

Socialization of Multiculturalism: (Strengthening Understanding of the Concept of Multiculturalism in Students of SMPN 1 Botupingge, Bone Bolango Regency)

Roni Lukum^{1*}, Lucyane Djaafar², Zulaecha Ngiu³, Abdul Haris M. Madina⁴
Sintia Rahmayanti Y. Butudoka⁵, Sudarman M. Damiti⁶
Fakultas Ilmu Sosial, Universitas Negeri Gorontalo
Corresponding Author: Roni Lukum ronilukum@ung.ac.id

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords: Socialization, Strengthening Multiculturalism, SMPN 1 Botupingge

Received : 01 October

Revised : 15 October

Accepted: 25 October

©2022 Lukum, Djaafar, Ngiu, Madina, Butudoka, Damiti: This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Atribusi 4.0 Internasional](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).



ABSTRACT

Community service activities in the student environment of SMP Negeri 1 Botupingge, Bone Bolango Regency are carried out with the aim of: (1) Increasing nationalism attitudes through community character who carry out the tradition of multiculturalism among students in Bone Bolango Regency. This socialization concern is carried out because in several regions in Indonesia there is often friction between ethnicities, both influenced by religious, racial and cultural issues that affect national resilience. So it is necessary to socialize early to the students to be able to minimize inter-ethnic conflicts in the Bone Bolango area. (2). In addition, the purpose of this socialization is to make students able to think creatively and innovatively in solving problems faced in society if there is friction caused by provocations aimed at clashing between one tribe and another. (3). Make a positive contribution to students on the importance of understanding the importance of building a tradition of multiculturalism in maintaining the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. With this awareness, it will have a positive impact on an area in anticipating the disintegration of the nation in the form of conflicts between tribes in the Bone Bolango Regency area of Gorontalo Province.

INTRODUCTION

The Republic of Indonesia is a multicultural country where Indonesian society consists of various descendants consisting of various religions, beliefs, ethnicities living in the Republic of Indonesia. This condition is a mercy for the government of the Republic of Indonesia if from the life of diversity can coexist peacefully. Therefore, the government of the Republic of Indonesia is aware of the dangers of threats from these conditions. So it is time for the government to strive for a life between religious people to live in harmony among these religions. The results of research conducted by, (Lukum, 2021); (Abd. Halim, K & Mahyuddin, 2019); (Gina Lestari, 2015); (Hemafitria, 2019) It has the same conclusion that, the presence of different ethnicities in a region can create an identity of national resilience as long as it is also strengthened by the government itself.

In the laws and regulations, especially the provisions of the 1945 Constitution, it has been said that in article 29 of the 1945 Constitution, the government of the Republic of Indonesia values the life of diversity. Where in the article stipulated in the provisions of article 1 of the State based on the One True Godhead, article 2 of the state guarantees the freedom of each resident to embrace his own religion and to worship according to his religion and belief. So that the provisions of the article provide hope that every citizen of the Republic of Indonesia is given the opportunity to respect each other. Hanum & Rahmadona (in Nurcahnyono, O. H. ; 2018) Stated that cultural diversity affects behavior, attitudes, mindsets, so that humans have ways (usage), habits (flok ways), rules (mores), even customs (cutomes) that are different from one another. In a sense the State puts the hope of every citizen not to neglect other citizens simply because of differences in religion, beliefs .

With the provisions of the Constitution above as the highest rule in our country, this must be used as a basis for government policy in maintaining interfaith relations in Indonesia. What is our common hope that the State of Indonesia still exists means that it does not experience the so-called failed staat, it will not happen if the government and citizens of Indonesia uphold the Basic Law as the highest rule in our country. For the Indonesian people, pancasila is a view of life for the Indonesian nation and state. (Asatawa, I., & Ari, P, 2017).

Many countries are unable to maintain sovereignty simply because of differences of views, particularly triggered only by the conditions of their countries of different religions, beliefs and ultimately people who feel treated by the state unfairly, establishing new states. Such cases occurred in the Yugoslav state and the superpower of Unisoviet. The country of Yugoslavia, which was once a single country, is now several independent states (Yugoslavia, Serbia and Bosnia). This is the case with the Unisoviet state which now lives as a Russian state which was once a country consisting of several states. (Tafsin, N, 2014).

If we look at what happened in European countries and Eastern European countries above, all these problems only occur only because of different interests and in the end the countries split into several independent states. What happened to the country was sought not to be experienced by the government of the Republic of Indonesia. Although the government of the Republic of Indonesia

has great potential to become a divided country. All these hopes can only be maintained if the central and local governments value this diversity. In fact, the pattern of good relations between the central and regional governments in maintaining the territorial integrity of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. (Ropii, I, 2015).

What is worried about is not a mere matter, but the government of the Republic of Indonesia has had such an experience. And to this day it still exists. For example, the government of the Republic of Indonesia is faced with a conflict that occurs in the Central Sulawesi region, precisely in Poso Regency. In that area the issue of religious conflict occurred. The problem in the area occurred because there was a group of people in the name of a certain religion to incite people from other religions to ignite their emotions and in the end there was a religious conflict in the area. Similarly, conflicts between sects and beliefs, such as the Ahmadiyya sect and followers of Islam, are still ongoing. Followers of the Ahmadiyya sect are currently hostile to people whose beliefs are disturbed. Public attacks on Ahmadiyya places of worship are contrary to the constitution.

The above problems occur because of the wrong understanding of society and are easily instigated by a group of people who want stability in our country. What the group expects is that the public's perception of the government in dealing with the problem of religious tolerance in our Country is negative. This means that if there is a religious conflict, it shows the failure of the local government and the failure of the central government in building a multicultural state as aspired by The Founding Fathers about the nation state or nation state as stated in the constitution in article 1 of the 1945 NRI Constitution that the state of the Republic of Indonesia as a Unitary state in the form of a Republic which gives the meaning that the state gives space to all citizens of different faiths, different races, different religions, different political streams to remain within the frame of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. Such is the case with article 2, article 3 of the 1945 NRI Constitution which states that the state .

The Indonesian state as a country of law thus that the Republic is built on the basis of a state with a state model of multiculturalism. So that the government and citizens of Indonesia are not allowed to discriminate against minority citizens in any form. Thus, to re-strengthen the social memory of Indonesian citizens and the current ruling government in realizing the harmony of relations between Indonesian citizens, it is necessary to socialize Indonesian citizens. Especially among the younger generation who started early. Socialization of the tradition of multiculturalism can be carried out among students, students, among the community.

If socialization activities are carried out regularly by the government and assisted by universities about the tradition of building a multiculturalism state in the people of Gorontalo Province, it will be able to minimize conflicts in the area we love so much. Indeed, in the Gorontalo Province vertical conflicts and horizontal conflicts have not occurred, but the potential for conflict is very large. Why in our area does not happen. Because the local government is aware of the threat of disintegration of the nation. So that socialization is always carried out

in the Gorontalo community by familiarizing the principles of the tradition of multiculturalism present in the Gorontalo community.

If traced in the area of Gorontalo Province, what is binding so that people in the Gorontalo area can still coexist with other ethnicities besides the local Gorontalo ethnicity. This can be seen in the following table:

Table. 1 Number of Ethnicities/Tribes in Gorontalo Province

| No. | Ethnicity/Tribe | Sum | Resident Status |
|-----|---------------------|-----|-----------------|
| 1. | Ethnic Balinese | 885 | Transmigrants |
| 2. | Gorontalo ethnicity | 43 | Transmigrants |
| 3. | Minahasa tribe | 85 | Transmigrants |

Data Source: (Lukum, R, 2022).

Based on the table above, it turns out that Gorontalo Province has social capital that exists in the local wisdom of Gorontalo: "The custom of sara" a , Sara" a bersendikan kitabullah". Although inhabited by several ethnicities. This word implies that the Gorontalo community highly values and respects migrants outside the local community or local ethnicity of Gorontalo. (Siti, H, 2020). This local wisdom is one of the ways to control the state model of multiculturalism in Gorontalo Province. By reviving what became the social capital of the Gorontalo community with what was used as the basis of the Pancasila state and the Constitution of the 1945 NRI Constitution by accommodating local wisdom in the regions. Will strengthen the national resilience of the Indonesian nation and state.

If the central government and local governments salalu remind their citizens through socialization activities about the importance of building multicultural traditions in every region in Indonesia. In the context of ethnic harmonization management in a government system, it must be able to accommodate the interests of the community by paying attention to balance and continuity that is not in favor of one direction but multidirectional (Alhadar, Djunaidi, & Suleman, 2022) The socialization section is in the mission of the university. Where the Tri Dharma of Higher Education requires lecturers to carry out teaching education activities, research activities and community service activities.

Through the demands of the Tridharma of Higher Education, socialization activities on "Socialization of Multiculturalism: (Strengthening Understanding of the Concept of Multiculturalism in Students of SMPN 1 Botupingge, Bone Bolango Regency" as a form of community service. Thus, the socialization activities carried out are part of the contribution of universities, especially among lecturers who are members of this team to jointly with local governments in overseeing the constitution in preventing the disintegration of the nation.

What was stated above as the rationale for the implementation of community service activities in the PP-Kn Study Program, Faculty of Social Sciences. With the hope that this proposal will receive support from the leadership of the Faculty of Social Sciences. We hope that this activity will be carried out if supported and facilitated by the faculty with an adequate budget

for the success of community service activities at SMP Negeri I, Botupingge District, Bone Bolango Regency, Gorontalo Province.

IMPLEMENTATION AND METHODS

The method of service in this activity, using the empowerment model in transpassing knowledge to people of different religions and beliefs uses the method of direct assistance in the field starting from the preparation process to activities with discussion mechanisms, lectures and simulations through themes of national insight with a national resilience perspective approach. The big theme is" Building a Tradition of Multiculturalism in the Gorontalo Province. This activity involves students with field supervisors. The method of service in this activity, using the empowerment model in transpassing knowledge to people of different religions and beliefs uses the method of direct assistance in the field starting from the preparation process to activities with discussion mechanisms, lectures and simulations through themes of national insight with a national resilience perspective approach. The big theme is" Building a Tradition of Multiculturalism in the Gorontalo Province. This activity involves students with field supervisors.

The process of delivering material uses the hall of the State Junior High School I Botupingge District with other infrastructure related to the activity in question with the number of participants of 30 students. The material to be provided is certainly related to issues related to social, economic, political, cultural and religious issues, security through the perspective of National resilience. Through this material, the students can understand the importance of life in multicultural conditions, so that what is feared will not happen in Botupingge District, Bone Bolango Regency, Gorontalo Province.

The stages of implementing service activities are as follows:

1. Preparation

The stages of activities in preparation for service on socialization in building a tradition of multiculturalism in Gorontalo Province include:

- a) Coordination with SMP Negeri 1 Botupingge Student Affairs;
- b) Preparation of Banner Suggestions and Coaching/Socialization Materials, and;
- c) Coaching/socialization to students in building a tradition of multiculturalism in Gorontalo Province;

2. Implementation

The stages are carried out in socialization activities in building a tradition of multiculturalism in the Gorontalo Province Area with the output of being able to provide guidance to students in understanding the tradition of multiculturalism in students of SMP Negeri 1 Botupingge, Bone Bolango Regency, Gorontalo Province.

3. Program Sustainability Plan

The sustainability of this community service program is a productive discussion through mentoring that will be carried out by the program implementer, the target is for female students at SMP Negeri 1 Botupingge

with the hope that they can understand the tradition of multiculturalism in the Gorontalo Province.

Table 2. Schedule of Community Service Activities

| NO | ACTIVITY CONFERENCE | MOON | | | | | | | |
|----|--|------|-----|------|----|------|----|--------|----|
| | | May | | JUNE | | JULY | | AUGUST | |
| | | II | III | III | IV | I | II | III | IV |
| 1 | Preparation | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | Coordination With SMP N. 1 BOTUPINGGE | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | Implementation of Socialization | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | Reports and Journals | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Target Group, Its Potential, and Its Problems.

The groups that are partners in this activity are the principal, the teachers and the students. This group is considered representative and can innovate, especially in creating a sense of harmony and solidarity between community residents in Botupingge District, Bone Bolango Regency, Gorontalo Province. The school environment of SMP Negeri I, Botupingge District, Bone Bolango Regency is quite potential in managing various potentials that exist. Where the potential for conflict caused by friction differences is very potential to occur. Through socialization activities about the importance of building a multiculturalism tradition in the Gorontalo Province area. The school will always socialize to its students about the theme of socialization.

Conflicts caused by friction of differences in the midst of society must prepare a cadre born from among students as mediators in anticipation, if there is a provocation or phenomenon that will clash between citizens only because of differences in ethnicity, ethnicity, religion and ideological beliefs and so on. With the socialization activities on the theme of building a tradition of multiculturalism in Gorontalo Province carried out at the SMP Negeri I school, Botupingge District, Bone Bolango Regency, it can minimize the conflict.



Picture 1. Socialization of Multiculturalism in Botupingge Junior High School (SMPN) Students

Problems and Their Solutions

Based on the analysis of conflicts in Indonesia, it shows that there have been conflicts between religions, conflicts between ethnicities. This is like what happens in regions in Indonesia. For example, what happened in the Maluku, Poso and Ambon areas. All this is due to the failure of society in understanding life between ethnicities. Where as a multicultural state, it is hoped that citizens will be able to interact with each other ethnicities and be able to anticipate conflicts between religions. If you look at the conditions in the Gorontalo Province, multicultural conditions are very much found in every region, such as at the sub-district level and in villages. All this requires serious attention from local governments. So that what happens in other regions in parts of Indonesia does not happen in this area.



Picture 2. Socialization of Multiculturalism Mapping in Gorontalo Province

Based on the above problems, it is time for the multicultural conditions in the Gorontalo area for local governments to be aware of inter-ethnic conflicts, interfaith conflicts. This condition will be created if the community realizes the importance of coexistence, because the people who live wherever they live are as

Indonesian citizens. If this kind of awareness is built among the community, then what is a concern about conflict can be immediately handled and can be overcome by the government.

The form of activities to be carried out is planned through socialization activities through counseling and lectures. This form of activity is one of the solutions to solve various problems faced by the community. At least the community has been helped by this activity. Because by providing understanding through lectures and counseling on the importance of building a tradition of multiculturalism, at least it can prevent inter-ethnic, interfaith conflicts in the Bone Bolango Regency area of Gorontalo Province.

Table 3. Program Success Indicators

| Before the Program | After the Program |
|--|---|
| Students Do Not Understand the Meaning of Multiculturalism | Students Understand Ethnic and Tribal Problems in Gorontalo Province |
| Students do not know the number of ethnicities / tribes and have not been able to realize the concept of multi-cultural life | Students Have a Broader Insight into Ethnicity in Gorontalo Province and How to Defend It |

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the above devotion issues, in order to strengthen the resilience of the concept of multiculturalism in Gorontalo Province, a concept of ideas is needed that can strengthen the character of the nation's children. Therefore, with the variety of tribes and ethnicities in Gorontalo Province, it requires an education to strengthen national insight to students, especially at SMPN 1 Botupingge, Bone Bolango Regency, Gorontalo Province. Therefore, through this service activity, the author has the following recommendations:

1. The government should conduct regular multiculturalism socialization activities in schools to strengthen students' understanding of ethnicity and ethnicity in Gorontalo Province. With the hope that what is to be achieved in the socialization program activities to build the tradition of Multiculturalism among students at SMP Negeri I, Botupingge District, Bone Bolango Regency, is to make students agree with the tradition of multiculturalism, where the tradition of multiculturalism expects all differences in a country to be resolved peacefully.
2. Cultural education needs to collaborate between schools and universities to prevent students from ignoring ethnic and ethnic wealth in Gorontalo

Province. Because the principles of the tradition of multiculturalism always prioritize an attitude of tolerance, accommodation, egalitarian attitudes, an attitude of autonomy in the life of the nation and state society. The students' understanding of the importance of building a tradition of multiculturalism is a moral movement in anticipating the threat of national disintegration which is carried out through lectures, discussions and simulations through socialization forums as will be carried out by the academic community in the form of community service.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Thank you to the parties involved in this service activity, especially the service team and the schools involved, both the school kepla leaders who have given permission for this activity so that it can run according to the activity plan. Special car thanks also to students who have been willing to be participants in this service activity. Therefore, the author hopes that through writing can add sources of information for academics and other researchers.

REFERENCES

- Abd. Halim, K, & Mahyuddin. (2019). Social Capital And Social Integration: Assimilation And Cultural Acculturation Of Multicultural Communities In Polewali Mandar, West Sulawesi. *Quality Of Social And Religious Communication Media*, 2(2), 111-112.
- Alhadar, S., Djunaidi, S., & Suleman, S. (2022). Increasing the Role of Youth in Realizing a Community Aware of Government Politics in Inomata Village, Bone Bolango Regency. *Abdidas Journal*, 3(1), 165-170.
- Asatawa, I., & Ari, P. (2017). Pancasila as an ideology in various fields of life in society, nation and state. *Papers of the Faculty of Animal Husbandry, Udayana University*.
- Gina Lestari. (2015). Bhinneka Tunggal Ika: Indonesian Multicultural Khasanah In The Midst Of Sara's Life. *Scientific Journal Of Pancasila And Civic Education*, 28(1), 31-36.
- Hemafitria. (2019). Inter-Ethnic Conflict Through Strengthening Multicultural Insights. *Journal Of Civic Education*, 3(1), 1-11.
- Lukum, R. (2021). Building Harmony Between Gorontalo Local Ethnicity and Balinese Ethnicity in Realizing a Multiculturalism State in Tri Rukun Village, Wonosari District, Boalemo Regency, Gorontalo Province and Its Implications for Regional Resilience. *Journal of Government and Political Studies*, 4(1), 26-39.

- Lukum, R. (2022). Building a Tradition of Multiculturalism in Gorontalo Province in the Study of National Resilience Perspectives (Balinese Ethnic Studies in Tri Rukun village, Wonosari District, Boalemo Regency and Chinese Ethnicity in Gorontalo City). *Journal of Education and Counseling*, 4(5), 3588-3594.
- Nurchayono, O. H. (2018). Multicultural education in Indonesia: A synchronic and diachronic analysis. *Habitus: Journal of Education, Sociology, & Anthropology*, 2(1), 105-115.
- Ropii, I. (2015). The Pattern of Relations between the Central Government and Local Government in Regional Autonomy. *Maksigama Journal of Law*, 44.
- Siti, H. (2020). Adat Bersendikan Syarak, Syarak Bersendikan Kitabullah The Transcendental Basis of Government of the Samawa Tribal People. <https://www.istinbath.or.id/>, 18(1).
- Tafsin, N. (2014). The Political Role of the Mufthi Council In Russia. *Religion and Human Azazi Rights*, 3(2).