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REVITALIZATION OF OLD MALAY MANUSCRIPTS AS SOURCES OF EDUCATIONAL VALUES FOR MORAL EDUCATION AT SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS IN INDONESIA

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Abstract

This advanced educational research is aimed at producing textbook materials for education in character building. The raw materials were taken from three old Malay manuscripts containing moral education values and imaginary symbols. These classic texts are very suitable as raw material for developing teaching material for senior high schools in Indonesia. Research and Development (R &D) was used in the revitalization of these three classical texts:- 1). Mawa'iz Al badi (ML, 341), 2). Syair Kiamat (W, 228), and 3). Syair Nasihat (W.232). These three texts are the sources of educational values for Bahasa Indonesia lessons. These three classical texts have been analyzed for designing teaching materials, learning models and guidance. The next step was to develop the textbook materials and try out the materials at three senior high schools in North Sumatra: 1) MAN 1 Padang Sidempuan, 2) SMAN 1 Tanjung Balai, and 3) SMAN 2 Tanjung Balai. Theoretically, the teaching model has been judged by teaching experts and was found to be satisfactory. Practically, the model of teaching was tried out at the three Senior High Schools above and the results of the research showed the effectiveness of the model (textbook materials) in enhancing students' ability in learning the materials. In line with this, these students gave good responses to the processes of teaching-learning moral values.

Keywords: Revitalization, old Malay manuscripts, textbook materials, research and development, moral values.

INTRODUCTION

The quality of Bahasa Indonesia and literature teaching materials have been developed by governments, researchers, teachers, education practitioners through syllabus revision and research in districts, cities, and even provinces. This development has been done to provide education for character building so that students will have both competence and character. Yet, this expectation still has a long way to go to achieve good results since many Indonesian teenagers prefer to use Bahasa Indonesia in an inappropriate way. It can be seen from some examples, such as; Indonesia teenagers using language impolitely, coarsely and sarcastically. It is believed that the improvement of Bahasa Indonesia teaching materials is urgently needed through revitalization using Old Malay Manuscripts (Nurhayati, 2014) as sources of educational values for moral education.

In this research, three Old Malay manuscripts were examined, namely: 1) *Mawa'iz al Badi*, 2) *Syair Kiamat* and c) *Syair Nasehat* and their transliterations which can be found in Noegraha et al. (1994). Transliteration of these old Malay manuscripts relating to religious instruction discusses the following: a) the recognition of Almighty God, b) the Prophets and Rasullullah, c) commands and

prohibitions from Almighty God, d) the chastisement of sinners in the hereafter, e) showing respect to parents and f) friendship.

Based on the above, this research was conducted to produce materials for teaching Bahasa Indonesia and literature which included a syllabus, text books for students and teaching guides for teachers. All these materials were related to exhortations for building character and good morals revitalized from the values in the Old Malay manuscripts. Those three texts (*Mawa'iz al Badi*, 2) *Syair Kiamat*, and c) *Syair Nasehat*) are thought to have enough potential material for use in teaching moral education (Hasibuan & Matondang, 2015, p. 98). This, it is expected, will contribute to achieve the objectives of the Bahasa Indonesia teaching-learning syllabus in North Sumatra.

METHODS

The research method used was a Research and Development (R&D) method (Huitema, 1990; Fraenkel & Wallen, 2009; Hasibuan, *et al.* 2010) in which the aim of the research was to develop educational products. This method was modified into five main steps as follows:

- Observations: In this step, the researchers observed senior high school students' morals in the classroom, found out the indicators relating to the students' morals and analyzed the old Malay manuscripts.
- Materials and design: In this research step, the syllabus was planned with respect to the objectives and standards of competency.
- Materials development: In this step the models for teaching were developed relating to the standard competencies for teaching materials for Bahasa Indonesia.
- Materials validation step: Where the researchers validated the new materials for teaching Bahasa Indonesia through pre-tests and post-tests in order to check the quality and effect of the new materials against the performance of the teachers and the competencies achieved by the students.
- Materials revision: In this step the researchers revised the materials to get the final materials for use.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

After the research had been conducted, the findings showed that there are many religious education found in the three old Malay manuscripts in which the religious education the basic learning for life. Besides, the old Malay manuscripts was used as the additional Islamic references as well as Al-Qur'an, Hadits, Ijma', Qias and Maslaha. The Moslems are expected to have a better understanding about Islam by reading these old Malay manuscripts because the manuscripts could be used to enrich their understanding towards Islam (Fathurahman, 2011, p. 124).

Based on the findings, according to education and language teaching experts, the old Malay manuscript can be used to develop Bahasa Indonesia teaching materials theoretically since all the texts contained in the old Malay manuscript meet the teaching materials principals.

Practically, three kinds of Old Malay manuscripts were examined: *Mawa'iz al Badi*, *Syair Kiamat* and *Syair Nasehat*. These were tested in three different high schools in North Sumatera, namely the state of Madrasah Aliyah I of Padang Sidempuan, State of Senior High School 1 of Tanjung Balai and State of Senior High School 2 of Tanjung Balai.

Pre-tests were done in order to get a baseline for the achievements of the students using the existing materials for teaching Bahasa Indonesia. Then, the students were taught using the new Bahasa Indonesia materials from the old Malay Manuscripts following the 2013 curriculum and they were then given a post-test in order to retest their achievements in using Bahasa Indonesia. Finally, a questionnaire was distributed to the students to find out their opinion relating to the teaching-learning process using the new Bahasa Indonesia teaching materials.

The findings of the research showed that the results from the students taught using the old Malay manuscripts were higher than the results from students taught using the older, existing teaching materials with Sig = 0,000 < 0.05 (Tuckey & Games-Howell test). Then, the results from the questionnaires showed that both the students and their teachers gave positive acceptance of the old Malay manuscripts as their teaching materials.

Moreover, the finding of this research also enriches the Islamic literature in Indonesia since Islamic literature is affected by Malay literature. In this regard, Supriadi (2014, p. 165) the character of Islamic literature corresponds to the theory of Islamic Malay literature. Hasibuan, *et al.* (2010) have said that old Malay manuscripts contain the values of old Malay culture. Thus, the Islamic Malay literature is able to spread good moral influence.

Sikana (2005) in (Supriadi, 2015, p. 165) is one of the experts of Islamic literature who espouses the Takmilah theory where seven aspects are discussed, namely; divinity, apostolate, Islam, knowledge, aesthetics, authors and readers (Supriadi, *ibid*). This research found that the new teaching materials produced contain these seven aspects.

Furthermore, this literature also gives a great effect to both students and teachers as developing teaching materials since the materials corresponding to the teaching materials development principals, namely; relevance, consistency, and adequacy (Mustakim, 2013). Relevance is the conformity between competency standards and standard competency, while consistency is the conformity between materials and standard competency. Then, adequacy is the sufficiency of materials to cover all achieving competencies. All developing materials should contain facts, concepts, principals, procedures and knowledge discussing about, nature, morals and values. The developing materials must be educational and religious in order to meet the needs of students and the performance requirements of teachers.

In brief, the materials developed play an important role in curriculum development since they cover all aspects needed such as: knowledge, skills and morals.

CONCLUSION

After the use of developing materials of Bahasa Indonesia and literature, it is concluded that the revitalization of old Malay manuscripts as the sources of educational values for moral education at senior high schools positively affected the achievement of the students which was proven by the analysis of the data. The students responded positively to the new materials developed for use as teaching materials in the teaching-learning process.

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