

THE EFFECT OF LIBRARY REVITALIZATION ON STUDENTS LEVEL OF POLITICAL LITERACY

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Abstract

Library revitalization as an effort to transform physical and functional has been proven to increase reading interest and information accessibility, including in the context of political literacy. The purpose of this study is to determine the influence of library revitalization on the level of political literacy of library science students of UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh. The research method uses a quantitative method with a simple linear regression approach. The population in this study is all active students of Library Science UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh which totals 517 students. The sample of this study amounted to 84 active library students of UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh. The use of samples uses *the slovin* formula taken using *the purposive sampling* technique. The data collection technique used in this study is using questionnaires with techniques in collecting instructions using *google forms* sent via *direct message* and *whatsaApp*. The research data management technique uses a simple linear regression formula with the SPSS Version.25 program. The results of the study showed that there was a significant influence on the level of political literacy of library science students of UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh by 38%. Based on the results of the research, students' understanding of politics related to politics in the era of the General Election year became effective with the influence of library revitalization. The library can be a reference for information on students' understanding of politics in the era of the General Election. Challenges ahead for libraries include ensuring the sustainability of programs and addressing digital distractions.

Keywords: Revitalization, Library, Political Literacy

Introduction

In the era of the current 4.0 revolution, the political situation in Indonesia is greatly influenced by the existence of various media, both television, print media, and social media that spread political issues packaged with a variety of information. Judging from the perspective of

the diversity of information related to politics in various media centers, it is one of the opportunities for the public to get information. However, the information that is disseminated cannot guarantee that the public is literate in political understanding. This motive is proven by the existence of factual data, that the Indonesian state as a country that has a flawed level of democracy (*flawed democracy*). This statement is evidenced by the existence of the democracy index report in 2022 released by *The Economist Intelligence Unit* (EIU) which gives the fact that Indonesia is ranked 54th out of 167 countries with a democracy index of 6.71%. Indicators in determining the EIU index can be found from the election assessment process and pluralism with a score of 7.92%, government functions and performance with a score of 7.50%, political participation with a score of 6.11%, political culture with a score of 4.38%, and civil liberties with a score of 6.18% (Source Data.Com, 2023).

Political literacy can be interpreted as a concept that generalizes the knowledge, skills and attitudes needed to participate effectively in political life. The Indonesian Survey Institute (LSI) proves that the public's understanding of rights and obligations in politics still shows its low level (Indonesian Survey Institute, 2020). The low literacy related to politics will make hoaxes and political polarization rampant that hinder constructive dialogue in society. The lack of political literacy can make the community uncondusive in choosing the decade of General Elections (Elections). Therefore, the lack of understanding of political literacy can reduce conflicts between communities in voting.

At the population level ahead of the election, especially in the 2024 election era, the level of young voters (generation-Z and millennials) between the ages of 17 and 39 years old has the largest role in the 2024 election. This fact is evident that the data *Centre for Strategic and International Studies* (CSIS), a non-profit policy research institute that focuses on political, economic, and international relations issues, shows that the rate of the upcoming election will reach 60%, in other words the largest number of voters will be from generation Z and Millennials who reach 114 million people (Arin Prajawinanti, 2024). As a smart student, you should have an important understanding of wise selection. In the current election year, students also need to have discussion forums and facilities that provide important information for understanding political literacy.

Based on this phenomenon, the role of libraries can also be involved in providing a broad understanding of information related to political literacy. The library can be used as a discussion room and a collection facility for searching for references for understanding political literacy in the era of election years. One of the efforts to make the library a center of political information for students is that the library can revitalize with the aim of reviving its role and function, discussion space, and the use of library collections. One of the efforts to revitalize the library is to increase access to information by providing diverse and easily accessible reading materials as a reference for basic understanding related to politics. In addition, the library revitalization strategy can be carried out through the development of a collection of reading materials, the use of information technology, and the procurement of literacy activity programs (Nurul A., A., et al., 2024).

At the micro level, library revitalization is becoming increasingly important with challenges related to the morals and ethics of students' understanding of political literacy. According to Everhart, a successful library is one that is able to provide an environment for users who can develop literacy skills and are needed to meet the demands of the 21st century

(Rokmanah, 2023). The increase in library revitalization finds its role, if the library can become a learning center that supports political understanding among students, so that it can build a strong understanding of politics and their participation in social issues in the era of election years. Therefore, libraries can be a reference for information on students' understanding of politics in the era of General Election years.

Relevant previous research was used to strengthen a research activity from a theoretical point of view, namely research conducted by Hari Otang Sasmita in his research "The Democratic Role of National Libraries in Improving Information Literacy Culture During the Covid-19 Pandemic" with the results of the research, the role of libraries can be said to be able to emphasize the political role of libraries as the spearhead of public information literacy, as well as the achievement of literacy democracy that can lead to a stronger Indonesian development (Sasmita, 2022).

Students who are classified as novice voters who are still unstable and emotional will be easily politicized and used as political products by political elites. Therefore, an academic must have a policy in understanding, as well as consume literacy related to politics to become a wise voter. The influence of library revitalization can be used as a good source of reference and a relatively conducive discussion space to be used as a politically literate understanding in the era of the 2024 election year. Further research is needed to explore the extent of the influence of library revitalization on the level of political literacy of students, especially Library Science students of Ar-Raniry State Islamic University Banda Aceh.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Library Revitalization

One of the most important efforts for scholars today, can even be likened to a sea of knowledge in the most important information process at UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh is the existence of a library. The development of today's libraries not only plays a role as a work unit that provides collection reading materials for students and lecturers, but also plays an integral role in providing accessibility that includes information and learning centers through social inclusion activity programs related to political literacy and student discussion forums in exchanging information on the latest political issues.

The understanding of library revitalization is an effort to restore the role and function of libraries in supporting literacy and education. According to the theory of library revitalization, it is transforming the facilities and adequate accessibility to improve the function and role of the library in services, sorting the collection of reading materials, and literacy activities that can be used as an effective information center (Munawarah, 2020). The emergence of various offers of ideas to revitalize libraries, is none other than its existence is the most important integral part of the creation of a literacy culture and the latest sources of ideas that can encourage students' willingness to think rationally.

Political Literacy

The timeline of knowledge of the existence of literacy does not only include reading and writing, but can be used as a person's ability to understand, interpret, and use various forms of information in various contexts (Bakkara, 2024). In the current political context, students are expected to have a high level of political literacy in consuming diverse information. Therefore, it is very important for students to know the aspects of information needed during the general

election. According to Denver and Hands' theory in the writings of Asep Setiawan, political literacy (*political literacy*) is a form of knowledge and understanding of the political process and political issues, an understanding that allows every society to effectively carry out its role as a citizen (Setiawan, 2020). Based on the opinion of the expert, political literacy can be interpreted as an individual's understanding and skills to actively and intelligently participate in the political process.

Research Methodology

The method used in this study uses quantitative methods, with the aim of obtaining comprehensive data, providing an overview in measurable and accurate nominal form. This is reinforced by Sugiyono (2019) who explained that quantitative research is a research method based on the philosophy of positivism to research populations and samples using research instruments. The research method uses a survey method where the researcher distributes questionnaires to collect data. The technique in collecting instructions used in this study is by using *google form* and sent via *direct message* and *whatsaApp*.

The population in this study is all active students of Library Science UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh which totals 517 students. The sampling technique is using *the simple random sampling* method. The sample was determined using the slovin formula with an error rate of 10%, with a sample of 84 people and library *research* or looking directly at the library and looking for literature books that are in accordance with the problems raised, and the information obtained to solve the problem. The data analysis technique uses simple linear regression analysis. Data processing using the IBM SPSS statistics program *tool.25*. The research place was conducted at the Faculty of Adab and Humanities UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh.

Results And Discussion

1. Validity Test

The validity test was carried out to determine the feasibility of each statement item in defining dependent and independent variables. Based on table 1, a data result based on the validity test was obtained by distributing a questionnaire to 20 respondents who were not included in the research sample. The test technique in this study uses *r* calculation from SPSS output version 22 in each of these statements compared to *r* table values for $df = 20 - 2 = 18$, $\alpha = 0.1$ or 10%. The results of the questionnaire showed that the *r* value was calculated $> r$ table (0.378), and there was a significance value of < 0.05 . Therefore, the results of the validity test of 10 statement items were declared valid.

Table 1 Validity Test

No	Item	Variabel	Relation Coefficient (r calculated)	Critical Value 10% (r table)	Information
1	X1	Variable (X) (Library Revitalization)	0,909	0,378	Valid
2	X2		0,716	0,378	Valid
3	X3		0,742	0,378	Valid

4	X4	Variable (Y) (Political Literacy)	0,871	0,378	Valid
5	X5		0,739	0,378	Valid
6	Y1		0,862	0,378	Valid
7	Y2		0,607	0,378	Valid
8	Y3		0,912	0,378	Valid
9	Y4		0,621	0,378	Valid
10	Y5		0,664	0,378	Valid

2. Reliability Test

The reliability test was used to measure the stability and consistency of respondents in answering statements in the questionnaire. To test the reliability in this study, *Cronbach's alpha* with an *alpha* value of 0.60 was used. If the *alpha* value is greater than the output result, then the statement is declared reliable. Conversely, if the *alpha* value is smaller than the output result, then the statement item is unreliable.

Table 2 Reliability Test

Variabel	Number of Statement Items	Cronbach's Alpha	The Critical Values of Cronbach's Alpha	Information
Library Revitalization Variable (X)	5	0,859	0,6	Reliabel
Political Literacy Variable (Y)	5	0,78	0,6	Reliabel

3. Normality Test

The data normality test is carried out as a condition for analysis in conducting hypothesis testing. The data normality test aims to test the regression model of bound variables and independent variables both have normal distributions or not. A good regression model is that it has a normal or near-normal data distribution.

1. Simple Linear Regression Test

The linear regression test obtained a constant value of 13.185 and a regression coefficient of 0.258. The constant has a value of 13.185 which means that if the Library Revitalization variable is constant, then the increase in Election Literacy is 13.185. Library Revitalization (X) is 0.258 which means that if it experiences an increase of 1 unit, it will increase student Political Literacy by 0.258.

Table 3 Simple Linear Regression Test

Coefficientsa					
Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	T
		B	Std. Error	Beta	
1	(Constant)	13,185	1,249		10,558
					,000

	Library Revitalization	,258	,076	,350	3,382	,001
a. Dependent Variable: Political Literacy						

2. Hypothesis Proof

Based on the results of the hypothesis test, it is known that the significant value obtained is 0.001 so that there is an influence of library revitalization on the level of student political literacy.

Table 4 Hypothesis Test
ANOVA

Model	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Itself.
1 Regression	28,101	1	28,101	11,438	.001b
Residual	201,458	82	2,457		
Total	229,560	83			

a. Dependent Variable: Political Literacy

b. Predictors: (Constant), Library Revitalization

3. Coefficient Determination Test

The determination coefficient test has a coefficient value (R) of 0.619. The *output* value of the determination coefficient (R Square) was 0.383 which means that the influence of variable X (Library Revitalization) on variable Y (Political Literacy) was 38% and had a low effect, while the remaining 62% was influenced by other factors that were not studied in this study

Table 5 Determination Coefficient Test
Model Summary

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.619a	.383	.366	1,659

a. Predictors: (Constant), Library Revitalization

DISCUSSION

This study aims to determine the effect of library revitalization on the level of political literacy of active library science students of UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh. This research was conducted on 84 active library science students who were used as respondents in this study. The results of the study showed that there was an influence between library revitalization and the level of political literacy of UIN Ar-Raniry Library Science students which was proven based on the results of the determination test (*R Square*) The variable of library revitalization on the level of student political literacy is 0.383 or equal to 38%, so it can be said that it has an effect.

Therefore, research shows that after revitalization, students have better access to books, journals, and digital materials that discuss political literacy. This research indicates that after the revitalization of the library, students have obtained better sources of information and access to collections related to political knowledge.

It is very urgent for young voters who have an important role as the largest voters to have knowledge of political-related issues. This is seen from several surveys of Generation Z which are projected to provide the largest proportion of voters in the 2024 election (Wardani et al., 2024). With this composition, it can be remembered that related to political issues can also be influenced by the existence of mass media that has information packaged from various sources, in the sense that there are many hoax news that can influence students in consuming information related to politics. Therefore, with the revitalization of libraries that provide interesting programs related to politics and an increase in the provision of collections that are student reading materials that can have an impact on adding knowledge insights to students as a provision to become voters in the 2024 general election period. Political literacy programs designed in the library, such as panel discussions, and seminars, have successfully attracted the attention of students. These activities not only increase their knowledge of political issues but also encourage active participation in discussions.

Conclusion And Recommendation

After conducting research and data analysis related to the influence of library revitalization on the level of political literacy of students of Library Science at Ar-Raniry State Islamic University Banda Aceh, results have been obtained that show that there is an effect of revitalization on the level of student political literacy by 38%. Based on these results, it shows that Library Science students have experienced an increase in their understanding of political literacy by utilizing the results of the influence of library revitalization. This can be seen from the concrete evidence through activity programs related to political understanding and the provision of political-related collections that have influenced students to take advantage of it.

Based on the results of the research, the influence of library revitalization also provides a good forum for students to be used as a place for discussion and avoid hoax news that can degrade students' mindsets in conducting a decade of general elections in 2024. Therefore, the library can be a reference for information on students' understanding of politics in the era of the General Election.

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