



Improving Understanding of Multiculturalism through Socialization of BIPA Learning at UMS for Students at SMA Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat, Surakarta

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Abstract

The results of community service activities at SMA Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat provide the aim of (1) deepening students' understanding of the existence and position of the Indonesian language and (2) deepening students' understanding of the Indonesian Language Teaching Program for Foreign Language Learners (BIPA). The existence of the Indonesian language as a state identity, as well as a means of diplomatic strategy, is able to advance the Indonesian language. The results of this community service showed that students participated in the activities very enthusiastically. The results of this brainstorming phase also show that students are increasingly aware of the importance of the strategic role of Indonesian and the Indonesian national language as a communication tool. It can also be seen from the feedback phase that students are increasingly aware of the cultural, racial and ethnic diversity that exists in the world.

1. Introduction

The existence of the Indonesian language is currently experiencing a very rapid development. In this case, the existence of Indonesian is intended as one of the information in the Indonesian vocabulary (Artini & Nitiasih, 2017). The existence of Indonesian in the current era of globalization has developed from its status as a national language to an identity (Sulaeman & Hasaniyah, 2023). Indonesian has a very important role in various aspects of life. One of the things that can be done is to inform the public about the status and existence of Indonesian. Indonesian is the official language used by all Indonesian people. Based on Constitution number 24, (2009) Article 29 (1) states that Indonesian must be used

as the language of instruction in national education. Indonesian is the identity of the Indonesian nation (Wahyuni et al, 2023).

With the development of world languages, Indonesian has become one of the influential languages in the eyes of the international community. The role of the Indonesian nation in international relations makes Indonesian one of the most important languages in the world. This is evidenced by the number of foreigners who are interested in learning Indonesian. Motivation for foreigners to learn Indonesian for various purposes ranging from business, education, culture and others. Currently, the government's attention is focused on the BIPA program, especially by the Language Development and Development Agency of the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia through the Center for Strategy Development and Language Diplomacy (PPSDK). An example is the program created by PPSDK at the Language Agency to help foreign students who want to learn Indonesian, stimulating the interest of foreigners to learn Indonesian culture and language. One insight into the status of Indonesian in the era of globalization, which is no longer a barrier to national borders, is the Indonesian Language Learning Program for Foreign Speakers (BIPA). According to 2021 data from the website of the Indonesian Development and Guidance Agency at the end of 2020, 355 educational institutions in 41 countries have run BIPA programs, with a total of learners of 72,746 people. Of these, the language agency facilitates 146 educational institutions in 29 countries. This figure is proof that foreigners' interest in Indonesia continues to increase in various parts of the world. This achievement is inseparable from the results of coordination between the Language Agency and various parties, from within and outside the country.

SMA Muhammadiyah Special Program (PK) Kottabarat, Surakarta is one of the leading high schools that has special programs that lead to the improvement of the intellectual and religious abilities of its students. This high school is located in Banjarsari District, Surakarta City.



Figure 1. Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat High School (Source: [https: Radar Solo](https://radar.solo.co.id)).

2. Methods of Implementation

It is hoped that this activity will be able to produce products in the form of scientific articles on the results of community service activities with the theme "Cross-Cultural Debriefing and Socialization of Indonesian Language Learning for Foreign Speakers (BIPA) at SMA Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat" Furthermore, this activity is expected to increase understanding, knowledge and a sense of pride in the Indonesian language and know its existence at the local, national and regional levels.

1) Time and Place of Implementation

This community service activity with the title "Cross-Cultural Debriefing and Socialization of Indonesian Language Learning for Foreign Speakers" was carried out on Wednesday, January 11, 2023 specifically for classes X2 and X3 of SMA Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat.

2) Stage

The implementation of this service activity has several phases which include the observation phase, social phase, brainstorming phase and feedback phase. Below is detailed information on the implementation of these phases. The observation phase was carried out by ensuring the knowledge of Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat High

School students about the BIPA program. The social phase begins with an explanation of foreign cultures, starting with the culture and language of Madagascar, Africa, Pakistan, which is carried out in class X2. Then continued in class X3 with Thai and Yemeni cultural material presented by BIPA UMS students. Meanwhile, the brainstorming phase is carried out through the discussion method so that students can express their opinions, ideas and opinions about the newly acquired cross-cultural knowledge.

Table 1. The detailed schedule of the following activities

Wednesday, January 11, 2023			
No.	At	Activities	Executive
1.	09.00-09.45	Hospitality and welcome from the Principal and Indonesian Language Teacher in the Principal's room	Principal and Teachers
2.	09.45-10.00	Entering classroom X2 and introductions	Source
3.	10.00-10.34	Socialization stage by providing material on cross-cultural debriefing in classroom X1 SMA Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat	Resource Persons, Students, and Students
4.	10.34-11.06	Continuing the socialization stage of material about cross-cultural debriefing in classroom X3 SMA Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat	Resource Persons, Students, and Students
5.	11.06	Closur	Source

3. Results and Discussion

Indonesian for Foreign Speakers (BIPA) is a program aimed at improving the ability of foreigners to use Indonesian by Azizah & Lestar (Rahmawati & Sulisty, 2021). The Language Development and Coaching Agency understands that teaching Indonesian to foreign speakers (BIPA) has a very important role in introducing Indonesia to the international world. In connection with the above situation, efforts have also been made to develop Indonesian teaching materials for foreign speakers. Several textbooks have been published as a source of BIPA study materials. One of the sources used as a reference is the book Sahabatku Indonesia (Adhia, 2020). In addition, some universities also use

independently developed textbooks, such as the Indonesian language textbook used by INCULS (Indonesian Language and Culture Learning Service) at the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Gajah Mada University. A discussion of the BIPA curriculum and learning outcomes was conducted to prepare Indonesian so that foreigners can learn it well.

Based on the above background, the purpose of this service program is to provide education to students of SMA Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat by providing material in the form of cross-cultural research and socialization of Indonesian language programs for foreign speakers. Through this briefing, we hope that students and teachers will have a broader understanding of cross-culturalism. In addition, this activity is expected to expand the introduction of Indonesian language teaching programs for foreign speakers.

Referring to the results of the situation analysis above, the following is an identification of the partner situation, in this case students around SMA Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat.

- a. There are still many students who do not have a deep understanding of the existence and status of the Indonesian language.
- b. Many students still do not have a deep understanding of the existence of the Indonesian Language Teaching Program for Foreign Speakers (BIPA).

The objectives of this activity can be formulated as follows.

- a. Deepen students' understanding of the existence and position of the Indonesian language.
- b. To deepen students' understanding of the Indonesian Language Teaching Program for Foreign Language Learners (BIPA).

This community service activity with the theme "Cross-Cultural Debriefing and Socialization of Indonesian Language Learning for Foreign Speakers (BIPA) for Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat High School Students" is limited to students in the Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat High School environment. This activity focuses on providing material about foreign cross-cultural understanding and socialization in the Indonesian Language Learning Program for Foreigners (BIPA).

- a. Observation Phase

At this stage, an initial study was conducted using observation techniques of the partner situation. This observation was conducted using direct observation and

interviews with teachers and students. The purpose of this observation was to get more information about the students' level of understanding of the BIPA program as well as their views on the Indonesian national language, the Indonesian language, and the Indonesian language.

b. Socialization Phase

This phase is the delivery of material from foreign students which is carried out in two stages, the first stage takes place in class X2 by providing material on culture and language by foreign students from Madagascar, Africa and Pakistan. Meanwhile, the second stage was carried out in class X3 by providing cultural and linguistic material by foreign students from Thailand and Yemen. Students get cultural and linguistic material through student presentations and video screenings about the country. It can be seen that the students were very enthusiastic during the presentation of the material, because the foreign students presented the material in the Indonesian language that they had just learned. Students were also able to capture the material well.

The material presented by foreign students included an introduction to history, flags, traditional clothing, tourism, ethnic groups, languages, etc. In addition to the presentation of the material, videos were also shown about the most beautiful places that must be visited when in Yemen. With this exposure, students will have cross-cultural knowledge, making them more open in responding to diversity.

The material is provided through a two-way presentation, involving participants in the debriefing process to ensure that the material shared is truly absorbed and understood by the students. In this phase, students were also engaged by asking questions about the national culture presented.



Figure 2: Socialization phase

c. Brainstorming Phase

This phase provides socialization material for the Indonesian Language Program for Foreign Speakers (BIPA). The provision of BIPA program socialization refers to the initial data, namely providing initial knowledge material regarding cross-cultural debriefing. The goal is to provide comprehensive information to students about intercultural knowledge, material regarding the potential of the Indonesian language for foreigners to learn has been given.

This session discussed the importance of the Indonesian language development program as a tool of diplomacy. So far, Indonesian has only been considered as a national language, without considering the role of Indonesian as a tool of diplomacy with other languages. According to the Government Regulation (UUD) Articles 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 which state that Indonesian must be used in academic situations, when writing memoranda of understanding with foreign parties and for various purposes in Indonesia, including holding international conferences, Indonesian must be used.

The results of this brainstorming phase show that the students are increasingly aware of the strategic role of Indonesian language in diplomacy with foreign parties. They are increasingly aware of the role of the Indonesian national language as a means of communication. In fact, some of them do not hesitate to use Indonesian when communicating with foreigners. In addition, this process can increase their pride in using good and correct Indonesian.

d. Feedback Phase

In the last stage, the participants were asked to provide feedback on the cross-cultural debriefing they had just received. Based on the results of this cross-cultural survey, the students of SMA Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat will be more aware of the existence and role of Indonesian language, especially its role as a tool of diplomacy with the international world. In addition, students open themselves to the diversity they have received from the cross-cultural debriefing, bringing them to a new perspective on racial and ethnic diversity in the world.

In light of the situations outlined above, the solutions presented above are outlined as follows.

- a) In this first stage, observations were made of the student situation in the Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat High School environment.
- b) In the second stage, students participated in a cross-cultural debriefing. The cross-cultural debriefing was conducted in two sessions, the first session started in class X2 which was occupied by international students from Madagascar, Africa and Pakistan. Then followed by the second session in class X3 which was occupied by international students from Thailand and Yemen.
- c) At the third level, students get information about the Indonesian Language Learning Program for Foreign Speakers (BIPA).
- d) In the fourth step, the resource person informs students about the importance of the existence of Indonesian language, cross-cultural knowledge and the existence of the Indonesian Language Learning Program for Foreign Speakers (BIPA).

4. Conclusion

This service program was carried out due to the collaboration of the International Affairs Office of Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta and the Institute for Basic Science and Language Development of Universitas Muhammadiyah Surakarta with SMA Muhammadiyah PK Kottabarat.

The continuation of the community service program with the theme of Cross-Cultural Debriefing and Socialization of the Indonesian Language Program for Foreign Speakers is

expected to provide information about the BIPA program and open students' insights about cultures outside Indonesia and allow students to change the way they view the diversity of foreign cultures.

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