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- Bahasa Daerah Dan Penutur Usia Muda ✓
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- Bahasa Daerah Vs Bahasa Asing ✓
- Ragam Bahasa Daerah ✓

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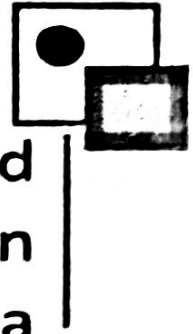
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Preserving Regional Language and Mastering Foreign Languages in Millennial Era

Oleh : Anisah Setyaningrum



Indonesia has entered the era of globalization or the digital era. It is characterized by the existence of activities in the daily life of Indonesian society that is digitized and automated, especially the urban community. The digital era facilitates the life of modern society where public relations can be established anywhere, anytime and connected to each other with a wider network quickly and precisely. The development of today's globalization era begins with the development of communication technology, information, and lifestyle changes.

Globalization is a contemporary development that influences the emergence of possible changes in the world. The influence of globalization can eliminate the obstacles that make the world more open and require each other from one another. It can be said that globalization brings a new perspective on the concept of "world without borders" that now has become a significant reality and influence the development of culture which eventually brings new changes.

According to Waters (1995), globalization is a social process, where geographical boundaries are not important to socio-cultural conditions, which eventually incarnate into one's consciousness. Then, Giddens (1990) defined the globalization as a dependency between one nation and another, between one human and another through trade, journey, tourism, culture, information, and extensive interaction so that the boundaries of the country become narrower. It can be said that globalization make people in this world become more close than before.

The development of globalization in the XXI century was very rapid, it is compared to previous centuries. This is due to the development of technology that is also very fast, so that inter-human communication in separate countries can be done practically without taking a long time. This ease makes the information can move from one place to another with a relatively short time.

Globalization affects almost all aspects of human's life. Acceleration of the information transfer then also accelerate the interconnectedness and dependence of human beings in the world. Direct relations such as trading are tightened by the presence of various methods to interact, for example by using the internet network, telephone, or email. These things play a significant role in spreading globalization throughout the world.

Globalization cannot be solely identified as an instant process occurring in the XXI century, because relations between nations in the world have occurred since 2500 years ago, where humans began to trade with the barter system to fulfill their life needs. This then develops with the advent of currencies, so countries no longer need to provide goods to redeem for their needs.

As part of the culture, language is also vulnerable to globalization, especially with the ease of learning and the use of language. With the stronger country in the other country, one common language is required for communication to be made easier without the need of a translator. English is usually the easiest language to influence other languages in the world, due to its use as an international language.

As a means of global communication, English must be actively mastered both oral and written. Moreover, for entrepreneurs, the rapid development of technology demands them to be more proactive in responding to global information flows as an asset in meeting market needs.

One of the shortcomings of Indonesians to compete with overseas people is language. Indonesian culture that does not use foreign language as the language of instruction makes most of the Indonesian people can only speak Indonesian. That consciousness is now beginning to realize. The desire to learn and use foreign languages began to grow.

But over time the desire to learn foreign language precisely makes the Indonesian language being shifted. Many school-age children, especially millennials living in large cities, are seen difficult in uttering the Indonesian language. Many of them are even more fluent in foreign language than their own languages.

However, with globalization, Indonesian language began to be influenced by various

other languages. English, Japanese and Korean are the 3 most affecting Indonesian users today. This is due to the exchange of cultural and information that is so heavy through the Internet, television, and other media, so that the Indonesian people tend to be accustomed to say foreign words such as "thank you" or "arigato gozaimas" rather than the Indonesian words like "terima kasih". This will certainly harm the continuity of Indonesian language as the national language.

Based on the previous fact, with the current influence of globalization nowadays, the regional language becomes quite in a shifted position. The current globalization demands everyone to master foreign languages. Whether it is for academic necessity, professional, or just a mere style to follow the times development. Furthermore, the regional language also loses its prestige because it is judged not to be contemporary.

Therefore, it is need an awareness of the community, especially the Indonesian people as Indonesian users, in using Indonesian language. The community must be wiser in sorting out the good and bad language they hear on the internet or other media, so that they can restrict the use of the excessive *alay* language. In addition, the use of Indonesian language on social media pages or website applications can also be applied well, so that Bahasa Indonesia can become one of the internet language. Furthermore, the national language of Republic of Indonesia can be part of globalization, not being a "victim" of globalization.

Bahasa Indonesia is a language that must take precedence over others. In the public domain, it is important to use it properly and correctly. It must be adjusted to the people being targeted. Because imposing Indonesian language in which people do not understand it is not the right attitude.

With a high level of concern, we can even lift the country's language into a world language. There is no need for a scratch, we can start by targeting Bahasa Indonesia to be the official language in southeast Asia. There are proved to be many overseas agencies that set Indonesian language to learn. Producing the best works, especially books, can also boost the popularity of Indonesian language.

Furthermore, the regional language is an ancestral inheritance that has been lowered hereditary. If we apply it as a wealth of the land, we will appreciate it more. It is extremely valuable because there is always a philosophy behind the language. No language is formed. In addition, regional language systems also contain value-packed local wisdom.

Language is not just a communication tool, language is not just a word of speech. The language also depicts a nation's culture and identity. That is why in Bahasa Indonesia there is a difference when talking with peers, older people, even our parents, fathers and mothers.

Therefore, it is very unwise when the regional language is allowed to be extinct. The language of the region with its complex system is not a simple work, then preserve it is our shared responsibility.

As regards foreign language mastery is commonplace lately. Not only does mastering one or two foreign languages, a handful of people even have polyglot titles. The designation is for someone who is able to write and speak in many (more than three) foreign languages. There is even capable of mastering 8 to 12 foreign languages and counting. The development of the world is increasingly refracted of distances, making everyone can interact with anyone. This is where the mastery of foreign languages becomes increasingly interesting. So to rule the world, we are also required to be able to master the foreign language well.

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