

Pancasila as the Glue of Indonesia's Diversity

ABSTRACT

This article aims to analyze the role of Pancasila as a unifying force of Indonesian diversity within the context of Pancasila education. Indonesia as a multicultural nation faces significant challenges in maintaining unity amidst differences in ethnicity, religion, race, and culture. Pancasila, as the state ideology, contains fundamental values that serve as guidelines for managing diversity. This study employs a mixed research method, combining empirical research through interviews with managers and visitors of the Cultural Park and normative research through literature review of laws and academic sources related to Pancasila. The findings indicate that Pancasila values—especially unity, tolerance, and social justice—remain relevant and can be practically implemented through culture-based Pancasila education. Pancasila education plays a strategic role in fostering national awareness and mutual respect within a diverse society. Therefore, Pancasila functions not only as a state symbol but also as an effective educational instrument in strengthening national unity.

Keywords: Diversity, Education, Pancasila, Unity

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a country with a very high level of diversity, including ethnicity, religion, race, language, and culture. This diversity is a national treasure not possessed by other countries, but on the other hand, it also has the potential to give rise to social conflict if not managed properly. Numerous conflicts stemming from differences in identity demonstrate that national unity still faces serious challenges. In this context, Pancasila serves as the foundation of the state and the national ideology designed to unite these differences. Pancasila was formed from the long struggle of the Indonesian people to maintain independence, freedom, and sovereignty. Pancasila symbolizes the values of life that must be upheld by all Indonesians. Therefore, Pancasila is not merely a symbol or written document, but more than that; it is a philosophical system that serves as the foundation for all aspects of national and state life (Mulia, 2021).

Pancasila embodies values such as divinity, humanity, unity, democracy, and social justice, which can serve as guidelines for living together in a pluralistic society. These values are not only normative but also applicable in everyday life. However, the development of globalization, uncontrolled flow of information, and the weakening of the younger generation's understanding of national values present challenges in the actualization of Pancasila. In fact, to date, the values of Pancasila have not been implemented properly in community life. This is due to the fact that the meaning of Pancasila has not been implemented in the form of actions to realize social justice. This causes problems that will harm the nation and state, many social deviations are found because society does not understand the meaning of Pancasila. The meaning of Pancasila is still considered very far from expectations (Sukmawati et al., 2025)

Pancasila education plays a crucial role in instilling these values systematically and sustainably. Through education Pancasila is not only taught as theoretical concepts but also internalized as attitudes and behaviors. One effective approach is culture-based education, as can be found in Cultural Parks, which serve as spaces for cross-cultural expression and interaction. Therefore, studying the role of Pancasila as a unifying force for diversity in the context of Pancasila education is highly relevant and important.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research uses two approaches: empirical and normative. The empirical approach was conducted through interviews with managers and visitors of the Cultural Park to obtain data on the implementation of Pancasila values in cultural activities. The normative approach was conducted through a literature review of laws and regulations, books, and scientific journals related to Pancasila and Pancasila education. The data obtained were analyzed qualitatively to draw comprehensive conclusions.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Indonesia is a country rich in cultural diversity, ethnicity, religion, customs, traditions, and languages. Indonesia also has a society with a very complex level of diversity, thus being called a multicultural society. This diversity presents a challenge and responsibility for the Indonesian people, especially the government, in its efforts to prevent various types of conflicts, even national disunity (Riwayadi et al., 2021).

The name Pancasila consists of two Sanskrit words: "panca," meaning five, and "sila," meaning principle or foundation. Therefore, Pancasila is the principle and guideline for national and state life for all Indonesian people. Pancasila is the foundation of the Republic of Indonesia, used in all aspects of social life, and embodies the order of life of the Indonesian nation in accordance with applicable norms. Pancasila serves as the fundamental ideology of the Indonesian state, designed to empower its citizens to become better citizens (Eliza et al., 2024). Pancasila is also used as the basis for governing the state. Pancasila emerged as a commitment of the Indonesian people to guide the nation and state towards a just and prosperous society.

Pancasila, as the foundation and ideology of the Indonesian state, holds profound meaning and crucial relevance for the nation's future. The significance of Pancasila is crucial for the future of the Indonesian nation because it serves as a guideline for achieving the nation's goals, strengthening national unity, and creating social justice for all Indonesians. Furthermore, Pancasila remains relevant and capable of serving as a foundation in facing various challenges and changes of the times. Therefore, it is important to understand the meaning and relevance of Pancasila for the future of the nation (Salyo et al., 2022). Pancasila as the nation's ideology, has a strategic function in maintaining unity amidst diversity. Pancasila must serve as a bridge between Indonesia's heterogeneous society, with its various ethnicities, religions, customs, languages, and beliefs, and serve as a foundation for the implementation of democracy, human rights, freedom, and social justice (Madung & Mere, 2021).

Pancasila also plays a role in encouraging society to prioritize unity in diversity by prioritizing unity in diversity, rather than individual and group interests that can divide the unity and integrity that has been created. Indonesia has been independent until now (Tamara et al., 2023). In this regard, Pancasila serves as a guide for every Indonesian citizen in living their lives. Pancasila teaches us to appreciate differences, respect human rights, build a just and equitable social order, and prioritize national unity. By understanding and applying the values of Pancasila in our daily lives, we can build a more advanced, prosperous, and just Indonesia (Astuti et al., 2020). Pancasila plays a role as a glue and unifier for the Indonesian nation, which is diverse in ethnicity, religion, language, and culture. The principle of Indonesian unity encourages a sense of nationalism and unity in diversity. The values of Pancasila also provide a common outlook on life, noble values, guidelines for life, norms, laws, and regulations for all citizens, so that diversity is not a limiting difference, but rather something that complements each other in national unity (Arfiyansyah et al., 2024).

Pancasila consists of five principles: the first is belief in the One and Only God. Second, just and civilized humanity. Third, the unity of Indonesia. Fourth, citizenship guided by wisdom and discernment in deliberation and representation. Fifth, social justice for all Indonesian people. Each value contained in the Pancasila principles serves as a guideline and foundation for the life of the Indonesian nation (Roky Huzaeni, 2022). These values can be implemented in daily life, both in the community, social environment, and school environment. The values contained in Pancasila are the values of divinity, humanity, unity, democracy, and justice. All of these values are the values that build Pancasila as the foundation of the state, because in essence, the foundation of the state is the foundation and A reflection of the nation, so that each value contained in each principle of Pancasila has its own meaning (Nursyam & Nurfadhilah, 2023).

Divinity Value meaning Indonesia recognizes the existence of God as the creator of the universe. Therefore, Indonesia is a religious country, not an atheist country. Therefore, all citizens must adhere to the first principle, namely faith in God and piety. Indonesia also gives every citizen the freedom to embrace the

religion of their choice without any coercion or discrimination based on their choices. Humanity Value, meaning the values contained therein are humanitarian values, while citizens should act and behave according to the norms and customs prevailing in the surrounding community. Unity Value, meaning as Indonesian citizens, despite having many differences, they should not let this become an obstacle to building unity. People Value, meaning that although the government regulates and controls the government, if the people do not participate, the government is illegitimate. Because the government comes from the people, by the people, and for the people, the people must also participate. Participate through deliberation and consensus. The value of justice means that all Indonesian people must act fairly without exception. Both the government and government officials, as well as the people themselves, must be fair to each other, regardless of status, so that justice can be achieved and unity remains strong in Indonesia (Tedjokusumo et al., 2024).

To realize this, Indonesian citizens must contribute by implementing the values of Pancasila in their daily lives and always upholding Pancasila to maintain Indonesian unity. Pancasila must be built into everyday life and applied in every aspect of Indonesian society, such as education, politics, social affairs, culture, economics, and law. Thus, Pancasila will become a way of life deeply embedded in the lives of Indonesian people. For example, prioritizing Pancasila values in daily life, such as caring for others, mutual cooperation, mutual respect, tolerance between religious communities, and Prioritizing unity and integrity above all else. Yet, if we look back at Indonesia, Pancasila has served as a unifying tool for the nation amidst its diversity. Awareness in awakening, strengthening, and developing the values of Pancasila must be practiced everywhere by every citizen to prevent the fading of the noble values of Pancasila within us. Familiarizing ourselves with Pancasila values in all aspects, such as the community environment, organizations, and so on, is crucial. Implementing these Pancasila values is essential so that the results can benefit every member of society (Ardhani et al., 2022).

Pancasila as a unifying force for the nation has principles accepted as a unitary state, which have the following meanings: first, protecting all Indonesian

people and preserving ethnic and cultural diversity. Second, providing answers to all problems and conflicts arising from certain groups. Third, protecting all Indonesian people without any differences within it (Mendrofa, 2021). Pancasila was born from the soul of the Indonesian people, despite all their differences. Unity is the foundation of a peaceful and prosperous life amidst the sea of diversity in the archipelago. Without unity, the state and nation will easily collapse in a short time (Hakim, 2022).

Implementing the values of Pancasila as a unifying force for national diversity can be done in various ways. First, appreciating and respecting the differences in ethnicity, religion, race, and culture that exist in Indonesia. Second, developing an attitude of tolerance and mutual respect among religious communities and beliefs. Third, prioritizing the interests of the nation and state over personal or group interests. Fourth, respecting human rights and freedom of expression. Fifth, developing an attitude of mutual cooperation and cooperation within society. In addition, appreciating and preserving local culture and traditions, developing character education based on Pancasila values, respecting linguistic diversity, and developing nationalism and love for the homeland, as well as respect for the diversity and plurality that exist in Indonesia. By implementing the values of Pancasila, we can strengthen national unity and integrity, as well as increase awareness and pride as Indonesian citizens. For example, greeting and shaking hands with others as a sign of respect, appreciating and respecting differences in opinions and beliefs of others, participating in social and community activities, appreciating and preserving local culture and traditions, and developing an attitude of tolerance and mutual respect between religious communities and beliefs. Thus we can strengthen the values of Pancasila as a unifying force for the nation and increase awareness and pride as Indonesian citizens. Cultural Parks are one concrete example of the implementation of Pancasila values as a unifying force for the nation. Cultural Parks are a concept developed by the Indonesian government to preserve and promote Indonesia's cultural diversity. Cultural Parks are designed to showcase and promote Indonesia's cultural diversity, including dance, music, art, and traditions from

various regions in Indonesia. Cultural Parks as concrete evidence of the implementation of Pancasila values can be seen in several aspects, namely:

1. Respecting Cultural Diversity: Cultural Parks promote and preserve Indonesia's cultural diversity, which is one of the basic principles of Pancasila, namely *Bhinneka Tunggal Ika* (Unity in Diversity).

2. Developing an Attitude of Tolerance: Cultural Parks serve as public spaces that can be enjoyed by everyone, regardless of ethnicity, religion, race, or culture. This fosters an attitude of tolerance and mutual respect between religious communities and beliefs.

3. Prioritizing the Interests of the Nation: Cultural Parks promote national pride and awareness of Indonesia's cultural diversity, which is one of the basic principles of Pancasila, namely the Unity of Indonesia.

4. Respecting Human Rights: Cultural Parks serve as public spaces that can be enjoyed by everyone, without discrimination, which is one of the basic principles of Human Rights.

Cultural Parks, as public cultural spaces, serve as concrete examples of the implementation of Pancasila values. Interactions between individuals from diverse backgrounds demonstrate the concrete practice of the values of humanity and unity. Pancasila education linked to direct experience has proven to be more effective in fostering national consciousness. Furthermore, Pancasila serves as a tool for conflict resolution. The values of deliberation and social justice provide an ethical framework for resolving differences peacefully.

In the context of the state, Pancasila as a philosophy means that the values contained in the five principles are not only normative and practical, but also contain a reflective depth about the nature of humans, society, and the state. Pancasila as a philosophy is the result of contemplation and exploration of the noble values of the Indonesian nation, crystallized in five systemically unified principles (Hasan, 2025).

1. Functions of Pancasila as a Philosophy:

- Function as a Basis for Philosophical Thinking of the Indonesian Nation

- Function as a Philosophy of Life
- Function as a Basis for Morals and Social Ethics
- Function as a Uniter in Diversity
- Function as a Tool for Criticizing the Challenges of the Times

2. Pancasila as an Integral Philosophical System

Integralistic philosophy is a philosophical system that views reality as a whole, integrated, and integrated system, rather than as a partial system.

3. Pancasila and the Philosophy of National Culture

Pancasila as a philosophy is not merely the result of rational thought, but also the crystallization of noble values that have grown and developed within Indonesian culture (Hasan, 2025).

CONCLUSION

Based on the above description it can be concluded that Pancasila is the foundation and ideology of the Indonesian nation, which plays a role in the life of the Indonesian nation and state. The role of Pancasila for the future of the Indonesian nation is very important and significant, especially in terms of establishing peace, diversity, and unity. Pancasila as the glue of national unity and unity, Pancasila is considered as the glue that binds the differences and diversity of the Indonesian nation. The values of Pancasila, such as faith, piety, respect for culture, having an attitude of mutual cooperation, creativity, and a spirit of learning, are applied to build a harmonious and advanced nation. Pancasila also unites the diversity that exists in Indonesia by providing a worldview, noble values, guidelines for life, norms, laws, and rules for the same behavior. Despite different ethnicities, religions, races, languages, and cultures, Indonesian society remains united by Pancasila.

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