighty, oneself, people others, the environment, and one's country. Furthermore, Kristiawan in (Puspita & Santosa, 2019) reveals that character education not only teaches what is right and what is wrong, but also forms habits about what is good. Therefore, the authors conclude that

character education is a conscious effort to encourage students to form moral values as a result of virtue and good character.

According to Syarbini in (Ningrum et al., 2019) As for the task of character formation, which can be seen from three perspectives: (a) The task of forming and developing potential, namely building character, forming and developing the potential of Indonesian humans and citizens to think, reason, and behave well. (b) a corrective and empowering function, namely a character building function that enhances and strengthens the roles of the family, community and government to participate in and be responsible for developing the potential of citizens and building a nation to be independent, advanced and a prosperous nation. (c) The filtering function, namely the character-forming function, which explains the culture of our nation by filtering out other cultures, which are inconsistent with the cultural values and noble character of the nation.

Character values that must be instilled in students through character education are curiosity, peace-loving, religious, creativity, honesty, independent, social care, love to read, enthusiasm for work, national spirit, love for the motherland, care for the environment, communicative , peace-loving, and disciplined.

Character education is a solution in forming human beings who are rich in superior characteristics and character. The role of the family, the role of the school and the surrounding environment greatly influence the process of cultivating and forming student character, therefore the school environment must have a positive impact on instilling student character through positive activities, namely carrying out a literacy culture through the School Literacy Movement (GLS).

According to (Susianti et al., 2021) a literacy culture will instill various good characters in students. These character values can be interpreted as the result of literacy habits or culture, the student characters that are formed after implementing a literacy culture, namely honesty and responsibility. Honest and responsible character values are the most important foundations that must be instilled in students. Because through honest and responsible character values it will make it easier to cultivate other good character values for students.

The honest attitude of a person with an honest character will be more closed when making decisions and also communicating with people he doesn't know because honest people are more valuable so that honesty is something that humans must have . Responsible character can be interpreted as an obligation to start and be able to finish someone's work which inevitably must be fulfilled, and has consequences for failure. (Nur Robi Zainal Abidin, 2020) Apart from honest and responsible characters, there are several other characters that can be instilled in students through a literacy culture, including:

Students who receive social care are guided to have attitudes and behaviors that are always eager to help others in need. Curiosity, an attitude that shows that students have curiosity, namely the presence of students who are active and ask questions about the learning material that is being worked on by the teacher. Communicative, is an attitude that shows communication with actions that show pleasure and responsiveness in talking, interacting, and working with others. Reading books regularly helps readers develop a love of reading and internalizes character lessons. The development of emotional and social intelligence is greatly helped by reading. (Sari et al., 2021) Good character will naturally develop through literacy exercises that are taught regularly to children in a consistent and sustainable manner.

Based on the results of research conducted by Carolina Hidayah et al in an article with the title of the research "formation of the character of curiosity through literacy activities" there is a positive influence in it, through research observation sheets conducted in the research field, namely two classes where class VA and VB SDN Klampok 01 Brebes concluded that through the form of reading literacy activities by getting used to 15 minutes before learning can increase students' enthusiasm in learning this affects the character of students' curiosity both in learning and things outside of learning activities. With literacy that is carried out routinely, it makes students often ask questions in learning when they don't understand something they are reading or what they just found out in their understanding . Their curiosity or curiosity is not only about the material in learning at school , but also about events that happen to them outside of school.

Whereas literacy culture can be implemented in various ways, in line with the article entitled "Literacy Culture as an Effort to Develop Character in Students at Muhammadiyah Bantul Elementary School" by Kartikasari maya et al that in Bantul Muhammadiyah Elementary School which is in the City has implemented literacy culture well, as evidenced by there is a good library that is adequate and comfortable for students, there is a literacy pagupon in the school yard, in addition to making class bulletins every month to help students get used to reading and also look for information for their knowledge. Assignments with reading and writing can foster positive character in students because these assignments include a culture of literacy so that these assignments can foster character , including responsibility, social involvement, mutual respect for other friends , fostering discipline, increasing fondness for reading, fostering curiosity. know, diligent, and increase creativity .

CONCLUSION

Based on the results and discussion above, it is thus concluded that literacy culture greatly influences the character formation of elementary school students. Literacy has many benefits in learning, with a literacy culture it can also improve student character. Among the many benefits of literacy , it can train students' habits to become more

accustomed to reading properly so that even without being asked by parents or teachers, students will get used to it on their own. Then improve students' habits to be able to absorb information or knowledge that is read, summarized and searched for using the language they understand themselves. In addition, it also increases intelligence in the ability to analyze what students read so that students pay more attention to what they read. And the latter can foster student character, especially those who like reading so that it can increase students' competence in reviewing the material or reading they are studying.

The implementation of literacy culture greatly influences the characteristics of students in elementary schools. Literacy culture must be educated from childhood at elementary school age because the habits that are formed can be sustainable and are able to form positive characters in elementary school students. Literacy culture in elementary schools can be implemented in line with the existence of a policy from the Minister of Education and Culture which has designed the School Literacy Movement (GLS). GLS is an effort to foster character in elementary school students. In addition to teachers and parents, the government must work together to support the implementation of the literacy movement. Character education is a conscious effort to create and shape students' moral values through virtue and good behavior. Through literacy activities that are continuously taught to students consistently and continuously, good character is formed by itself automatically. Literacy culture will instill various good characters in students. the student characters that are formed after implementing a literacy culture, namely honesty and responsibility. The character values of honesty and responsibility are the most important foundations that must be instilled in students, because through the character values of honesty and responsibility it will make it easier to cultivate other good character values for students. There are several other characters that can be instilled in students through a literacy culture, including: social care, curiosity, communicative, and fond of reading.

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