

Generation Z's Perception of the Preservation of the Sasak Script

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine the perception of generation Z on the preservation of Sasak characters. The research respondents considered 25 people aged 14-22 years. This research is designed in quantitative form. Data collection using a questionnaire and the results of the questionnaire were analyzed using descriptive statistics. The results showed that the interest in creating Z in preserving the Sasak script was quite high but it made Z difficult to preserve the Sasak script because he only learned it in elementary school (SD). Generation Z has minimal knowledge and skills as well as limited access in developing Sasak characters. Sasak script preservation program needs to get attention and support from the government and society in order to create Z's access to learn, develop, and be able to preserve Sasak script.

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui persepsi generasi Z terhadap pelestarian aksara sasak. Responden penelitian ini berjumlah 25 orang dengan rentang usia 14-22 tahun. Penelitian ini didesain dalam bentuk deskriptif kuantitatif. Pengumpulan data menggunakan angket dan hasil angket dianalisis menggunakan statistik deskriptif. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa minat generasi Z dalam melestarikan aksara sasak masih cukup tinggi. Hasil penelitian juga menemukan fakta bahwa generasi Z mengalami kesulitan dalam melestarikan aksara sasak. Salah satu penyebabnya adalah pembelajaran aksara Sasak hanya diberikan pada jenjang sekolah dasar. Tingkat pengetahuan dan keterampilan generasi Z terhadap aksara Sasak dapat dikategorikan masih terbatas. Generasi Z merasa belum memiliki peran untuk melestarikan aksara Sasak. Program pelestarian aksara sasak perlu mendapatkan perhatian dan dukungan dari semua pihak serta melibatkan generasi Z sebagai pewaris budaya bangsa di masa depan.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Script is a means of communication both written and spoken. With the existence of human characters can know the events of the past (Roza, 2017). One of the scripts in West Nusa Tenggara is the Sasak script. The Sasak script is an ancient written language used by earlier people. The Sasak script known as the Jejawan script is a combination of Javanese script with Balinese script (Austin, 2014). The sasak script is one of the cultures whose existence is now starting to become extinct due to the lack of attention from the government and society to preserve it. The sasak script is rarely used as a means of communication in everyday life. This happens because not many young people master the Sasak script (Sueca, 2016). The younger generation today is more inclined to the development of technology and communication so they are more concerned with activities

related to technology than social activities or cultural activities. The current young generation is known as Generation Z. The generation was born in the early 2000s when technology was developing so rapidly. The character of this generation is very sensitive to technology and communication, meaning that they have advantages in the field of information and knowledge development (Lestari et al., 2019). According to (Lina et al., 2021) Generation Z is also referred to as the internet generation because almost all of their activities are related to the virtual world such as: running social media (WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram, etc.), browsing, and listening to music using a headset.

Information and technology are an inseparable part of the lives of Generation Z (Saputra, Lestari and Sholikhah, 2017). They were born where access to information, especially the internet, has become a global culture (Christiani & Iksari, 2020). This affects their values, views and life goals. According to (Widiyono, 2019) Generation Z has a low understanding of local cultural values. Several studies have examined the Sasak script. The first study examines the preservation of ancient Sasak manuscripts based on digitization and websites. The result of this research is an application for digitizing the Sasak ancient script that will make it easier to get all information about the Sasak ancient script as a form of preserving the Sasak script in the current digital era (Anwar, Husain, and Jaya, 2018). The study conducted (Saputra, 2018) examines the introduction of the Sasak script through an Android-based educational game. The result of this research is an application of the Sasak script game which is very helpful for teachers to teach about the Sasak script in a more interesting and very educative way. Subsequent research was carried out (Yulianti, Wijaya, and Bimantoro, 2019) which examined the use of the moment invariant method and support vector machine to introduce the handwritten pattern of Sasak syllables. The results of this study prove that the use of the moment invariant method and support vector machine can improve image identity so that the system can recognize handwritten syllables of the Sasak script and reduce interference with syllable handwriting. Previous research has paid attention to the preservation of the Sasak script which shows that researchers have a high concern for the Sasak script by utilizing the development of information technology in its preservation.

Based on the previous research above, no one has studied the perception of Generation Z on the preservation of the Sasak script. This is due to the motivation in efforts to preserve the Sasak script, especially Generation Z, which is the younger generation with the ability to master technology higher than the previous generation (Hamid, 2013). This study aims to determine the opinion of Generation Z on the preservation of the Sasak script. The results of this study are expected to be evaluation material in efforts to preserve the Sasak script in the province of NTB. The results of this study are also expected to provide motivation and build the commitment of Generation Z to efforts to preserve local culture in each region. The role of Generation Z is highly expected in the preservation of every culture because it is the next generation of the nation's cultural heir.

II. RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses quantitative research methods with a descriptive approach. According to (Hardani et al., 2022) quantitative research is an approach that is demanded to use numbers, starting from data collection, interpretation of the data, and the appearance of the results. Methods This research is included in the category of survey research because this research is only limited to collecting data. According to (Sugiyono, 2019) survey methods can be used to obtain data from natural/not artificial places, the form of research carried out by researchers is limited to data collection such as distributing questionnaires, conducting tests, conducting interviews, and others. Respondents in this study were 25 adolescents, consisting of adolescents with an age range of 14-22 years, there were 14 males and 11 females. The instrument used in this study was a closed

questionnaire. Closed questionnaires were used to obtain yes and no answers from respondents. The questionnaire given to the respondents amounted to 5 questions.

Data collection in this study utilizes WhatsApp social media, this method was chosen because it is more practical and efficient. The collected data is presented in the form of graphs and sentence descriptions which are analyzed using descriptive statistics. The stage in data analysis begins with data collection through WhatsApp and then the data is tabulated. Furthermore, the data is presented in the form of graphs and described to make it easier to understand the data. The last step is to interpret the data, the data that has been described is interpreted not to draw general conclusions but is only limited to the research sample.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Description of research respondents

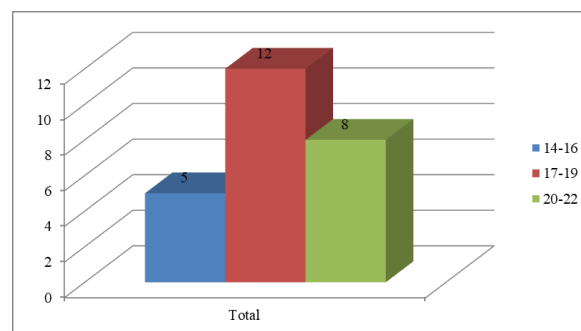


Figure 1. Research respondents

Description of questionnaire data

The results of this study are presented in the form of graphs and descriptions. The research results obtained through the questionnaire can be presented in the graph below. The first question asked to the respondent is do you know the Sasak script? Respondents' answers to these questions can be seen in the graph below.

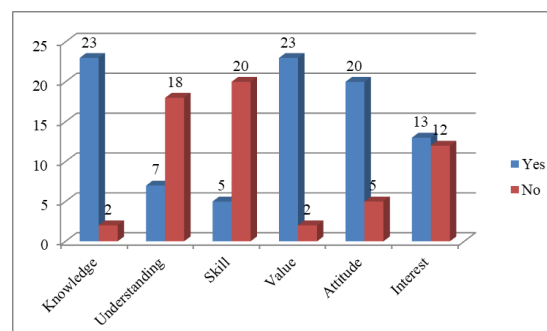


Figure 2 Respondent's questionnaire tabulation

Based on Figure 2, it can be seen that the number of students who know the Sasak script is 23 students while 2 students do not know the Sasak script. The next aspect that is measured is the level of students' understanding of the Sasak script. Based on the picture, out of 25 students, only seven students have an understanding of the Sasak script. In the skill aspect, there are only 5 students who can use the Sasak script in daily life. From the value aspect, students have the view that the Sasak script contains a very valuable value so it deserves to be preserved. Of the 25

students, 23 students considered the Sasak script to be valuable. In the aspect of attitude, students showed a fairly good response. This can be seen from the presence of 20 students who have a positive attitude toward preserving the Sasak script. In the aspect of interest in the preservation of the Sasak script, based on the table in Figure 2, it can be seen that the number of students who are interested in preserving the Sasak script is balanced. The number of interested students is 13 students while the number of students who are not interested is 12 students.

Based on the diagram presented in figure 2, it can be seen that basically, Generation Z has the desire to preserve the Sasak script. However, respondents found it difficult to preserve it, due to the lack of facilities and infrastructure as well as support from the family, community, and government in preserving the Sasak script. Therefore, it needs support from various parties so that Generation Z does not experience difficulties in preserving the Sasak script.

Many efforts can be done so that Generation Z does not forget the Sasak script. In addition, to support from the family, community, and government, innovation, and breakthroughs are needed that can make it easier for Generation Z to learn and preserve the Sasak script. The use of this technology is important, apart from being a learning medium, it can also be used as a means to preserve local characters (Widodo et al., 2020). In line with that (Febriansyah et al., 2021) the use of android technology is very effective in introducing local characters to generation Z. The utilization of technology is very important because Generation Z is more inclined to the development of information technology today.

IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study, it can be seen that Generation Z considers the Sasak script important to be preserved. This shows that Generation Z's concern and concern for culture is still quite high. However, access to and support from the community in preserving the Sasak script is still relatively low. Generation Z has difficulty preserving the Sasak script because they have minimal knowledge and skills. The Sasak script preservation program needs attention so that Generation Z has access to learn, develop, and be able to preserve the Sasak script. The program for preserving the Sasak script in the realm of education needs to be improved, not only being a subject for the elementary school level but for the next level such as junior high school, high school, and even PT. By utilizing the development of information technology, it is hoped that Generation Z can preserve the culture that exists in each region, especially the preservation of the Sasak script for the Lombok region.

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