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# Bugis philosophy in increasing multicultural awareness in the digital era

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#### Abstract

Based on several research results, local wisdom values can help in raising awareness of cultural differences within a group, in this case at the Sidenreng Rappang Muhammadiyah University. The method used in this research was literature study and a random survey of students. The results of the research show that the values of sipakainge and sipakalebbi which are the principles of every student are able to make them aware of the meaning of multicultural differences that apply today.

Keywords: Bugis Philosophy, multicultural awareness, digital era

#### Introduction

Indonesia is a multicultural country, having various regional cultures spread from Sabang to Merauke, spread over thousands of islands with various cultures.

Unity and diversity are the goals and ideology of the nation which is known as Pancasila, as well as the meaning contained in the motto Bhinneka Tunggal Ika, which upholds unity and oneness. According to James A. Banks (2006, p.208) he argues about the need for a balance between unity and diversity.

Historically, multicultural awareness was born in the United States in relation to differences and problems regarding race, gender, ethnicity, economic and political disparities, social status, and religious plurality and so on. Meanwhile, in the world of education in Indonesia, multicultural awareness exists in schools and universities. to educate students in an environment that reflects the national and world realities of diverse groups, how to get along and how to make decisions and activities that promote social justice. A diverse school environment allows students from various groups to engage in discussions to solve complex problems related to living in a multicultural country and world.

Arts education has a very important role in building multicultural awareness in society. Multiculturalism is a concept that recognizes and respects the diversity of cultures, religions, races and ethnic backgrounds in a society. Multicultural awareness is an understanding and appreciation of this diversity, and arts

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education has the unique ability to help develop this awareness. In this regard, the author will explore how arts education plays a role in building multicultural awareness, why this is important, and how arts education can be integrated into the educational curriculum to achieve this goal. According to Soetedja (2007: 413), arts education is essentially a process of human formation through art.

Which is closely related to the meaning of education according to Law no. 12 of 2012: conscious and planned efforts to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have religious spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble morals, and the skills needed by themselves, society, nation and country.

According to Ki Hajar Dewantara, education is an effort to promote the growth of character (inner strength of character), mind (intellect) and body of children. The three must not be separated, so that we can promote the perfection of life, lives and livelihoods of students in harmony with their world. Where art has a role in forming moral character in society's culture.

In the world of health, art is in the right brain which prioritizes creativity and imagination which is a balance to the left brain which emphasizes science and mathematics. So, Arts Education is a balance in life.

The Bugis community upholds ancestral values that are taught as a guide in living life. The values that are very attached are the value of sipakainge which means reminding each other and sipakalebbi which means glorifying each other's fellow human beings. regardless of age, these values will always be imprinted in the memories and behavior of the Bugis people.

#### **Research Method**

This research is a descriptive analysis research. data obtained from literature studies and student surveys at Makassar State University. The survey was conducted randomly by asking students for their opinions regarding multiculturalism on campus. Their opinions were processed using descriptive analysis and then conclusions were drawn and supported by several expert theories.

#### **Findings and Discussion**

A. The Importance of Multicultural Awareness

It is important to understand why multicultural awareness is so important in contemporary society. In this digital era, the world is increasingly connected, and individuals from various ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds interact regularly. Therefore, it is important to have a strong understanding of this diversity and respect it so that we can live together peacefully and resiliently in an increasingly multicultural environment.

As stated by Pinar (2008), "Multiculturalism promotes a deeper understanding of a diverse world and stimulates the growth of critical thinking in the face of today's cultural complexity." Multicultural awareness helps society to overcome divisions and conflicts that may arise due to misunderstanding of different cultures and worldviews.

Sipakatau is a humanizing characteristic of humans. This means that as humans we must respect each other, act politely, and not discriminate in any condition regardless of ethnicity, religion, race and class of fellow humans. The concept of humanizing humans is also an attitude of

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adhering to the values of justice, equality and the value of kinship.

Sipakalebbi is the quality of glorifying or respecting each other. The nature of respect means that humans are creatures who enjoy being praised and treated well and appropriately. And the characteristic of glorifying has the meaning of prohibiting you from seeing the shortcomings in other people.

Sipakainge' is the quality of reminding each other of fellow humans. This cannot be separated from the shortcomings of humans themselves who sometimes forget. Therefore, it is appropriate for us to remind each other when they forget.

The Bugis tribe in Indonesia is a tribe that adheres to many regional principles and values which are upheld by the local community.

The principles and values that serve as the compass of life for the Makassar Bugis tribe are mostly contained in character education. So it can be said that local cultural values and principles actually have a connection with character education

#### Conclusion

Cultural values has a very important role in building multicultural awareness in society. It helps students understand and appreciate the diversity of culture, history, and human expression from various ethnic backgrounds.

The concepts of sipakalebbi and sipakainge are very noble cultural values that must be developed in social life. Living side by side in peace, harmony and harmony is the dream of a situation that is conducive to carrying out nation building. Development will be hampered if in society there are individuals or certain groups who impose their wishes as they please on other people. When acts of anarchism are due to tribal, ethnic, religious egos or whatever you want to call them, they will definitely become an obstacle to development.

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