“JAVANESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURAL IDENTITY IN INDONESIAN LOCAL CURRICULUM”
(A STUDY IN YOGYAKARTA)

By
Hastangka
The Center for Pancasila Studies
Gadjah Mada University
Yogyakarta, Indonesia
Background: The Languages of Indonesia

- Language as a cultural identity and tool of communication in transforming values, knowledge, and message in a society.
- Indonesia has approximately 742 of indigenous languages.
- Only 13 indigenous languages have more than 1 million speakers.
- 729 indigenous languages have less than 1 million speakers.
  (169 others become endangered because the usage of this languages less than 500 people. It is spread in Sumatera, Sulawesi, Kalimantan, Maluku and Papua).
- 302 indigenous languages in Eastern part of Indonesia has endangered (Newsticker, MetroTv, 22/10/10. Time:1.45am).
• **In Sumatera:** *Lom* language only has 50 native speakers.

• **In Sulawesi:** *Budong-budong* language has 70 native speakers; *Dampal* has 90 speakers; *Bahonsuai* has 200 speakers; *Baras* has 250 speakers.

• **In Kalimantan:** *Lengilu* has 10 speakers; *Punan Merah* has 137 speakers; *Kareho Uheng* has 200 speakers.

• **In Maluku:** *Hukumina* has 1 speaker; *Kayeli* 3 speakers, *Nakaela* has 5 speakers; *Hoti* has 10 speakers; *Hulong* has 10 speakers; *Kamarian* has 10 speakers; and *Salas* has 50 speakers.

• **In Papua:** *Mapia* has 1 speaker; *Tandia* has 2 speakers, *Bonerif* has 4 speakers; and *Saponi* has 10 speakers.

(*Source:* Kompas newspaper, 2008/08/11)
Why Javanese Language?

Fact
- October 2, 2010 Javanese Letter (ha na ca ra ka...) has been registered on UNICODE Consortium (UNESCO).
- It is the native language of more than 75,500,000 people spread across Indonesia provinces and even in abroad such as Malaysia, Hongkong, and Suriname (see Crystal, 1997; Grimes in Edi, 2007).
- In Yogyakarta, there are five private institutions teaches Javanese language for foreigners (e.g., Wisma Bahasa, Alam Bahasa, Colorado, Realha, and Cilac UII).
- There are many foreigners both foreign students and visitors interested to study Javanese language for various purposes (e.g., Australia, USA, and Jepang).
- Many official government employees are from Javanese ethnic.

Opinion
- Javanese language as a cultural symbol of its society and has various symbolic meaning.
- Javanese language has characteristic aspect of its implementation compare to other languages.
- Javanese speech has variation dialects depending on social context, yielding three distinct styles, or registers. Each style employs its own vocabulary, grammatical rules and even prosody.
- Javanese language is dynamic indigenous language and very complex in its grammatical and structure.
• Javanese language can teaches moral values and Javanese ethics.
• Javanese language has mystical and philosophical dimensions.
• For Javanese people, Javanese language is the inspiration of life.
• Java is the centre of Civilization and its language is one of its dimension.
• Javanese language is the expression of tolerance, humility, patience, and peace (non-violence).
• Scholars divide the development of Javanese language in four different stages:
  1. Old Javanese, from the 9th century,
  2. Middle Javanese, from the 13th century,
  3. New Javanese, from the 16th century,
  4. Modern Javanese, from 20th century (this classification is not used universally)

• There are three Javanese styles:
  a. *Ngoko* is informal speech, used between friends and close relatives.
  b. *Madya* is the intermediary form between *ngoko* and *krama*
  c. *Krama* is the polite and formal style. It is used between persons of the same status who do not wish to be informal. It is also the official style for public speeches, announcements, etc.
History of Java and Its Local Languages

Introduction

A. The origin of Java

- It name taken from jáwa-wut plant.
- In Sanskrit *yava* means barley, a plant for which the island was famous. It was hence referred to in Indian, specifically Tamil literature by the Sanskrit name "yāvaka dvīpa" (dvīpa = island).
- Another source states that the "Java" word is derived from a Proto-Austronesian root word, meaning 'home'.

B. The Ethnics in Java

- Only two ethnic groups are native to the island; the Javanese and Sundanese.
- The other group is the Madurese, who inhabit the island of Madura off the north east coast of Java, and have immigrated to East Java in large numbers since the 18th century.
- There are three major languages spoken on Java such as Javanese, Sundanese, and Madurase.
The Map of Indigenous Languages:
Languages spoken in Java
The Dialect of Javanese Language

- There are three main categorization of Javanese dialects based on its region.
  1. Javanese language in the Western part such as Banyumasan styles (Kedu, Pekalongan, Tegal, Jepara, Banyumas, and Brebes)
  2. Javanese language in the Eastern part. It includes of Yogyakarta, Solo, Magelang, etc.
Javanese Language: Dead or Alive?

- The Javanese language becomes endangered. Recent research on Javanese language proficiency of students found that the Javanese youngsters cannot apply correct *krama* vocabularies in formal dialogues. (Wibawa and Nafalski, 2010:216)

- There are three main problems in preserving Javanese languages. *Firstly*, lack of professionalism and number of teachers competency in teaching of this language, deal with method of teaching and mastering Information technology. *Secondly*, the limited and complexity of learning material. *Thirdly*, there is a stereotype amongst students that Javanese language just for old people.
KTSP: Indonesian Curriculum

- In Indonesian National Curriculum there are 7 formal lessons in Primary School:
  1. *Pendidikan Kewarganegaraan* (Civics)
  2. *Bahasa Indonesia* (Indonesian language)
  3. *Matematika* (Mathemetic)
  4. *Ilmu Pengetahuan Sosial* (Social Science)
  5. *Ilmu Pengetahuan Alam* (Natural Science)
  7. *Pendidikan Jasmani, Olah raga dan Kesehatan* (Sport and Health education)
# Local Curriculum Structure in Yogyakarta

## Component

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Class and Time Allocation</th>
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<tr>
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<td>I</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>A. Lesson</strong></td>
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<td>1. Religion</td>
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<td>2. Civics Education</td>
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<td>3. Indonesian language</td>
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<td>4. Mathematic</td>
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<td>5. Natural Science</td>
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<td>6. Social Science</td>
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<td>7. Art, Culture and Life Skills</td>
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<td>8. Sport and Health education</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>B. Local Content</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Javanese language (Bahasa Jawa)</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Agriculture</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>3. English</td>
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<td><strong>C. Personal Development</strong></td>
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<td>1. Scout (Pramuka)</td>
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<td>2. Computer</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>26</td>
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## Structure of Javanese Studies Syllable:
(Budi Mulia Primary school, Grade 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic Competence</th>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Learning Activity</th>
<th>Time Allocation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Understanding and introducing Javanese traditional games | Javanese traditional games (semutan, jegjegan) | • Able to recognize, mention, and understand traditional games  
• Able to play the games | • Listen to the teacher  
• Student play the games | 2 |
| Understanding about Javanese traditional custom (Surakarta and Yogyakarta) | • sandhang/busana  
• -Memiru jarik | • Able to recognize, mention, understand the function of traditional custom  
• Able to memiru jarik | • Listen to the teacher explanation  
• Student observing traditional custom  
• Student memiru jarik | 2 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Knowing and understanding Karawitan art from Yogyakarta and Surakarta</th>
<th>Karawitan: part of Karawitan</th>
<th>• Able to mention and understand Karawitan traditional music • Able to play the gamelan instruments</th>
<th>-Listen to teacher explanation -- student practices to play gamelan</th>
<th>3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Understanding language and literature</td>
<td>Javanese language: Vocabularies Reading a text Javanese norms</td>
<td>• Able to mention and understand some verbs in krama language • Able to understand Javanese text • Able to play a drama in Javanese</td>
<td>•Listen to teacher explanation •-students understand Javanese vocabularies •Students reading a text •Student plays the drama</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Understanding traditional dance | Dance: Tari/Joget | Able to mention and understand traditional dance | • Listen to teacher explanation  
• Student practices to dance | 2 |

| Understanding traditional dance | Dance: Tari/Joget | Able to mention and understand traditional dance | • Listen to teacher explanation  
• Student practices to dance | 2 |
Research findings: Javanese Language Learning in Primary Schools

- Javanese language lesson is just 1 (a hour) per week. Some others schools 2 (two hour) per week.
- Javanese language is not specific lesson but it is part of culture and art on local content curricular.
- The Javanese package book is incomplete.
- Teachers deliver Javanese lesson use Indonesia language and Ngoko language.
- Javanese lesson is mostly focus on memorizing.
- Student has difficulties to follow the lesson because limited sources (for example, dictionary).
- Student has difficulties to write and translate Javanese letters (ha na ca ra ka).
- Student has difficulties to learn krama language.
- Student does not know some Javanese vocabularies.
Methods of Teaching in Javanese Language in Schools

- Story Telling/Reading a text
- Playing/Games
- Singing/Conversation
Input
Teaching Materials

Methodology
Education Technology Innovation

Output
Quality of Teaching and Learning
The Challenges and Obstacles
Javanese language Teaching in Schools

The Challenges:

- Foreign language has become most popular in Yogyakarta city. It proved, that there are many foreign language services especially English rather than Local language services.
- There is a stereotype amongst student that Javanese language is just for elderly people.
- Less of media which has Javanese language as an introduction.
- Javanese language assumes has “low value” in the global competition.
- There are many slang language/funky language used by teenagers (for example: texting sms, chat on fb, and send an email).
- Javanese language can not be used in the scientific writing.
The Obstacles:

- Weak of Javanese language teachers competency and professionalism.
- Limited of writers on Javanese language books.
- Limited opportunity training and seminar for teachers in Javanese language teaching and learning.
- Limited access to self access center.
- Lack of Javanese language materials such as books, magazines, newspapers, dictionary, and reading books.
- Many Javanese vocabularies has lost because undocumented (for example, household vocabularies).
- There are not many Javanese vocabularies related with technology and Science.
How to Preserve Javanese Language and other Local Languages?

- **Government Policy:**
  
  1. Government regulation number 25 year 2000 stated that head of district has authority to regulate, manage, and preserve culture, art and local language in his/her own region.
  2. Governor of Central Java has released *Surat Keputusan Gubernur Nomor 895.5/2005* about compulsory study on Javanese languages at schools from primary to High school level.

- **Strategies and Implementation:**
  
  - Developing Research center and services on Javanese Language in University and School
  - Preserving Javanese language in daily life as a need not as a rule.
  - Re-design local content curricular for Javanese language
  - Developing Language Community services in the city
  - Developing suitable Javanese Language learning material
  - Develop blog, website and other virtual communication (for example, Ki-Demang.com).
  - It need “culture will” in promoting and implementation Javanese language especially *krama* language.
  - Javanese language should involved in Local examination and evaluation.
Recommendation for Action Plan

**Government**
- Policy and regulation
- Financial support
- Monitoring
- Periodic Evaluation
- Training

**Education**
- Teacher training
- Developing learning material
- Education technology innovation
- Periodic evaluation
- Research and publication

**Society**
- Community service for Local language
- Language day
- Social gathering in Javanese language
Javanese Letters

Huruf Jawa

ha na ca ra ka
da ta sa wa la
pa dha ja ya nya
ma ga ba tha nga
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**Huruf Rekan (aksara swara)**

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Some samples of Javanese Language Exercise books in Primary Schools
References:


Javanese
Matur Nuwun

Indonesia
Terima kasih

Thai
Khob khun khrap

English
Thank You
Thanks to:

- Terban sari Primary school, Kota Yogyakarta
- Samirono Primary school, Sleman
- Budi Mulia 2 Primary school, Sleman
- Prambon I Primary school, Sidoarjo, East Java
- BOPKRI I Primary school, Temon, Kulon Progo
- Santa Clara Primary school, Surabaya, East Java
- The Center for Pancasila Studies, Gadjah Mada University
- Wisma Bahasa, Yogyakarta
Biography

- Hastangka is a researcher at the Center for Pancasila Studies, Gadjah Mada University. He graduated from Faculty of Philosophy, Gadjah Mada University in 2007. His research interest in history of nation, cultural identity, democratic education, and philosophy of education.

- Email: hastangka@gmail.com

- Office address: Pusat Studi Pancasila (the Center for Pancasila Studies), Universitas Gadjah Mada
  Jl. Podocarpus II, D-22, Bulaksumur, Yogyakarta
  55281, INDONESIA

- Tel/fax: +62274 553149