MULTICULTURALISM IN INDONESIA: HOW DOES LITERATURE AFFECT THE DEVELOPMENT OF DIVERSITY?

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ABSTRACT

Objective: Multiculturalism serves as the root cause of social divisiveness worldwide, including in Indonesia. Meanwhile, literature is often regarded as a medium for cultivating multiculturalism among the populace. Therefore, this research seeks to examine the literature's role in fostering awareness of multiculturalism in Indonesian society.

Method: The research employs the survey method. The research instrument utilizes a questionnaire containing inquiries pertaining to the comprehension of multiculturalism. The respondents' data amounts to 382. The data source is an online survey platform disseminated through Google Forms.

Results: Literature is crucial in enhancing the understanding of multiculturalism within Indonesian society. It broadens horizons to appreciate differences and contemplate the values of diversity. Furthermore, literature facilitates intercultural dialogue and awareness of societal pluralism. Despite encountering challenges, literature also harbors significant opportunities to assume a greater role in advancing the comprehension of multiculturalism in Indonesian society. Hence, it is imperative to continuously support and promote literature, integrating it into education and public awareness to achieve an inclusive, tolerant, and diversity-respecting society.

Conclusions: Literature plays a crucial role in enhancing the understanding and appreciation of multiculturalism among the populace in Indonesia. It possesses a potent potential to shape an inclusive, tolerant, and mutually respectful society within an environment replete with diversity.

Keywords: multiculturalism, literature Indonesia, diversity development, social harmony.

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MULTICULTURALISMO NA INDONÉSIA: COMO A LITERATURA AFETA O DESENVOLVIMENTO DA DIVERSIDADE?

RESUMO

**Objectivo:** O multiculturalismo é a causa raiz da divisão social em todo o mundo, incluindo na Indonésia. Entretanto, a literatura é frequentemente considerada um meio para cultivar o multiculturalismo entre a população. Portanto, esta pesquisa procura examinar o papel da literatura na promoção da consciência do multiculturalismo na sociedade indonésia.

**Método:** A pesquisa utiliza o método de levantamento. O instrumento de pesquisa utiliza um questionário contendo questões referentes à compreensão do multiculturalismo. Os dados dos entrevistados totalizam 382. A fonte de dados é uma plataforma de pesquisa on-line divulgada por meio do Google Forms.

**Resultados:** A literatura é crucial para melhorar a compreensão do multiculturalismo na sociedade indonésia. Amplia horizontes para apreciar as diferenças e contemplar os valores da diversidade. Além disso, a literatura facilita o diálogo intercultural e a consciência do pluralismo social. Apesar de enfrentar desafios, a literatura também abriga oportunidades significativas para assumir um papel mais importante no avanço da compreensão do multiculturalismo na sociedade indonésia. Portanto, é imperativo apoiar e promover continuamente a literatura, integrando-a na educação e na sensibilização pública para alcançar uma sociedade inclusiva, tolerante e que respeite a diversidade.

**Conclusões:** A literatura desempenha um papel crucial no aumento da compreensão e apreciação do multiculturalismo entre a população da Indonésia. Possui um potencial potente para moldar uma sociedade inclusiva, tolerante e mutuamente respeitosa num ambiente repleto de diversidade.

**Palavras-chave:** multiculturalismo, literatura Indonésia, desenvolvimento da diversidade, harmonia social.

1 INTRODUCTION

Multiculturalism is a concept that acknowledges and appreciates the diversity of culture, religion, and ethnicity within a society (Chin & Levey, 2023; Colombo, 2015; Singh & Raza, 2016). In Indonesia, a country with a population consisting of various ethnicities, religions, and languages, multiculturalism emerges as a pivotal aspect in everyday life. Along with the passage of time, the development of multiculturalism in Indonesia is influenced by diverse factors, one of which is literature. Literature, as a form of cultural expression, holds immense potential in shaping the progression of diversity within Indonesian society. Through literary works, the cultural and traditional differences present in various regions of Indonesia can be expressed and documented, thereby...
enriching the understanding and knowledge of the community regarding cultural and traditional diversity (Brondizio et al., 2021; Shockley et al., 2017; Wangchuk & Tobgay, 2015). Furthermore, literature also plays a crucial role in conveying messages about tolerance and appreciation towards diversity, which can aid in strengthening the values of multiculturalism within society (Davis, 2018; Fancourt & Finn, 2019; Fauzan, 2023).

Indonesia has long been recognized as a country with diverse cultures (Kusumasari et al., 2018; Lie, 2017; Zainuri, 2021). The islands spanning from Sabang to Merauke serve as the abode for over 300 tribes and diverse ethnic groups. Religions such as Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Confucianism also constitute an integral part of Indonesian society (Buana & Juwita, 2021; Farhan & Hadisaputra, 2022; Madakir et al., 2022). The differences, which are reflected in culture, customs, and language, are valuable resources for this nation. However, in recent decades, Indonesia has faced challenges in managing diversity and promoting healthy multiculturalism. Ethnic conflicts, religion-based violence, and social tensions often arise, posing threats to national unity and stability. In this context, literature as a cultural medium can play a crucial role in fostering understanding, appreciation, and respect for differences within Indonesian society.
At a broader level, there exists a necessity for in-depth and comprehensive research regarding the influence of literature on the development of multiculturalism in Indonesia. Indonesian literature, with its rich and extensive heritage, reflects the cultural and intellectual diversity. Literature can serve as a mirror and a shaper of the cultural identity of a society (Heberle et al., 2020; Khalifa et al., 2016; Sukmawan et al., 2023). However, despite its immense potential, there has been a lack of specific research on how literature influences the development of diversity in Indonesia. As existing studies have shown, multicultural literature plays a crucial role in introducing the cultural treasury (Macmillan, 2022; Madakir et al., 2022; Taufiq, 2017). Developing a multicultural perspective, including studying multicultural literature, is one of the aspects in shaping a multicultural attitude. (Taufiq, 2017) dan (Katz, 2013) Stating that multicultural literature portrays various cultures, encompassing different races, genders, religions, languages, social classes, and ethnicities. Multiculturalism provides an opportunity to broaden the minds of children, enabling them to comprehend the lifestyles of others that differ from their own (Etherington, 2015; McIver, 2018; Ohly et al., 2016). Regarding this matter, research on the influence of literature on the development of diversity in Indonesia, which
contributes to understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity in Indonesia, is still limited. Therefore, it is essential to examine the role of literature in influencing society regarding the importance of preserving multicultural values.

However, literature can serve as a bridge in fostering intergroup understanding, alleviating tension, and promoting productive dialogue (Grip & Kotajoki, 2019; Kallis et al., 2021; Lezak et al., 2019). However, these efforts need to be further studied to understand their effectiveness. Therefore, research that examines how literature influences multicultural education in Indonesia is highly needed. This is because literature has great potential in stimulating interest and love for cultural diversity, especially among the younger generation. For this reason, the aim of this research is to gain a deeper understanding of how literature affects the development of diversity in Indonesia and its contribution to healthy multiculturalism. By comprehending the role of literature in shaping the perception and attitudes of society towards multiculturalism. By deepening the understanding of the influence of literature on the development of diversity in Indonesia, this research is expected to provide valuable insights for the development of policies, education, and efforts to promote positive multiculturalism that can serve as an important source of information for ongoing discussions on multiculturalism at the international level.

2 THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The term multiculturalism can be both descriptive and ideological, or it can refer to political policies that address diversity (Isabel & Maria Maders, 2015; Mikelatou & Arvanitis, 2019; Whitley Jr & Webster, 2019). Furthermore, Mahfud (2011) states that the etymological root of the word multicultural is culture. Etymologically, multiculturalism is formed from the words multi (many), culture, and ism (theory). Essentially, this word acknowledges the dignity of individuals living in a community with unique cultures. Therefore, every individual feels valued and responsible for living together with their community. Hence, multiculturalism is an ideology and a tool or vehicle for enhancing human dignity and humanity (Isabel & Maria Maders, 2015; Zajda, 2020). So, the concept of culture should be seen from the perspective of its function for human life. Mahfud (2011) Explaining multiculturalism as a concept of community within the context of nationalism that can recognize diversity, differences, and cultural pluralism. It encompasses aspects such as race, ethnicity, and religion. A multicultural
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A multicultural nation is a nation consisting of ethnic and cultural groups that can coexist peacefully (Mikelatou & Arvanitis, 2019). They can implement the principle of coexistence, characterized by a willingness to respect other cultures. Baidhawy (2015) Multiculturalism is the perspective that every culture holds equal value and position, thus granting each culture the right to coexist harmoniously.

Another explanation is provided by (Parekh & Bambang Kukuh Adi, 2008). According to him, the term multicultural refers to the fact that there is cultural diversity, while the term multiculturalism refers to the normative response to that fact. This means that when we talk about multiculturalism, we are talking about cultural diversity and how the points of diversity are responded to and handled normatively. In other words, multiculturalism explains the descriptive aspect of diversity (multicultural) discussed normatively (multiculturalism). According to Rustanto (2015), Multiculturalism is an ideology that emphasizes the recognition and respect for the equality of cultural differences. It can be practiced individually or as a group. Its aim is to be regarded as originating from social groups, namely ethnicity (and race), gender, and age. This ideology of multiculturalism supports the process of democratization, essentially the equality of individual actors in dealing with power and local or societal communities. Therefore, there is no superior culture and vice versa. The concept of multiculturalism is closely related to the formation of a society based on Bhinneka Tunggal Ika and the creation of a national culture that unites the Indonesian nation (Khairunniza & Supriatna, 2022; Viartasiwi et al., 2020).

Another opinion is put forward by Blum (1991). He declares multiculturalism as the comprehension, appreciation, reverence, and curiosity of the ethnicity and culture of others. Bennet (1995) Formulating the concept of multiculturalism as the contemplation and acceptance of cultural diversity. In other words, multiculturalism is the understanding or belief that encourages the acceptance of pluralism or cultural diversity as a cultural model present in contemporary socio-cultural life. Multiculturalism is an understanding and approach that offers a cultural paradigm for understanding differences in our society and the world (Isabel & Maria Maders, 2015; Nugroho, 2011). This demonstrates that multiculturalism is a framework of thinking and approach that can be employed to comprehend and navigate the diversity within an increasingly intricate global society.

Based on the explanations of several experts, it can be concluded that multiculturalism is the comprehension, appreciation, and reverence for the cultures of
Multiculturalism, as a mindset and acceptance of cultural diversity, encourages the acceptance of pluralism or cultural diversity. In other words, multiculturalism elucidates the descriptive aspect of diversity (multicultural) discussed in a normative manner (multiculturalism). Multiculturalism encompasses the mutual respect for cultural equality, social class, ethnicity, gender, language, disabilities, religion, race, skin color, pluralism, equal rights, ethnicity, customs, behavioral patterns, educational equality, and ethnicity.

3 METHODS

This research is an endeavor to unveil the role of literature in fostering multiculturalism in Indonesian society. In this regard, the study employs the survey methodology. The initial stage involves strategizing the survey research with the aim of comprehending the understanding of multiculturalism among the general populace of Indonesia (Derin et al., 2020). Subsequently, the researchers formulated a questionnaire encompassing inquiries pertaining to the comprehension of multiculturalism. The questionnaire was meticulously crafted, incorporating lucid, organized, and pertinent queries (Sovacool et al., 2018; Tsang et al., 2017). Prior to disseminating the questionnaire to respondents, a validity and reliability test is conducted to ensure that the questionnaire can accurately and consistently measure the variables under investigation. Once the questionnaire is finalized and tested, the researcher will distribute it to the general public respondents. Data collection is conducted online through a survey platform.

After the completion of data collection, the next stage is data analysis to obtain valid and reliable research results. In this study, the data collected from 382 respondents will be processed using statistical analysis techniques. Upon completion of data analysis, the research findings will be interpreted to address the research question and portray the understanding of multiculturalism in the general society of Indonesia. The data collected from the questionnaire will be processed using descriptive statistics to illustrate the understanding of multiculturalism in the general society. This technique involves calculating the mean, median, and percentiles to identify data trends and distributions. Frequency analysis will be employed to calculate the number and percentage of respondents who provide specific answers to each question in the questionnaire. This will provide an overview of the extent to which respondents have a certain understanding of multiculturalism. Thus, this study is expected to provide valuable information about the
understanding of multiculturalism in the general society of Indonesia. The findings of this research can be utilized as a foundation to formulate more effective policies and programs in enhancing awareness and appreciation towards cultural diversity in Indonesia.

4 RESULTS

4.1 INDONESIAN PEOPLE’S UNDERSTANDING OF MULTICULTURALISM

The Indonesian society acknowledges that Indonesia is composed of diverse ethnic and cultural groups. This understanding places each group as an integral part of the national identity, with recognized and respected rights. To this end, an examination of the society's understanding of multiculturalism is required. Out of the 382 respondents, they were presented with the question, "Do the Indonesian society currently have a good understanding of the value of diversity?". For this survey question, the results are displayed in Figure 2.

![Figure 2. Indonesian people's understanding of multiculturalism](source: Prepared by the authors)

Based on the data, 42.14% (approximately 161 individuals) of the respondents answered "Yes, they do," indicating that they believe the Indonesian society currently has a good understanding of the value of diversity. This demonstrates a sufficient level of awareness and comprehension towards diversity, although it is not a majority. Conversely, the majority of respondents, namely 57.86% (approximately 221 individuals), expressed the opinion that the Indonesian society has not fully grasped the value of diversity. This can be interpreted as an indication that there is still a significant room for improvement in the society's understanding and knowledge of diversity. In this regard, while there is a portion of the society that already perceives the value of diversity, this data reveals that there are still challenges and tasks to be accomplished in enhancing the Indonesian
society's understanding of the importance and significance of diversity. Therefore, it is crucial to continue and enhance efforts in education and socialization regarding the significance of diversity in Indonesia, in order to continually increase the percentage of the society that comprehends the value of diversity.

It is worth noting that this survey may not encompass all segments of Indonesian society, as Indonesia is a highly diverse country with a population of over 270 million people and consisting of thousands of ethnic groups (Arruda et al., 2022; Dubov, 2021; Schröders et al., 2015). Therefore, despite this survey providing a general overview of the society's understanding of diversity, the results may differ if a larger or different sample is involved. Furthermore, questions like "Do the Indonesian society currently have a good understanding of the value of diversity?" are quite subjective, which means that the interpretation of "having a good understanding of the value of diversity" may vary for each individual. Thus, it is important to continuously support and promote education and awareness about diversity in Indonesia. This can involve various strategies, such as incorporating diversity education into the school curriculum, creating more media and literature that encourage understanding and appreciation of diversity, and organizing events or festivals that celebrate cultural diversity in Indonesia.

4.2 THE FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE THE FORMATION OF DIVERSITY IN INDONESIA

The understanding of diversity in Indonesia is a crucial and intricate concept in perceiving and appreciating the largest archipelagic country in the world. Indonesia, as a nation composed of over 17,000 islands with hundreds of ethnicities, languages, religions, and cultures, offers an unparalleled panorama of diversity (Jacob et al., 2015; Marzuki et al., 2003). Phenomenon renders Indonesia as one of the most captivating examples in the study of pluralism and the coexistence of diverse identities within a nation. In the context of Indonesia, diversity emerges not only in the cultural-ethnic aspect, but also in geographical disparities, natural resources, customs and traditions, language, and the level of economic development (Arruda et al., 2022; Prihatiningtyastuti, 2020). Each region in Indonesia possesses its own distinctive characteristics, imbuing a unique hue in terms of social and cultural landscapes. In this regard, based on the survey findings, the comprehension of diversity is depicted in image 3.
Figure 3. Factors influencing the formation of diversity in Indonesia

According to image 3, it can be observed that the cultural factor is the most dominant in influencing diversity in Indonesia, with a percentage of approximately 76.43%. The social factor also contributes significantly, with around 14.92%. On the other hand, the political, literary, and educational factors have lower contributions, each with a percentage below 5%. The analysis indicates that the cultural factor is the primary element that dominates diversity in Indonesia. The country is rich in cultural diversity, with more than 300 ethnic groups that have unique languages, customs, and beliefs. This diverse culture encompasses various aspects of life, including art, music, dance, architecture, cuisine, and religious rituals. This diversity reflects Indonesia's long history as a center of trade and crossroads of civilizations in the Southeast Asian region. In addition to culture, the social factor also plays a significant role in creating diversity in Indonesia. Social interactions among individuals and community groups from different social backgrounds form a network of relationships that mutually influence each other. This social diversity encompasses various aspects, such as social structure, occupation, gender roles, and intergenerational relationships (Nelson & Constantinidis, 2017; Roosemalen et al., 2021).

Political factors, although they have a lesser contribution, also influence the diversity in Indonesia. Government policies, recognition of minority rights, and protection of religious freedom are some examples of political aspects that affect diversity. It is crucial to ensure that political policies focus on justice and equality for all citizens, regardless of their backgrounds (Bernardo Hahn, 2015; Osler, 2020). Furthermore, the factors of literature and education also play a role in influencing diversity. Literature, as a reflection of culture and national identity, can serve as a tool for
understanding and appreciating the cultural diversity in Indonesia (Arruda et al., 2022; Riswani et al., 2023; Shliakhovchuk, 2021). Meanwhile, inclusive and supportive education can impart the values of tolerance, mitigate prejudice, and provide equal opportunities for all individuals, regardless of their backgrounds. In this regard, diversity in Indonesia is a result of the intricate interplay of factors such as culture, society, politics, literature, and education. A profound understanding of the roles of each of these factors can assist Indonesian society and government in building an inclusive, harmonious, and mutually respectful environment amidst the existing diversity. This will serve as a robust foundation for the progress and sustainability of the Indonesian nation in facing various future challenges.

4.3 THE LITERARY GENRE THAT INFLUENCES THE UNDERSTANDING OF MULTICULTURALISM

Literature has a significant impact on the understanding of multiculturalism in society (Chalkiadaki, 2018; Theodorakopoulos & Budhwar, 2015). As a reflection of a nation’s culture and identity, literature plays a pivotal role in introducing, celebrating, and comprehending the cultural diversity within it. Literature mirrors the diverse cultural aspects such as language, customs, beliefs, and traditions of various ethnic and cultural groups (Balante et al., 2021; Nguyen, 2017; Roosemalen et al., 2021). Through narratives, poetry, and other literary works, literature offers different perspectives on the lives and experiences of various social groups in society. By reading stories about people from different cultural backgrounds, readers can develop empathy towards the experiences and challenges faced by these groups. This opens the mind and heart to appreciate and understand differences. Therefore, literature can help society understand and appreciate diversity as a wealth, not as a threat. Based on research, the genres of literature that have an impact on multiculturalism are presented in table 4.
5 DISCUSSION

Based on the research findings, there are several crucial aspects that need to be discussed. In this regard, the research results indicate that literature plays a significant role in its contribution to multiculturalism.

5.1 THE ROLE OF LITERATURE IN REFLECTING MULTICULTURALISM

Literature serves as a reflection of a nation's culture and identity, and in Indonesia, a country renowned for its cultural diversity, literature plays a vital role in enhancing the understanding of multiculturalism in society (Pamungkas & Sudigdo, 2022; Pamungkas et al., 2023). The cultural diversity, ethnicity, and religion in Indonesia create an unparalleled cultural panorama, and through literature, society can explore and celebrate the richness and complexity of this diversity. As the largest archipelago in the world with over 17,000 islands and hundreds of ethnic groups, Indonesia offers a glimpse into the cultural diversity and unique identity. Literature, in its various forms such as novels, poetry, drama, and others, mirrors the various aspects of life and worldviews of different social groups (McNair, 2016; Schrijvers et al., 2019). Literature serves as a mirror reflecting the social and cultural realities in Indonesia, showcasing narratives from diverse backgrounds.

As a lengthy and intricate form of literature, the novel has the ability to delve into various aspects of human life from diverse ethnic groups (Hancock et al., 2021; Syed & McLean, 2016). With rich characters and stories, novels have the ability to present different perspectives on life, challenges, and hopes from various social groups. Through novels, readers can witness and comprehend life in different regions and cultures in Indonesia, thus broadening their horizons to appreciate differences and diversity.

Poetry, as a condensed and explorative form of literature, offers the power of words that can convey profound messages and emotions (Sass et al., 2017; Syed & McLean, 2016). In poetry, writers have the ability to express their feelings and perspectives on life, love, happiness, or sorrow from diverse viewpoints. Poetry serves as a means for society to contemplate and deeply appreciate the various human experiences from different backgrounds, thereby aiding in the expansion of one's mind and heart to embrace diversity.

Drama, with its elements of dialogue and action, creates a stage for a myriad of perspectives and conflicts that unfold within society (Mendoza, 2020; Rahman et al.,
2021). Through drama, society can witness and contemplate the intricate social interactions among diverse social groups, thereby creating space for understanding and empathy towards diversity. Drama can also present stories that address multiculturalism issues, such as tolerance, justice, and peace, thus serving as an effective educational tool in raising awareness among the public about the importance of appreciating diversity.

5.2 THE IMPACT OF LITERATURE IN ENHANCING MULTICULTURAL AWARENESS

The influence of literature in enhancing the understanding of multiculturalism in Indonesian society indeed has a significant impact. Literature, as a reflection of culture and national identity, plays a pivotal role in introducing, celebrating, and comprehending the cultural diversity within it (Lehman, 2017; Morrison et al., 2019). Through novels, poetry, drama, and other literary works, literature offers diverse perspectives on the lives and experiences of various social groups in society. By immersing oneself in stories about people from different cultural backgrounds, readers can cultivate empathy towards the experiences and challenges faced by these groups. This expands the mind and heart to appreciate and understand differences, thereby creating an inclusive environment that respects and values diversity.

One crucial aspect of literature's influence on the understanding of multiculturalism is its ability to present diverse perspectives and viewpoints. In literature, readers can perceive the world through the lens of characters with varying cultural, religious, and ethnic backgrounds (Ince, 2023; Wijaya, 2019). This provides an opportunity for readers to contemplate on the diversity of humanity and perceive the values that may differ from other groups. Literature teaches us to view life from various perspectives and fosters a deeper understanding of human complexity (Birhane, 2021; Costea et al., 2018).

Furthermore, literature also plays a role in fostering intercultural dialogue and raising awareness of societal pluralism. Through literary works, we can witness the encounters and interactions between diverse ethnic and cultural groups, and observe how friendship, love, or conflict can occur among them (Pamungkas et al., 2021). Literature provides an avenue for mutual learning and sharing of experiences, thereby strengthening understanding and mutual appreciation among these groups. Additionally, literature can assist society in comprehending and respecting the rights of minorities while advocating
for equality among all citizens. Through literary works that address issues pertaining to minority rights and the challenges they face, society can become more sensitive and responsive to the needs and aspirations of minority groups.

The influence of literature in enhancing the understanding of multiculturalism in Indonesian society cannot be ignored. Literature possesses a potent potential to shape an inclusive, tolerant, and culturally appreciative mindset. Through literature, society can gain a deeper understanding of diversity as a richness and comprehend the significance of intercultural dialogue in creating harmony in a multicultural society. Therefore, it is crucial to continuously support and promote literature as a means to strengthen understanding and appreciation of multiculturalism in Indonesia.

5.3 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Although literature possesses positive implications in enhancing the comprehension of multiculturalism, there are several challenges that need to be addressed. One of these challenges is the lack of interest and awareness among the populace regarding literature. Literature is frequently perceived as antiquated or lacking relevance, particularly by the younger generation who are more exposed to modern media (Barreto & Ellemers, 2015; Cooper, 2015). Therefore, efforts are needed to enhance the interest and appreciation for literature in society, particularly through education and awareness campaigns.

The limitations in accessing books and literature, as well as the lack of government and institutional support for the literary industry, can hinder the reach of literature. Therefore, support from the government and various stakeholders is necessary to promote literature and create an environment conducive to its development in Indonesia. However, amidst these challenges, literature also holds great potential to play a larger role in enhancing the understanding of multiculturalism in society. Technological advancements and digitalization have opened new opportunities to distribute literary works more widely and efficiently. Literature can also be integrated into the education curriculum to introduce multicultural values to the younger generation from an early age.

6 CONCLUSION

Literature is crucial in enhancing the understanding of multiculturalism in Indonesian society. Through novels, poetry, drama, and other literary works, individuals
can immerse themselves in various perspectives and experiences from diverse ethnic and cultural groups. Literature broadens horizons to appreciate differences and reflect upon the values of diversity. It also fosters intercultural dialogue and awareness of societal pluralism. Despite facing challenges, literature holds immense potential to play a greater role in enhancing the understanding of multiculturalism in Indonesian society. Therefore, it is essential to continuously support and promote literature, integrating it into education and societal consciousness to achieve an inclusive, tolerant, and diversity-embracing society.

The implications of this study show that literature plays an important role in increasing the understanding and appreciation of multiculturalism in Indonesian society. By supporting and integrating literature into educational and cultural policies, Indonesians can be better prepared for the challenges and opportunities presented by cultural diversity. Literature is a powerful means of building an inclusive, tolerant, and respectful society in the context of diversity. Thus, integrating literature into the education system and cultural policy is a strategic and powerful way to foster a multicultural ethos. In education, including diverse literary works in the curriculum can instill an appreciation of different cultures from an early age. These skills are invaluable in a multicultural society like Indonesia.
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