Building Nationalism through Digital-Based Political Education

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ABSTRACT

This research discusses implementing digital-based political education and nationalism-building strategies for the younger generation in Indonesia's nation-building context. This research uses a descriptive qualitative method with a literature review approach. This research uses secondary data sources from books, journals, online media, and literature reviews to support research analysis. The results of this study highlight the importance of political education as a vital instrument in strengthening political awareness and digital literacy in society. Challenges such as low political awareness and the spread of hoaxes affect the effectiveness of digital-based political education. The proposed strategies, such as curating relevant content, active participation in social media, online training, collaboration with figures and influencers, and civic projects, can help overcome these challenges. Periodic evaluations are needed to assess the effectiveness of strategies and tactics. By combining creative approaches in digital-based political education and focusing on building nationalistic character in the younger generation, this research shows great potential to increase political participation and strengthen national identity among the younger generation. The implication is building a more politically aware and digitally skilled society. It has a strong love for the state and nation, thus promoting progress and sustainable development in Indonesia.

Keywords: development, nationalism, digital, political education
fokus pada pembangunan karakter nasionalisme pada generasi muda, penelitian ini menunjukkan potensi besar untuk meningkatkan partisipasi politik dan memperkuat identitas nasional di kalangan generasi muda. Implikasiya adalah untuk membangun masyarakat yang lebih sadar politik, terampil digital, dan memiliki rasa cinta yang kuat terhadap negara dan bangsa, sehingga mendorong kemajuan dan keberlanjutan pembangunan di Indonesia.

**Kata kunci:** pembangunan, nasionalisme, digital, pendidikan politik

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**INTRODUCTION**

Indonesia has an ideology and state foundation called Pancasila (Huda, 2018). Pancasila includes five principles as the foundation of Indonesia’s state ideology with values and norms (Achadi, 2020). Every Indonesian must understand and uphold Pancasila to promote national unity and social harmony (Wandani & Dewi, 2021). Pancasila can be used as a guide to life because the values and principles of Pancasila can promote harmony, tolerance, and social justice. In addition, Pancasila is also the foundation of nationalism for the Indonesian state (Irhandayaningsih, 2012). This is because Pancasila includes the values of social justice, democracy, and unity to foster a strong sense of identity and national pride among Indonesians (Adha & Susanto, 2020).

Nationalism is a term that describes the spirit and loyalty of a person to their country (Ikhsan, 2017). The concept of nationalism includes a national spirit that motivates a person to protect and advance the interests of their country. In addition, nationalism is an ideology that prioritizes national interests over the interests of certain people or groups (Rasyad et al., 2022). Developing a sense of nationalism in everyone is very helpful for the sustainability of state life (Nursamsi & Jumardi, 2022). To prevent disunity, nationalism is very helpful in maintaining the continuity of national unity (Fikri, 2022). Therefore, instilling nationalism in every citizen is important and can be done through advertising, education, and social norms (Septiani & Yusuf, 2022).

One way that is often applied in Indonesia to foster an attitude of nationalism is through nationalism education. Character building for the love of the country can be created through nationalism education in learning and school culture (Erviana, 2021). In addition, the importance of the role of family and the surrounding environment shapes perceptions and beliefs about the importance of the Pancasila ideology (Dartono et al., 2021). One way that can be done to provide an understanding of the values of nationalism is through political education (Sanusi & Sofyan, 2020). This is because political education is a form of defence for the country (Setiawan & Ramdhani, 2021).

Political education aims to influence people's political perspectives and thinking about important and evolving social issues (Sastrawati, 2021). Political education can increase political awareness and knowledge, foster personal interest in politics, and instil values such as democracy, justice, unity, openness, empathy, and respect for others (Hajar, 2022). Political education can be done through formal and informal education that discusses politics. Forms of political education, such as political socialization, political training, political campaigns, mass media, public discussions, election monitoring, and social action (Riyanda et al., 2021). Efforts to provide political education are expected to build an attitude of nationalism in a person.

One of the efforts that can be made to conduct political education in the current era is digital utilization. Digital literacy is important in political communication strategies (Bykov & Medvedeva, 2021). Political education using digital can increase public participation and political awareness of each individual (Dasim & Rahmat, 2023). The implementation of digital-based political education certainly requires a good understanding in order to become a wise user. The combination of ideas between political education and computing can be useful as an increase in political ideology education (Yusuf, 2023). In addition, digital utilization in political education can help reduce societal misinformation (McDougall, 2019). This is because political education and democracy depend on digital literacy, especially concerning contentious and complex topics that require information and critical thinking (King, 2019).
Although several studies mention the importance of political education in fostering nationalism, however, there is still a lack of in-depth literature on the concrete implementation of digital-based political education in nationalism development. Several studies have highlighted the important role of family education and Pancasila ideology in shaping nationalism attitudes (Retnasari, 2019; Dartono et al., 2021). However, not much literature discusses how digital-based political education can increase the effectiveness of political education and the cultivation of Pancasila ideology in the context of nationalism development. There needs to be more research that specifically addresses efficient strategies and tactics for integrating digital-based political education in order to increase the affinity and efficacy of ideological and political education in nationalism-building efforts.

This article makes an important contribution to existing knowledge by combining political education, Pancasila ideological empowerment, and digital literacy in the context of nationalism building. By presenting the idea of digital-based political education, this article fills the void of existing literature by providing a deeper understanding of the challenges of implementing digital-based political education in developing nationalist attitudes. In addition, this article also provides new insights into efficient strategies and tactics in the development of nationalism in the younger generation for the realization of digital-based political education, which can serve as a foundation for further research in this field. Thus, this article contributes to developing the theory and practice of political education and nationalism building in the digital era.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The author clarifies the benefits of political education as a means of fostering an attitude of nationalism with digital utilization in a person through previous studies. The cultivation of nationalism in the younger generation is greatly helped by political education (Retnasari, 2019). Providing political education related to national insight and democratic values from an early age can prevent radicalism (Indrajat, 2022). However, the problem is that the role of education and family has been degraded. Therefore, it is important to empower the role of the family to provide the ideology of Pancasila (Dartono et al., 2021). The difficulty of providing ideological and political education is also caused by the depth of social information (Li & Yan, 2022) (Zhang et al., 2022). Investigating efficient strategies and tactics to increase the affinity and efficacy of superior ideological and political education is essential to address these issues.

Therefore, it is important to cultivate new ways to support ideological and political education by utilizing digitalization (Yu, 2022). Technology can improve one’s understanding through civic education related to politics (Kusnadi, 2023). Civic education includes Pancasila values, and the value of nationalism can build a person’s character (Widiatmaka, 2021). Young generations in Indonesia who are aware of the value of tradition and culture can be formed through political education (Susiati, 2020). Developing technology and digital literacy can prepare the younger generation to face future opportunities and problems (Indarta et al., 2022).

Implementing political education must be carried out by skilled and qualified personnel (Zohdi, 2014). The effectiveness of political education can be increased by using digital literacy and can increase national integration (Yuliandari et al., 2023). In addition, digital literacy in political education can improve a person’s literacy understanding (Hendaryan et al., 2022). Political education can provide sufficient knowledge about politics and help develop political attitudes full of high nationalism (Kelibay et al., 2023). Education and political knowledge can contribute to developing nationalism in society (Budianto, 2021).

METHOD
This research was written using descriptive qualitative methods. According to Creswell (2010), qualitative research is a study of social and human problems in which the researcher will provide a detailed explanation of the research findings in the research report based on the data display report and analysis of the data collected. Descriptive research is an approach by exploring circumstances, conditions, or other things that have been indicated, and the findings are then given in the form of a research report (Arikunto, 2013). In addition, this research also uses a literature review approach to support the research.

Descriptive qualitative research methods with a literature review approach are used to answer the problem of women politicians' participation and utilization of digital literacy in politics. This research uses the help of online media, journal papers, and literature reviews to obtain data. The data sources used in this research are secondary data sources. The author used a qualitative data analysis approach, including data reduction, presentation, and conclusion formulation (Ridder, 2014).

THE IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES OF DIGITAL-BASED POLITICAL EDUCATION IN DEVELOPING NATIONALISM

Digital-based political education is political education that disseminates political knowledge and information to the general public through digital technology. Digital-based political education aims to increase people's political awareness and digital literacy so they can participate in and understand democracy better. Digital-based political education can be carried out in various ways, such as digital content creation training, digital teaching material development, and social inclusion-based village library literacy programs. Through digital-based political education, all activities related to politics to achieve common interests can be achieved. Digital-based political education can help increase electoral participation by providing political understanding. Increased political awareness can be realized by providing political education by delivering digital-based political information and knowledge. To facilitate this, it is important to increase digital literacy so that all levels of society can obtain the same knowledge and information. Practising digital-based political education is expected to help spread hoaxes and strengthen democracy (Nasution et al., 2023).

Furthermore, in implementing political education practices, there are still many challenges. As political education is useful for increasing people's political awareness, low political awareness is a barrier to optimal political education practices (Nasution et al., 2023). For this reason, full support and efforts are needed to involve every community and certain sectors to realize good political education. Community involvement also involves groups and community leaders to help practice political education. However, another obstacle also comes from the community social movement that is less effective in combating moral degradation among youth (Trisno & Iswantir, 2022). Various things cause this, and one of them is the spread of hoaxes, which is still a serious problem because it can shape people's perceptions (Putra & Patra, 2023).

Therefore, increasing digital literacy and efforts to practice more creative digital-based political education are crucial to increasing public political awareness. In addition, involving the younger generation directly in practicing political education and rejecting practical politics and the spread of hoaxes is the most important effort that should be made to support the implementation of digital-based political education. Providing support and fulfilling resources can help the effectiveness of digital-based political education. It is important to note that the role of stakeholders, with the main tasks and functions to suppress and prevent misinformation about politics, is the main factor in realizing critical political education.

STRATEGIES ON BUILDING NATIONALISM FOR THE YOUNG GENERATION IN REALIZING DIGITAL-BASED POLITICAL EDUCATION
In the previous discussion, it can be understood that digital-based political education is important to involve the youth. This is because the younger generation can influence the development of the nation. The younger generation is important for nation-building because they are the nation's future (Faisol, 2021). In their involvement, the younger generation also needs to have a strong sense of nationalism to realize critical political education (Christoper et al., 2024). However, current conditions show that Indonesian society, especially the younger generation, has experienced a decline in moral quality (Syaparuddin & Elihami, 2019). The formation of nationalism character from an early age by instilling state ideology, love for the country, and understanding the values and principles of Pancasila are the main components that can be done to build a sense of nationalism in the youth (Ginting & Fauzan, 2024).

The reason why it must be the younger generation that realizes nation-building is that if it is not, the younger generation that plays a direct role in nation-building will be a degradation of the values of community welfare in Indonesia (Satria, 2022). In addition, a shortage of skilled labour can occur due to the need for more youth involvement in nation-building, which can hinder development in Indonesia (Gonzales, 2022). Furthermore, there could be a decline in the sense of nationalism and patriotism in the younger generation (Handayani et al., 2022). To create efficient strategies and tactics for building nationalism in the younger generation through digital-based political education, several concrete steps can be taken:

1. Curate Relevant and Interesting Content: The younger generation tends to be more responsive to interesting and relevant content. Therefore, curating digital-based political education content that suits their interests and needs is important. Such content can be short videos, infographics or other interactive materials that are easily digestible and attention-grabbing.
2. Active Participation in social media: The younger generation is very active on social media; therefore, utilizing these platforms to spread political education can be a very effective strategy. Using hashtag-based campaigns, political quizzes, or online discussions can increase their engagement in political topics and nationalism.
3. Online Training and Workshops: Organizing online training and workshops on political and national issues can allow young people to deepen their knowledge. In these workshops, they can learn policy analysis, understanding of the political system, and critical thinking skills.
4. Collaboration with Figures and Influencers: Involving well-known figures or influencers among the younger generation in political education campaigns can help reach a wider audience. They can help spread messages about the importance of nationalism and political participation through their platforms that have a large reach.
5. Encouraging Participation in Civic Projects: Organizing civic projects such as environmental clean-up campaigns, social activities, or other community service projects can help build a sense of social engagement and responsibility among the younger generation. It can also be an effective way to link the concept of nationalism to real actions in everyday life.
6. Continuous Evaluation and Improvement: It is important to continuously evaluate the effectiveness of the strategies and tactics used in digital-based political education. Regular evaluations allow us to identify what is and is not working and make the necessary adjustments to increase their impact.

Adopting this method allows us to develop new strategies that align with technological developments and the preferences of the younger generation. This can create a favourable environment for building a strong nationalistic attitude among the younger generation through digital-based political education. Thus, developing young people with a nationalistic character is important to moving the nation forward. The younger generation’s contribution can have a positive impact if the character of nationalism has been built and implemented directly through political education. In addition, the skills of young people are also needed to realize creative political education through a digital base. It is important to understand that the active role of the younger
generation in developing political education and strengthening nationalism development is closely related to the understanding and cultivation of Pancasila values among them.

**DISCUSSION**

Discussions on implementing digital-based political education and nationalism development strategies for the younger generation are two important aspects that are interrelated in the context of nation-building. Implementing digital-based political education is vital in strengthening political awareness and digital literacy in society. At the same time, the development of nationalism in the younger generation plays a key role in ensuring the continuity and sustainability of a country's development. Digital-based political education offers an innovative and efficient way to reach more people and expand access to political knowledge through digital technology. In this regard, engaging the younger generation directly in political education practices is an important strategy. However, challenges such as low political awareness in society and the spread of hoaxes affect its effectiveness.

It is important to improve digital literacy and creative political education practices while emphasizing the important role of stakeholders in suppressing the spread of misinformation. Furthermore, building nationalism in the younger generation is also closely related to digital-based political education. Through political education that utilizes digital technology, young people can be more engaged in political issues and strengthen their political awareness. Social media, online training, and collaboration with figures and influencers are key to reaching and engaging them. However, challenges such as moral decline and lack of engagement in nation-building must also be addressed through concrete measures such as curating relevant content and civic projects.

In this context, periodic evaluations are important to assess the effectiveness of the strategies and tactics used in implementing digital-based political education and nationalism building in the younger generation. This makes it possible to identify the successes and failures of the efforts and make the necessary adjustments to increase their impact. This research highlights the importance of integrating political education that utilizes digital technology with nationalism character-building among the younger generation. The implication of this is that strengthening political awareness, digital literacy, and nationalistic character in the younger generation through digital-based political education will promote the nation's overall progress, considering the younger generation as the pillar of development in the future.

**CONCLUSION**

This study makes an important contribution to understanding the implementation of digital-based political education and the development of nationalism in the younger generation in the context of nation-building. It was found that digital-based political education has great potential to increase political awareness and digital literacy but is faced with several challenges, such as low political awareness and the spread of hoaxes. The proposed strategies, including curation of relevant content, active participation in social media, online training and workshops, collaboration with personalities and influencers, and citizenship projects, can help overcome these challenges. In addition, the importance of periodic evaluations to assess the effectiveness of strategies and tactics used in digital-based political education and nationalism-building in the younger generation was highlighted.

By combining creative approaches in digital-based political education and focusing on nationalism character building in the younger generation, this research shows great potential for increasing political participation and strengthening national identity among the younger generation. As such, this research provides valuable insights for policymakers, education practitioners, and the general public in developing effective strategies to strengthen political awareness, digital literacy, and nationalism in the younger generation. The implementation of the results of this research is expected to make a significant contribution to building a society that is more politically aware,
digitally skilled, and has a strong sense of love for the state and nation, thus encouraging the progress and sustainability of development in Indonesia.

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