

# MENTORING IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF STUDENT CHARACTER AND CREATIVITY EDUCATION IN SB KAMPUNG BHARU, MALAYSIA

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## Abstract

Character education is education that aims to improve a person's character, and is important for every person whose character regulates their nature and self-image. Apart from that, creativity is one of the important things in human life. Creativity allows a person to be better at solving every problem that arises in life. Children have endless creative potential, which can be developed through a variety of simple tasks. This research was conducted to illustrate assistance in implementing character education and children's creativity through the teaching and learning process carried out at Sanggar Guidance Kampung Bharu, Malaysia. In this way, students who study abroad can provide positive energy as well as assist in implementing character education and children's creativity which is needed in the era of globalization. In this research, researchers used a qualitative descriptive approach with a case study method which prioritizes research based on data, direct observation, and also interviews with various sources to obtain validation of the data obtained. The results of this research show that a series of well-planned activities can foster character education and increase children's creativity at the Kampung Bharu Guidance Studio, Malaysia.

**Keywords: Application, Character Education, Children, Creativity, Sanggar Guidance**

## I. INTRODUCTION

Education is a humanistic process which is also called human humanization. Therefore, we must be able to respect the human rights of all mankind. In other words, students are not human machines that can be controlled at will, but rather a generation that we must support and guide in all responses to change towards maturity. This will enable them to think critically and become independent people with their own ideas and good moral attitudes. For this reason, education can not only form humans who are different from others and can eat, drink, dress and have a place to live, but also shapes humans. This is what is called human humanization (Ab Marisyah<sup>1</sup>, Firman<sup>2</sup>, 2019).

Education is very important to eliminate ignorance, eliminate poverty in national life, improve the standard of living of all levels of society, and build the honor and dignity of the nation and state. For this reason, the government is making serious efforts to overcome various problems in the field of improving education, starting from primary education, secondary education and higher education. These considerations are demonstrated, among other things, by providing very careful budget allocations and establishing policy regulations related to quality improvement initiatives. More importantly, it is important to continue to make breakthroughs and encourage various innovations to increase access to teaching for our citizens and the general public at all levels of education (Yayan Alpian, 2019).

The teaching and learning process is the most important part in improving the quality of a country. The better the quality of education, the more advanced the country will be. In "Law number 20 of 2003" concerning the National Education System, article 3 of the aim of national education is "to develop the

potential of students to become human beings who believe and are devoted to God Almighty, have noble character, are healthy, knowledgeable, capable, creative, independent and being a democratic and responsible citizen.” The existence of a nation is largely determined by its character. Only a nation with a strong character can develop into a nation that is dignified and respected by other nations. That's why we all want to be dignified citizens. The desire to become a nation with character has long been rooted in the Indonesian people.

Basically, the term “character education” consists of two separate words: “education” and “character”. Education is a conscious process to develop students' potential and earn a living. This process can take the form of providing knowledge, developing skills, as well as providing role models and attitudes so that students are ready to live in society, nation, state and religion. Meanwhile, character is the quality, character, morals or personality of a person that underlies his views, thoughts, attitudes and actions and is the result of internalizing the various virtues he believes in. These virtues consist of a set of values, morals and norms such as honesty, courage to act, trustworthiness and respect for others.

Therefore, character education is the teaching of values according to the culture of a nation, including the components of knowledge (cognition), attitudes, emotions and actions towards Almighty God (YME) and both oneself, society and God's people. The National Policy for National Character Development from 2010 to 2025 emphasizes that personality is the result of a combination of four parts, namely mental development, mental development, sports, and emotional and initiative development. Physical training is related to emotions, attitudes, beliefs/beliefs, mental training is related to thinking processes to explore and use knowledge critically, creatively and innovatively, and sports is related to awareness, preparation, imitation, related to processes such as surgery. New activities involving sportsmanship and the exercise of emotions and intentions related to will and creativity, reflected in compassion, imagination and the creation of new things.

There are factors that influence the character of students, starting from internal factors, namely from the family, to external or outside the family. These internal factors are manifested in the form of parental separation which disturbs the child's psychological condition, and also because of violence in the family which often occurs between children and the child's parents, the child experiences psychological pressure. This can affect the child's psychology. External factors may include living environment and playmates. Undesirable internal factors include living conditions that do not support good social interactions. For example, children who grow up in the surrounding rural areas and happen to belong to the lower middle class where most of the population lives in jobs such as factory workers, comfort women. , and gamblers. All of this indirectly influences children so they get used to things like that. Children who grow up in a negative environment indirectly become accustomed to it.

One alternative effort to implement character education is to involve creativity. Creativity is the ability to produce new ideas that are useful, original and appropriate to the situation (Muhibbin et al., 2020). Creativity is not limited to the fields of arts and science, but can also be applied in everyday life, such as communication, conflict resolution, and career development (Kalil & Aenurohman, 2020). Creativity is influenced by many factors such as talent, interest, motivation, environment and education. Creativity can also be trained and developed through practice, experimentation, collaboration and reflection. Creativity is one of the key skills of the 21st century to overcome challenges and opportunities in the era of globalization and digitalization. Creativity is at the heart of lifelong learning.

This program consists of three stages, namely idea formation, direct assistance and practice. At the idea formation stage, students are asked to convey ideas or creative solutions to problems in the environment around them. At the direct assistance stage, researchers, teachers and facilitators provide support and advice to students to develop their ideas into products or works that can be presented. At the practice stage, students show their products or work to peers, parents, the community, and receive feedback and evaluation. Through these activities, students at Sanggar Guidance Kampung Bharu Malaysia can implement character education and creativity in everyday life, such as honesty, empathy, respect for others, mutual cooperation, tolerance, critical, creative, innovative, happy to imagine and responsible. The

objectives of this research are 1). To instill character education in SB Kampung Bharu, Malaysia, 2). To instill creativity in SB Kampung Bharu, Malaysia.

## II. RESEARCH METHODS

In this research, researchers used a qualitative descriptive approach with a case study method in SB Kampung Bharu, Malaysia which prioritizes research based on data, direct observation, and also interviews with sources to obtain validation of the data obtained. In other words, qualitative methods are methods that produce theoretical or spoken words from people and observed behavior (Moeloeng, 2017).

The case study design was chosen because the researcher wanted to answer how to effectively implement character education and children's creativity in the learning process needed in the era of globalization. The research chose a location in SB Kampung Bharu, Malaysia. Researchers consider as research objects both the principal as the main/key resource, teachers and staff, students as supporting sources, and also residents around the school to complement and validate the data from the external perspective of the guidance studio. One of the reasons the researcher chose this guidance studio was that the researcher wanted to know how to assist in implementing character and creativity education for children in SB Kampung Bharu, Malaysia. Data collection techniques use observation, interviews and documentation methods. The analysis technique, researchers use data collection methods, then data reduction, data presentation and conclusions on the data.

## III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This research was carried out at the Kampung Bharu Tutoring Learning Studio, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Kampung Baru or Kampong Bharu (meaning "New Village") is a Malay enclave in central Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Kampung Baru is located in the northern part of Kuala Lumpur's central business district. This area is separated from the KLCC district by a portion of the Klang River. The region had a special place in Malay politics during the pro-independence movement that grew after World War II. Kampung Baru is home to the Sultan Sulaiman Club (3°9'41.35"N 101°42'3.75"E), where frequent anti-colonial political meetings were held, including those that led to the formation of the United Malays National Organization (UMNO), the ruling party in Malaysia from independence until 2018, and returned to power in 2021. If we look at the economic and environmental conditions, it is quite adequate. For various activities of the Kampung Bharu Learning Studio, Malaysia, the facilities and infrastructure are quite adequate. Every house has at least a private vehicle to support daily living needs.

Then, in terms of religion and culture in Kampung Baru, the majority of the population is Muslim, only a few are Christians, Hindus and Buddhists. Apart from Indonesian citizens, there are several tribes from other countries who also live in the Kampung Baru area, such as: Bangladesh and India. The social conditions around the guidance studio are quite busy and peaceful. The majority of people are friendly, helping each other if there are difficulties. In terms of interaction, they are quite friendly and respect and appreciate each other, even though they come from different regions. In Kampung Baru we really feel the motto "Bhinneka Tunggal Ika", coming from various regions and different backgrounds but still having one goal and supporting each other. The location of the SB Kampung Bharu Tutoring Studio in Malaysia is on Jalan Raja Alang Kampung Baru, Kuala Lumpur. If taken from Kuala Lumpur Airport, it takes 54 minutes (64 KM). SB Kampung Bharu is very strategic, close to Kuala Lumpur city center, and shopping centers such as KLCC, Twins Tower, and Bukit Bintang, to get to the city center it takes 12 minutes (8.4 KM). Access to SB can be done using buses, trains and public transportation such as Grab, Air Asia and Maxim.

Based on the results obtained through observation, the work program designed to assist in implementing character education and children's creativity through the teaching and learning process shows positive results. The following are details of the work program carried out at the Kampung Bharu Guidance Studio, Malaysia :

### **1. Educational Games, Ice Breaking and Teaching Activities**

This activity provides the opportunity for children from SB Kampung Bharu to develop social and cognitive skills that are important for their future. They not only discuss, solve problems, and make decisions together, but also respect other people's points of view and differences. This activity is routinely carried out every day at SB Kampung Bharu, Malaysia. In between teaching, we always include educational games and ice breaking, the aim is to train students' concentration, train their critical thinking skills and their creativity. By holding educational and ice breaking games, students become more excited and enthusiastic about learning. Thank God, this routine activity runs smoothly every day, although sometimes there are challenges, some students find it difficult to organize teaching and learning activities. With this learning activity, you can instill character education, children can develop their basic human potential so that they become individuals who think well, have a good heart and behave well. To build and strengthen multicultural community behavior.

### **2. Joint Gymnastics Activities**

This activity started with a warm-up and continued with light exercises in general, and went very well without any problems. Then, we also carried out gymnastics again in the middle of the Kampung Bharu Guidance Studio house, at the same time as the previous day. The activity was very lively, the students seemed to really enjoy the exercise. Gymnastics is very useful in developing physical components, building body strength, training motor skills, coordination and balance. By doing gymnastics regularly it will improve children's health and physical development. Apart from that, gymnastics can also develop children's self-confidence and creativity.

### **3. Practice Prayer & Reciting the Koran**

This activity is routinely carried out every day. The practice of praying and reciting the Koran is carried out in congregation during Asr, Maghrib and Isha prayers. This activity is carried out before & after learning. By holding prayer practices, students become more aware of the movements and reading of prayers correctly, and deepen their understanding of the religious field. By reciting the Koran, students become more knowledgeable about recitation and how to recite the Koran properly and correctly. Thank God, this routine activity runs smoothly every day, although sometimes there are challenges for some students who are difficult to manage in its implementation. This activity is very helpful in cultivating children's character education. Children who are able to pray in a disciplined manner will produce individuals with strong integrity. Integrity is sincerity, honesty and commitment. Apart from that, prayer is a means of training discipline in children..

### **4. Creativity (Completing Studio Learning Media)**

Creativity in creating and completing learning media is an initiation from us which aims to hone our creativity as students and develop the abilities we have so that they can develop well and be useful for the guidance studio. Even though it's a weekend, we can make the best use of our time & fill our free time. Because no matter how small, the things we do must be useful for other people. This activity lasted from morning until evening, we discussed ideas, concepts and ideas and put them into a work. Apart from that, the benefits of learning when using learning media for children are as a learning resource and a way for students to obtain information from the teacher. The benefits of learning media include guidance for teachers to achieve quality learning goals, increasing student interest and motivation in learning.

### **5. Market Day**

Market Day is an event or activity for buying and selling or making transactions. The aim of holding this Market Day is to train students in entrepreneurship. In the future, students are expected to have skills in entrepreneurship, especially in the school environment. The target of this Market Day activity is students in grades 1-6 of the Kampung Baru Guidance Studio. Thank God, this activity went well and smoothly. The students were very enthusiastic & passionate about this activity. This activity can instill character education and creativity in children, because it can train

students to be independent, train students to be confident, train students' ability to interact with others, train students to be honest and train students to excel and be productive.

#### **6. Watch Educational Films**

Students from SB Kampung Bharu not only have different backgrounds in terms of region and religion, but also have a high spirit of unity and nationality. They respect and respect other people's cultures, and help each other and work together well in various school activities. One example of an activity that shows an attitude of love for the homeland and the importance of undergoing education.

We deliberately organize watching educational films to introduce Indonesian culture that they need to know, apart from Indonesian culture, we also show several other useful films in Indonesia. Of course, because they are Indonesian children, it is necessary and important for them to know what is in Indonesia, and how many provinces are spread throughout Indonesia. This activity took place at the Guidance Studio 1 Kampung Baru. Students are very serious about watching and listening to the stories presented, with this activity we hope that they will increase their knowledge and insight, especially in the cultural and social fields of society.

#### **7. Clean Friday Activities**

The Clean Friday movement is a program for students and guidance studio students to familiarize all residents at the Kampung Bharu Guidance Studio with a culture of clean and healthy living. The aim of this Clean Friday activity is to increase awareness of the surrounding environment. A clean environment is a supporting factor in supporting the learning process. Apart from that, a comfortable, beautiful and clean atmosphere will provide positive vibes for us, students and teachers. This activity is routinely held every Friday. This activity can instill character education in children because it can foster a sense of belonging among students regarding the importance of environmental cleanliness for health, so that the learning atmosphere will feel comfortable, and the guidance studio can also be well maintained.

#### **8. PHBS (Clean and Healthy Living Behavior) Counseling**

PHBS is an abbreviation for Clean and Healthy Living Behavior. Meanwhile, the definition of PHBS is all health behavior carried out out of personal awareness so that the family and all its members are able to help themselves in the health sector and have an active role in community activities. Clean and Healthy Living Behavior is basically an effort to transmit experiences regarding healthy living behavior through individuals, groups or the wider community using communication channels as a medium for sharing information. There is various information that can be shared, such as educational material, to increase knowledge and improve attitudes and behavior regarding a clean and healthy way of life. The main aim of the PHBS movement is to improve the quality of health through an awareness process which is the beginning of the contribution of individuals in living clean and healthy daily life behavior. The most important benefit of PHBS is the creation of people who are health conscious and have the knowledge and awareness to live a life behavior that maintains cleanliness and meets health standards. Thank God, this activity ran smoothly without any obstacles. This activity can instill character education in children, students are very enthusiastic in this activity, besides counseling, we also carry out practice by practicing hand washing properly and correctly which can be applied in everyday life.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

This research was carried out at the Kampung Bharu Tutoring Learning Studio, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Kampung Baru or Kampong Bharu (meaning "New Village") is a Malay enclave in central Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Kampung Baru is located in the northern part of Kuala Lumpur's central business district. This area is separated from the KLCC district by a portion of the Klang River. The region had a special place in Malay politics during the pro-independence movement that grew after World War II. If we look at it from an economic and environmental perspective, it is quite adequate. For various activities of the Kampung Bharu Learning Studio, Malaysia, the facilities and infrastructure are quite adequate. Every house has at least a private vehicle to support daily living needs.

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Based on the results of this research, it can be concluded that instilling character education in children is very important, so it needs to be instilled from childhood. Character education aims to build the values and cultural norms of society. The family has a very important role in instilling character in children. Apart from that, the social environment and friendships also influence a child's character. Creativity is one of the things that is important for human life. With creativity, humans will be better able to solve all the problems that arise in their lives. Children have unlimited creative potential and can be developed with various simple things. In the learning process, students are not only required to be active but also creative, because creativity in learning can create new, non-monotonous and interesting situations so that students will be more involved in learning activities.

Through observations of various activities that can instill character education and stimulate children's creativity, it is revealed that this has a positive impact on SB Kampung Bharu Malaysia students in shaping children's character education and creativity through the teaching and learning process and other activities that have been implemented. Activities such as: discussions between children in the teaching and learning process, educational games, ice breaking, getting used to the practice of praying and reciting the Koran, creativity with learning media in the teaching and learning process, watching educational films, clean Friday activities and counseling on clean and healthy living behavior can improve character education, knowledge, skills, attitudes and values of students. In order for children to grow optimally, it is important for SB Kampung Bharu children not only to develop intellectually, but also to increase their creativity and become accustomed to implementing student character education. To maximize this impact, support from various stakeholders, especially teachers who are able to implement activities that have a positive impact on children, is a very important factor. Teachers must be able to design, implement and evaluate activities that suit the curriculum, interests and talents of students, as well as provide constructive and motivational feedback to students.

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