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Deconstruction of Wikipédia Jawa as the Source of Javanese Online Information

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to deconstructed Wikipédia Jawa as a source of reference for Javanese article using Derrida's deconstruction theory. Wikipédia Jawa is one of the Wikipedia projects along with local communities in the world to re-popularize local languages that are empowered for free through internet. This research begins by reading the Wikipédia Jawa website through text which was profided on the page then delays the meaning by searching for the deeper meaning in the website through context and co-text. The hypothesis of this study is Wikipédia Jawa loses its simpleness and easy-to-understand values that cling to 'Wikipedia' itself. Wikipédia Jawa as a source of reference for online information in Javanese uses high level of Javanese, Bahasa Jawa Krama, which makes it more difficult for general readers to understand the articles. Furthermore, Wikipédia Jawa only can be consumed by small community which provokes exclusivity of society members.

Keywords: *Derrida, Javanese, Internet, Meaning.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Internet is one of the media with wide networks and easily to accessed almost without limits. Internet helps 'shortening' spaces and creates borderless place where everyone has a chance to access newest information and knowledge. Therefore, internet becoming the most important media today. Apart from being a medium of learning, the internet is also a medium for existence. Not only about the existence of individual identity but also cultural identity including language. Local languages that probably not to be too popular can be exist in cyberspace to contest the space with other languages such as foreign languages. In this borderless era, young people inclined to be more interested in learning foreign languages rather than local languages. That is the reason that the local language must be able to compete with foreign languages through the internet. Wikipedia, as one of the online media that is a source of reference for knowledge, sees this opportunity to re-popularize local languages.

Wikipedia was working with local communities in various parts of the world to help re-popularize local languages through Wikipedia's website. The concept was making a site which fully used of local language under Wikipedia's site. The one of concept that had

been realized was the Javanese version of Wikipedia or called *Wikipédia Jawa* or WikiJawa.

According to the web, WikiJawa or Wikipédia Jawa is the Javenese version of online dictionary Wikipedia [1]. The first article which entitled *Basa Jawa* was uploaded on March 8th, 2004. The total uploaded articles on the site were 56.488 per September 15th, 2019. The all of pages and articles on Wikipédia Jawa are fully used of Javanese language which uses *Jawa krama*. Sasangka on Indrayanto and Yuliasuti [2] said that based on its usage, Javanese language has two varieties which are *Jawa krama* and *Jawa ngoko*. *Jawa krama* is one of a variety of Javanese languages that being specially used by the speaker to the older person or people with higher status [3]. The other hand, *Jawa ngoko* were being used to the person who has same or lower age and status to the speaker. *Jawa krama* has honoring and status gap nuance; besides *Jawa ngoko* has sense of familiarity.

Wikipédia Jawa has 41.006 registered writers or contributor under Wikipédia Jawa, however only small number of them who actively contribute to article making. Recently, Wikipédia Jawa attempted to increasing the number of volunteering author by intensely promoting its website. Wikipédia Jawa were made free writing training in many cities and held an

article contest with a laptop as the prize and also some amount of money. Wikipédia Jawa also holds regular meetings of active writers who meeting-up to create, edit, and review articles in the Wikipédia Jawa. Unfortunately, Wikipédia Jawa still suffering on the lack of the number of volunteering writers who were not significantly increased.

The concept of volunteering writer of Wikipedia is most of all writers were not receiving salary. Wikipedia implements a system of contributors in which all of the article writers contribute for free in creating, adding, and editing articles in Wikipedia [4]. The articles that have been made, added, or edited are being strictly reviewed by trusted writers. If the articles are qualify the standard, it will posted publicly. Even though Wikipedia empowered for free, yet they were need funds to operating their cycle.

The Wikipedia is one of Wikimedia's project which its resources of funding are almost entirely funded by donations from donors. They commit that their page was entirely free of commercial advertisement in the name of neutrality and educationally [5]. Wikipedia does not place commercial advertisements on its pages. Furthermore, Wikipedia stated that its site are voluntary empowered, so the sincerity of the author is the main point in the development of Wikipedia's articles. Wikipedia claimed that content of Wikipedia's articles were should be free of advertising to be published. The contributing authors should not make any financial profit for publishing articles that promotes any parties. Thus, the action was considered violating the rules and missions of Wikipedia and would be unpublished.

Wikipedia always emphasized that the building process of its site is based on volunteer contributions as if he wanted to show that he was able to create a program that was empowered through mutual cooperation for free. The concept itself is fascinating to emerge and succeed in the current era of capitalism. Even the goal of Wikipédia Jawa looks really noble because they are seems to sharing information, increasing literacy and preserving local languages such as Javanese language. Exaggerate hegemonic statement that has been claimed by Wikipédia Jawa were too good to be true. Even the claims were brought up narratives that are too perfect and positive. So that, it is necessary to dig deeper into the motives of the Wikipédia Jawa to find meaning in its layers that sometimes failed to be seen by general point of view. A concept is needed to find out the deeper meanings of Wikipédia Jawa which is a theory that is able to dismantle the phenomenon. Therefore, researcher used theory of deconstruction.

Deconstruction is a theory that departs from delaying action in the process of signification which developed by Jacques Derrida. Haryatmoko argues that on deconstruction theory, the process of the delaying meaning of a text was done by taking distance to find

ambiguity from the text itself [6]. Furthermore, Haryatmoko said that deconstruction has several main purposes which are to identificate contradiction that appeared on the text; to emerge the possibility of new meanings that marginalized from established existing meanings on the text; and also to encourage critical thinking on finding hegemonic ideas that unconsciously exist and cling onto the signification process of the text. In cultural studies research, the notion of "text" is not confined solely to words but also encompasses behavior, social actions, works, and all outcomes of cultural products [7]. This encourages the utilization of Wikipédia Jawa as an object of deconstruction-based textual research.

2. METHODOLOGY

This research uses Derrida's deconstruction approach by reading on the text which in this research is Wikipédia Jawa website. This research intends to dismantle the meaning of Wikipédia Jawa 's manifestation which has a flawless positive nuance. Wikipédia Jawa appeared to be a site that focused to share informations quickly and easily, to educate the reader and also to help re-existing local language which is *Bahasa Jawa*. Nevertheless, deconstruction rejects single-absolute of the truth, but rather tries to explore other overlooked meanings that appear on the texts.

Deconstruction is used as a tool to find contradictive on the text in order to achieve higher level of consciousness by searching the inconsistency on the text. Deconstruction refuse to receive appeared meaning, yet it tries to seek marginalized meaning through delaying the meaning process and reading the context and the co-text.

Meaning is produced through the construction of culture, which then changes according to interpretations from the interpreters [8]. In the process of reinterpretation by the interpreters, a process of reconstructing meaning can occur. The reconstruction of meaning is one of the processes of deconstruction, which is a new reality reconstructing a previous reality. Lubis in Situmeang [9] explains that there are theoretical stages in the process of deconstruction, namely searching for traces, present & absent, and difference.

1. Traces:

Traces refer to elements within the text that indicate the presence of contradictions or tensions between various meanings [10]. Traces become a clue that a text have no definitive meaning, but rather, it always contains multiple different interpretations. Derrida argues that in every text, there are traces of instability that reflect the uncertain nature of meaning itself.

2. Present & Absent:

A text might not only has present and clear meanings but also meanings that are absent or concealed. Derrida emphasizes that the meaning of a text cannot be fully present because there are always elements that remain undisclosed or not brought forth in the text. Some meanings and interpretations may not be directly accessible, but they operate as "absent" and provide essential context for the meanings that are present. Occasionally, the interpretations may arise from implicit traces within the text. The absence within a text can be subject to its own interpretation.

3. Difference:

Difference refers to the notion that meaning in a text is formed through differences and relationships with other concepts. Derrida stresses that meaning cannot be understood in isolation but always in relation to other opposing or different concepts. Therefore, meaning is not stable as it is continually influenced by relationships and differences with other elements within the text and even outside the text itself.

The ideas of Wikipédia Jawa does look great from the outermost layer, but it needs to be asked and peeled back in the deeper layers to find out other meanings. There were possibilities that the meaning that emerges was far different from what has been presented. Deconstruction rejects absolute idea that arised on the text. The reading of the text had been done to find ambiguity and inconsistencies from Wikipedia of Basa Jawa. The ambiguity and inconsistency could be arise through collision of concepts and goals with marginalized facts that circling around the text itself. Researcher took distance from the text and saw the possibilities that could be appear on the text.

3. DISCUSSION

The text analysis was performed to look 3 stages of deconstruction theory which are traces, present and absent, and difference that may appeared on the text.

3.1. Traces

Traces in a text serve as the initial step in conducting deconstruction within a text. Often, texts give rise to contradictions in interpretations, indicating that the meaning of a text is never fixed or singular. In tracing, one of the methods employed is by identifying contradictions and inconsistencies within the text. The researcher found that some of the concepts claimed by the Wikipédia Jawa were in fact ambiguous and inconsistent. The concepts are as follows:

3.1.1. Wikipédia Jawa Lost its Identity as Encyclopaedia

In general, Wikipedia stands as one of the websites with the concept of a freely accessible encyclopedia for anyone, anywhere, utilizing an internet connection. The encyclopedia concept adopted by Wikipedia aims to facilitate individuals in seeking new information. Wikipedia empasizes on the accessibility and ease to use by its user, which encompass both easy access to information and ease of comprehending the presented information.

Subsequently, Wikipédia Jawa emerges as one of the projects of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., with the concept of a free encyclopedia accessible in Javanese language [1]. The concept of Wikipédia Jawa is akin to the regular Wikipedia, serving as a free encyclopedia accessible to everyone and edited by contributors in Javanese language. Wikipédia Jawa not only translates existing articles from the general Wikipedia but also adds new articles in the Javanese language to the Wikipédia Jawa as encyclopedia.

The Javanese language utilized in Wikipédia Jawa is Javanese Language of *Kratonan* or *Jawa Kratonan*, which is not readily understandable for the general public, including native Javanese speakers. *Jawa Kratonan*, being a formalized version of the language, is not used in daily communication, resulting in numerous words that are not easily interpretable.

Javanese language has at least two types of languages in terms of function, namely *Jawa krama* and *Jawa ngoko* [11]. As explained earlier, *Jawa ngoko* is a variety of Javanese languages used by speakers whose status is higher or equal than those of their interlocutors, while *Jawa krama* is used by speakers whose status is lower than those of their interlocutors as a form of respect and formality. There is nothing wrong and right in terms of the function of the *Jawa ngoko* and *krama* usage, only the use of the Javanese language *Krama* signifies *unggah-ungguh* or politeness [12].

In addition to that, according to Kridalaksana et. al.[13], Javanese has a variety of dialects dan accent in each region of Java such as *Cirebonan*, *Kulonana*, *Arek*, *Kratonan*, and others. The Javanese dialect significantly influences the tongue of Javanese people to the extent that approximately 80 percent of Javanese language speakers will manifest their accent while learning a foreign language [14]. Each dialect raises a different type of pronoun and writing which then influences the writing of words in Javanese. For example, the word *kanca* which means friend in English, in *Jawa kratonan* is usually read as *kanca* (kañca) while in *Jawa Arek* is read *konco* (kõñco).

In each region of Jawa also has a different word in describing something, for example the variety of words

you in Javanese language. In the *Kratonan* area, namely in the area of Jogja, Solo and surrounding areas, it is called *panjenengan*; in the area of Surabaya and its surroundings which uses Jawa arek, it is called *kon* or *awakmu*; in the area of East Java the Mataraman is called *sampeyan*; in the area of Banyuwangi and its surroundings it is called *rika*; and many other varieties.

The use of *Jawa Krama* in the standardization of article writing on Wikipédia Jawa poses difficulties for website users as it is challenging to comprehend. This is due to the more widespread usage of *Jawa Ngoko* among the Javanese-speaking community. Several studies on the use of *Jawa Krama* at the basic level [15], [16] indicate that children tend to use *Jawa Ngoko* more when communicating with their parents. Not only at the basic level, but a study conducted by Damariswara [17] on the teaching of Javanese language by Elementary School Teacher Education students at PGRI Kediri in the Local Language course reveals that there are mistakes in the proper use of *Jawa Krama*.

The difficulty in comprehending the content of articles on Wikipédia Jawa contradicts Wikipedia's initial mission, which is to serve as a reference for users in searching for simple and easily understandable information. This inconsistency has led Wikipédia Jawa to lose its identity as an encyclopedia.

3.2. Present & Absent

Texts can sometimes be interpreted through signs that appear overtly and explicitly, or implicitly, as well as from the absence of something or what is expressed in the text. This absence, in turn, can be subject to its own interpretation.

3.2.1. The Basa Jawa Krama as a form of High Cultural Worship

As previously explained on the text, the published articles in Wikipédia Jawa were asked to use *Jawa krama* especially *Kratonan* as standard languages. In one hand, this rule indeed then makes it easier in uniforming articles which published on Wikipédia Jawa. In the other hand, it may cause polemics in order to the tendency of language favoring one dialect over another. *Kratonan* version of *Jawa krama* is a high cultural product. The act of making high culture as a standard has a marginalized culture that grows in the lower classes. The standardization has the impression of discrimination against various diversity on Javanese languages.

The usage of Javanese Language of *Kratonan* also results in the absence of texts. Firstly, as previously mentioned, there are numerous Javanese sub-languages present in Indonesia that do not appear in texts.

Secondly, high-level Javanese language is not used on a daily basis by contemporary Javanese speakers.

The Wikipédia Jawa also exclusively employs the *Cirebonan* and *Kratonan*. The issue that arises is that not all Javanese speakers use Cirebonan and Kratonan as their language reference for communicating in Javanese, which leads to exclusivity among Javanese language users.

3.2.2. The Emergence of Exclusive Community

Wikipedia in Javanese language [1] mentions in one of its articles that the language standard used on its pages follows the official Javanese spelling according to the Language Center in Yogyakarta in 1991. The Javanese language in Yogyakarta uses *Kratonan*, which falls under the high-level Javanese language category because it is the formal and polite language used in the *Kraton* or the Yogyakarta royal court.

Javanese Language of *Kratonan* is chosen as the reference standard for contributors-individuals who contribute to filling articles on Wikipedia- to write articles in Wikipédia Jawa. These articles can be either new articles or articles from Wikipedia in Indonesian or English that are to be translated into Javanese. The writing standard for Wikipédia Jawa is also the same as Wikipedia in English or Indonesian, which requires clear references and the use of neutral language [18].

The other polemic is that *Jawa krama* considered quite difficult to understand and less popular in daily use. The unpopular terms oftenly appear in Wikipédia Jawa articles, which cause makes it difficult for non-native Javanese's readers to understand Javanese Language. Unfortunately, the article does not appear in bilingual and has no pronunciation feature on the site of Wikipédia Jawa. In contrary, Wikipedia in globally is a site that provide fast and easy to understand information. Wikipedia becomes the first reference to find out the meaning of unknown terms or events. Wikipédia Jawa turned into an exclusive community in its formation as it can only be read by individuals who are proficient in Javanese language of *Kratonan*.

3.3. Difference

The meaning of a text can be constructed through its relationships with other concepts. Meaning cannot exist in isolation, as it necessitates context and co-text, which may potentially be contradictory.

3.3.1. Wikipédia Jawa As Wikipedia's Pawn In making a profit

Wikimedia had made several free writing classes specifically for writing and editing articles on Wikipedia [19], including the Wikipédia Jawa. These classes seems

promising for beginner writers who want to learn to write, especially writing articles in Javanese language. However, it is necessary to seek deeper into the purpose of the classes that being held. These classes aim to create free contributing writers who are willing and able to fill Wikipedia. in this case, Wikipedia is the most benefited party.

In these writing classes, there were appeared an idea that if the authors contribute by writing Javanese language articles in Wikipédia Jawa that would be means the authors contributed to helping Javanese language to survive modernism. it develops a feeling as if the author has been done noble action by preserving local culture. Wikipédia Jawa raises pseudo heroism for the authors with the concept of charity. The writers does not gain any financial benefit other than pride feeling. Also the authors are not given clear information that their writing contributions will undergo a rigorous review so there is a possibility that their writing will not pass. The writing themes that are considered unimportant, unpopular, and incomplete in the source will not pass and be unpublished.

The narrated idea such as concept of charity was failed to showing the side that Wikimedia as a foundation also economically and publicity benefited from the free contributions of writers. Wikimedia have staffs who are paid worker and, since Wikimedia do not take commercial advertisement, they got the fund from donations. It is clear that the donations will not disbursed if there are no projects undertaken by Wikimedia. These project contents are filled by author's articles that has been empowered for free. One of them is Wikipédia Jawa, which is a sub-project of Wikipedia. Just imagine, contributors to Wikipédia Jawa were asked and encouraged to fill Wikipedia content as much as possible for free but Wikimedia itself accepts donations to fund their projects. So that the Wikipédia Jawa can be said to be nothing more than a project to increase personal profit for Wikimedia.

4. CONCLUSION

The results of the analysis of Wikipédia Jawa using three strategic steps of Derrida's Deconstruction theory indicate that Wikipédia Jawa might be interpreted differently from its original purpose or mission for the establishment of the website. The meaning of Wikipédia Jawa as a text that provides free, easily understandable, and accessible information to users, similar to an encyclopedia, might be interpreted differently after undergoing the process of deconstruction analysis.

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