The Representation of Javanese Values in School Textbooks

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This paper is intended to report research on how Javanese values are represented in conversations found in the textbooks. This topic is purposively selected based on the idea that in this information era, where values and beliefs tend to be borderless and globalized, exposing one's identity becomes unavoidably important. To certain extent, the influence of vast advanced information technology in this global era, changes Javanese's way of life and thinking.

In fact, for Javanese, they use the language as a means of expressing how they accept their fate without resentment reflected in their daily conversations when they mingle with other members of the family or neighbors. The use of such language, which portrays their patience dealing with their hard life, earns them respect and higher social position. Within this context, these people are considered good members of society who reflect the value of 'narima ing pandum' *accept fate without resentment after some reactive efforts were done* (Purwadi, 2005). To this stage, I realize the importance of revitalizing and preserving these values and the beliefs in a more systematic way, especially through classroom context. However, there is a gap between what is expected and what happens in the class. Many students believe that learning English as a foreign language is more interesting than learning Javanese (Kristanto, 2006). These students further state that what they have learned from the Javanese language class does not provide a significant benefit because this class does not offer things they could apply in their daily conversations due to, among other things, lack of Javanese values in the materials they learn in the class. This encourages me to study how actually the three Javanese values are represented in the conversations used in the textbooks as the models of teaching speaking skill. The data, from the text books for the fourth year primary school level, were selected by considering the variety of the topics and conversants. The data then were analyzed using Brown and Levinson's Politeness Strategy to reveal how the three Javanese values are reflected.