

Participation and Contribution Through Cultural Event to Develop The Independent Character of Young Citizens

Dadang Sundawa
Education of Social Science
Indonesia University of Education
Bandung, Indonesia
d_sundawa@yahoo.com

Abstract—The current problem in this modern era is that some young people is trapped in daily activities that give no contribution for their social environment. As educated and experienced human resources, young citizens should be able to engage themselves in any kind of social activities. Therefore, they can create a better socialization space for both themselves and society. The Krakatau Festival is a medium for young people to give their positive contribution by participating directly in its various activities. Qualitative research with ethnographic approach was conducted to explore the involvement of young citizens in supporting the implementation of the Krakatau Festival as a way to promote the tourism of Lampung Province. Observation and interview have been conducted in this study to collect the data and information. Triangulation is used to crosscheck the analysis for the data analysis section, so that the research conclusion can be obtained. Krakatau Festival as an annual event has been attracting a large number of both local and international visitors. That way, it is an effective event to promote various tourist attractions in Lampung province. The result of this study shows that the involvement of young people in the festival has brought improvement in their mental attitude, such as make them be more independent. The implication of this research is to create various programs that involve young citizens. Therefore, they can train their ability to make innovation in tourism sector in order to create a memorable experience for the visitors.

Keywords—*contribution; cultural event; independent character; participation; young citizens*

I. INTRODUCTION

The Krakatau Festival was held for the first time in 1990. It was supported by various components in Lampung Province, including young people who wanted to give ideas and make this festival a success. Cultural festivals such as the Krakatau Festival are a very important tourism agenda for Lampung Province. Therefore, this festival is always held and has become a favored tourism program [1], [2]. Since the first festival implementation in 2018, it has received support, aspirations, and assistance from young people by involving themselves directly in various activities carried out for three consecutive days in Bandar Lampung City. Thus, every year, this festival is filled by young people as a form of their concern for the development and progress of the Lampung

Province. The focus of this article is to discuss the positive impact of the involvement of young people in organizing a cultural festival, namely the Krakatau Festival, which is to build the character of independence of young citizens.

Participation from both individual and group in social interaction had once decreased [3]. However, these days, their involvement in social activities have been increasing and become a personal virtue. Moreover, each individual and group can choose what kind of activity that they will participate into. It can be sport, cultural, educational, etc [4], [5], [6].

The success of the festival will not happen if it did not receive support from various existing components such as government, related agencies (work units), communities, organizations, the wider community, and young people [1], [2]. In general, in the implementation of the Krakatau Festival, there are many young people who are actively involved either as participants, organizers, volunteers, event organizers, and other communities of young people. Their involvement has indirectly trained and developed the character of their independence so that they become a better person in terms of discipline, responsibility, leadership, ability in management, and so forth.

Another positive benefit gained by young people from their involvement in a tourism event such as the Krakatau Festival is getting new knowledge, learning practical skills, and networking. All these things will be useful in the future. These components will make the individual become more independent. There will be self-transformation that will make them be able to give significant positive contribution for their community. Thus, tourism events do not only have an impact on the economic and infrastructure sectors, but there are other sides that have a long-term effect on the positive development of human resources. Regarding the participation of young citizens in the community, civic engagement is an important key in generating and increasing the motivation of young citizens to get involved [4], [7].

II. METHOD

Qualitative research using an ethnographic approach was carried out to obtain data and information directly from the participants [8], [9]. The number of participants in this study were 10. They were involved in the Krakatau Festival held in August 2017. Observations and interviews were conducted both before and during the Krakatoa Festival. Interviews were conducted to get an explanation from the perspective of the participants involved in this event. Interviews were conducted through conversations based on research questions that have been prepared in advance.

Participants in this study participated in the Krakatau Festival in the previous years. The participants have joined and contributed in this kind of cultural festivals for more than twice. Data collection is obtained from observation, interviews, and documentation. Data and information that have been obtained are then combined and grouped according to research questions and indicators. Data analysis used triangulation to get the results of analysis based on the perspective that has been stated by each participant. The results of triangulation are then complemented by other perspectives and studies to create in-depth explanation about the findings and draw conclusions [10].

III. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

A. Bringing up the Independent Character of Young Citizens through the Festival Event

Festivals are medium that can be utilized optimally to maintain the intensity of interaction among people coming from various cultures, occupations, and statuses. Various activities in the festival aim to unite many groups in society so that every element can interact to each other in a positive attitude. [11]. Lately, young people are very interested in being involved in events about tourism, sports, entertainment, and other social activities around them. Our character is formed from our habits. Parents also has a big influence in forming their children's habits. It means that everything that young people do today will give indirect impact for their children in the future, which will be the next young generation [12], [13].

Young people who are involved in cultural performances or cultural parades are followed by presenting traditional music games, wearing regional dress (male and female traditional clothes), and displaying other traditional accessories that are very useful in exploring the cultural richness of the region that is still stored in the area of origin.

These young people who are involved in cultural performances or cultural parades will present traditional music performance, wear folk costume, and other traditional accessories. That way, they expose and promote cultural wealth from their places.

TABLE I. INDIVIDUAL INDEPENDENCE VALUES BASED ON THE LEVEL

Level	Engagement	Purpose	Independence values
Government/committee	Providing space for community to participate Preparing the festival Coordinating units	Engaging the community in the event so that they can give their positive contribution.	Responsibility. Leadership. Discipline.
Participant	Performing for the audience Preparing bazaar Delivering message through the performance.	Enlivening the program Getting new experience Taking responsibility	Simpathy and empathy. Responsibility. Cooperation. Attitude and act.
Organization	Supporting the committee. Volunteering. Exhibiting products	Implementing the festival Taking responsibility	Responsibility. Cooperation. Caring.
Community	Selling handicraft Selling food and beverages Enlivening the program	Supporting the festival Enlivening the festival Learning new knowledge	Caring Respect Responsibility

Maintaining and preserving local and national culture can be done by organizing cultural festivals. Festivals are held to make community, stakeholders (stakeholders), and government participate and work together in promoting their local culture. Another goal is to create a space in which the community can interact in a positive manner, so that they can understand and respect each other [14]. Festivals are spaces that provide opportunities for the development of local/indigenous culture as a constructive form of their own culture [15], [16], which will be known and respected by local, national, and international communities. The festivals are intended as a step to maintain culture and create good relations between cultures [2], [17], [18].

We are still lack of literature that discusses the impact of social, cultural, and economic attitudes on the environment based on individual and community involvement in a festival [19]. Most research only discuss about the economic considerations, but lack in discussing the impact of experience on culture and society [20], [21]. It is important to note the social impact of an event for the individuals and communities who are involved in the event. It is because a festival can be a good medium for individual and community to develop themselves and create "social integration" [2], [11]. This is certainly one of the ways to fulfill a human need called "affiliation", which is a need to live together in social life. The interaction and communication between individuals who are involved in an event can boost their self-confidence, motivate them to self-actualization, and make them feel accepted in social activities [22], [23].

Banks state the same thing so that citizens can contribute to their social environment. "Citizenship is depended on the membership of a nation, as seen in a cultural community

whose members are united by the bonds of solidarity and share the same history, values, and traditions" [24]. Mutual values are important to implement sustainable development society in Indonesia by encouraging citizens and youth to take active roles in any activity that gives positive impact for the community [25]. Indonesian people also practice mutual cooperation as it has become their characteristic, personality, and national identity [25], [26]. To be an active citizens, Indonesians must see the values of mutual cooperation and understand how to do it in a proper way [25], [26].

B. The Attraction of the Krakatau Festival and the Participation of Young Citizens

Citizenship civilization is a guideline for every individual and society to be able to actively participate in daily life and be responsible as a member of society [1], [2], [14]. Government, social capital, and civilization are inseparable parts [27], meaning that all components must be able to work together and produce wiser [28] and healthier communities [29], [30]. An important task that must be done is to make the citizens have a sense of responsibility. Civilization that is based on ethics aims to create citizens who are able to act as a good individuals, have a spirit of volunteerism, and have the ability to give the right respond to whatever happens in their surrounding. Another thing is the "virtue ethics" that provides an understanding to the citizens, so that they are able to make fair and strategic decisions. This ethics will also improve their personality since they are encouraged to pay attention to social values that exist in everyday life.

In its journey, there were many variations carried out, therefore from year to year, there was a difference in the contents of the program displayed in this festival.

The Krakatau Festival is enlivened by carnival activities, traditional art attractions, exhibitions, and other competitions that have been held since 1990. Along the way, there are many variations carried out. Therefore, from year to year, there is always something different added to the event. The involvement of young citizens in various events organized by both the government and other parties is facilitated through the action of volunteerism [31]. Volunteerism is an excellent opportunity and is always used by young people to contribute positively. Voluntary activities aim to strengthen the character of independence of young citizens in this modern era. The opportunity to join as volunteers is currently increasing and is available at various activities, including the cultural festivals [1], [2].

Participation has a very large meaning in supporting social cohesion. As expressed by Winataputra that citizenship education has discussed citizen participation from several perspectives [18]. To create an ideal civil society, citizenship education carries some missions: socio-pedagogical, socio-cultural, and substantive academics [18]. At present, a festival is a phenomenon [32] and is developing not only in Indonesia, but also throughout the world. It can improve tourism industry

and significantly improve economic, socio-cultural, and political situation [5]. The opportunity to participate has been wide open to anyone at this time. Active citizens are everyone who support and develop social cohesion and community solidarity to strengthen society and empower citizens individually [4], [16], [33], [34].

IV. CONCLUSIONS

The civic festival offers laboratories for collaborative governance studies because festivals are everywhere and are followed by public and private partners involved in the festival. Therefore, it opens a space to sharpen skills, especially for young citizens. The pride of Indonesian people is supported by a strong sense of nationalism. Having a desire to live in the midst of a better society is one of the components that drive young citizens to be involved in social activities. The desire to interact and socialize in social environment is the main motivation of young people to get involved in the midst of diversity in the community. Therefore, by taking part in events such as the Krakatau Festival, they will be able to develop his personal self as well as his community groups. Every individual has the responsibility to work together and communicate with fellow community members properly, to build solidarity, and to maintain good personal relationships.

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