

Ethnopedagogy for Early Childhood in the Osing Tribe Banyuwangi Regency

Yuli Tri Andini¹, Aisyah Nur Atika², Oktavian Dwi Tanto³, Senny Weyara
Dienda Saputri⁴

Early Childhood Study Program, Jember University

¹yulitria@unej.ac.id, ²aisyahnuratika@unej.ac.id, ³octaviandwitanto@unej.ac.id,

⁴senny.fkip@unej.ac.id

ABSTRACT

The introduction of learning through local culture is one of the efforts to preserve indigenous cultures, enabling children to experience and participate in activities related to local traditions. Cultural activities contain unique values that can be used as learning tools in schools, both as an introduction and as a habitual practice. Banyuwangi Regency, located in the easternmost part of East Java Province, remains strongly committed to preserving its indigenous cultural heritage, particularly the culture of the Osing Tribe. The Osing Tribe in Banyuwangi has numerous cultural activities that can be integrated into early childhood education, as children actively participate in various cultural events within their community. The purpose of this study is to explore the ethnopedagogy practices among the Osing Tribe in Banyuwangi, specifically in early childhood education. A qualitative descriptive ethnography method was used to observe and understand ethnopedagogy in the learning environment of Kartini Kindergarten in Kemiren Village, Banyuwangi. The study found that there are several learning activities at Kartini Kindergarten that incorporate Osing culture into the education and habituation processes, allowing children to internalize the cultural values of the Osing Tribe. These activities include wearing traditional attire as school uniforms, participating in Banyuwangi traditional dance extracurriculars, dedicating a special day each week to introduce Osing culture through typical Banyuwangi foods, using the Osing language in learning, and engaging in traditional games.

Key Words: *Ethnopedagogy, Osing Tribe, Early Childhood Education*

ABSTRAK

Pengenalan pembelajaran melalui budaya local merupakan salah satu upaya pelestarian budaya asli yang menjadikan anak akan menghayati dan ikut serta dalam kegiatan yang terdapat pada budaya lokal, di dalam kegiatan budaya terdapat nilai-nilai khas yang dapat di jadikan sebagai pembelajaran di sekolah sebagai pengenalan maupun pembiasaan. Kabupaten Banyuwangi merupakan Kabupaten yang terletak di ujung timur Provinsi Jawa Timur yang hingga saat ini masih kental dalam pelestarian adat budaya asli yakni Budaya Suku Osing. Pada Suku Osing Banyuwangi terdapat banyak kegiatan-kegiatan budaya yang dapat diadopsi dalam pembelajaran dan pembiasaan anak usia dini karena anak juga terlibat dalam beberapa kegiatan budaya yang terdapat di suku tersebut. Tujuan Penelitian ini adalah melihat gambaran etnopedagogi di suku osing banyuwangi pada anak usia dini. Metode deskriptif kualitatif etnografi digunakan untuk melihat gambaran etnopedagogi di lingkungan sekolah TK Kartini yang berada di Desa Kemiren Kabupaten Banyuwangi. Terdapat kegiatan pembelajaran yang mengkombinasikan budaya osing dalam pembelajaran dan pembiasaan yang dilakukan di TK Kartini sehingga anak menghayati nilai-nilai budaya asli Osing melalui pakaian adat yang digunakan sebagai seragam, ekstrakurikuler tari asli banyuwangi, menerapkan hari khusus dalam satu minggu menjadi hari khusus pengenalan budaya osing melalui bekal makanan khas Banyuwangi, menggunakan Bahasa osing saat pembelajaran, serta melakukan permainan tradisional.

Kata Kunci: *Etnopedagogi, Suku Osing, Anak Usia Dini*

*Corresponding author: yulitria@unej.ac.id

Department of Early Childhood Teacher Education, Faculty of Education, Universitas Negeri Surabaya.

Email: jp2kgaud@unesa.ac.id

INTRODUCTION

Ethnopedagogy comes from the Greek words *ethos* and *paidagogeos*, which mean knowledge and to guide. In language, it can be interpreted as the science of guiding students based on culture and the implementation of local wisdom (Oktavanti & Ratnasari, 2018). This concept refers to an educational approach that incorporates culture as one of the elements in learning, which includes: 1) multiculturalism, cultural context, experiential-based learning, a holistic approach, and finally, collaborative learning (Wardani, 2024). Furthermore, ethnopedagogy is the actualization of learning through the instillation of local wisdom values from an ethnic group (Abdurrahman, Ariyani, Nurulsari, Maulina, & Sukamto, 2020; Klara, Baktiyar, Sandygul, Raikhan, & Gulzhiyan, 2015; Oktavianti & Ratnasari, 2018). Abubakar (2013:292) explains that local wisdom is a policy based on philosophy, values, ethics, and behaviors that are traditionally used to manage natural resources, people, and culture sustainably. Local wisdom can be explicit or clear knowledge that arises with the community and environment in everyday activities. Therefore, local wisdom varies in each region, depending on the environment and lifestyle needs of each region, which is collectively recognized (Cahyadi, 2019).

Culture is a set of habits practiced by a group of people, and these habits are passed down from generation to generation. These customs emerge in various groups of society, forming a culture that is embraced by that group. Koentjaraningrat states that culture is the entire system of ideas, actions, and works of humans in social life that are made the property of humans through learning (Rahmawati, 2012). Children who grow and develop in a specific cultural environment will form a culture that influences their growth and development, as well as determines their worldview. One of the cultures found in the eastern part of Java Island is the Osing Tribe culture. The Osing Tribe is the indigenous group from Banyuwangi that still exists today. The Osing Tribe is an ethnic group residing in Banyuwangi Regency, East Java. The Osing Tribe is believed to be the descendants of the Blambangan Kingdom, which was once located in the Banyuwangi region. Banyuwangi is home to the Osing people, who use the Osing language as their daily spoken language. However, the use of the Osing language has become increasingly rare. The village of Kemiren in Glagah District is one of the areas where the Osing language and culture are still strong (Arista, 2016). In

Banyuwangi Regency, there is an Osing Tourism Village located in Kemiren Village, Glagah District. Several traditional events are still frequently held every year, such as the Gandrung dance tradition and the Kebo-Keboan ritual (Agung, 2014). The uniqueness of the Osing culture is not only found in the dance and Kebo-Keboan traditions but also in the language, clothing, and customs that are still preserved. To conserve this culture, various cultural festivals are held in Banyuwangi, including the Gandrung Sewu Festival, Rujak Soto, Kebo-Keboan, and the Kuwung Festival, which are held throughout the year. According to Wahyudiono (2018:72), these local wisdom values are also preserved in early childhood education institutions (PAUD) as a learning tool aimed at developing children's understanding of local culture. This learning of local wisdom benefits as an innovative educational approach with value-added innovation (Mukhibat, 2015).

METHOD

The type of research used is qualitative. The approach used is ethnography, aimed at providing a systematic, actual, and accurate description of the facts and characteristics of the phenomena being studied (DT Kependidikan: 2008: 39). Understanding the phenomena is achieved through several observations and in-depth interviews. The research location is at Kartini Kindergarten in Kemiren Village, Glagah District, Banyuwangi Regency. The research was conducted in August-September 2024. The data analysis technique refers to the method of Miles and Huberman (1992).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Kartini Kindergarten in Kemiren Banyuwangi is the only kindergarten in Kemiren Village, which is an Osing Cultural Tourism Village. Until today, the preservation of cultural values remains strong, with the community having a high level of cultural awareness and enthusiasm, as seen from their participation in regular ceremonies such as the "Ider Bumi" (Earth Cleaning) or "Clean Village" ceremony, which aims for the safety of the entire Banyuwangi community. Ider Bumi is held every second day of Syawal (the second day of the Islamic holiday after Ramadan), followed by the "Seblang" ceremony on the seventh day. "Mepe Kasur" is another tradition performed every Suro (the first month of the Javanese calendar), where people take out mattresses

with black and red cloth covers and dry them under the hot sun for a whole day. The tradition of "Mepe Kasur" symbolizes the act of removing sickness. This tradition ends in the afternoon with a gathering called "Ngopi Sepuluhewu," where coffee made by the locals is served on the terraces of homes, and anyone can enjoy it. In addition to these traditions, other cultural practices such as the "Gandrung Dance" (a traditional dance of Banyuwangi), the "Barong Ider Bumi" ritual, "Tumpeng Sewu," and "Mepe Kasur" are still actively practiced. The preservation of Osing culture in Kemiren Village is reflected in various events, making Kartini Kindergarten unique in its ethnopedagogical approach, including the following:

A. Cultural Learning

The process of cultural introduction begins with the use of school uniforms featuring traditional Banyuwangi attire. For girls, this includes a black kebaya kutu baru (traditional blouse) paired with jarik (batik fabric) of the "Gajah Oling" pattern, which is native to Banyuwangi. Boys wear a black beskap (traditional jacket) combined with a udeng (headband) in the same "Gajah Oling" pattern. The second cultural learning activity involves a specific day each week when children are required to bring traditional Osing snacks, such as uceng-ucengan, orog-orog, and tahu walik, and heavier dishes like kesrut, pecel pitik, and other traditional foods. Additionally, every Thursday is designated as "Osing Day," where both the children and staff must use the Osing language and wear Osing cultural attributes.

On weekends, the school participates in a bazaar in Kemiren Village, which serves as both a promotional activity and a contribution to the preservation of Osing culture. The bazaar, held every weekend, offers traditional Osing snacks, with each stall decorated attractively using young coconut leaves and other plants. The school also participates in festivals held in Banyuwangi Regency, including the "Festival Anak Sholeh" (The Festival of Virtuous Children), "Barong Ider Bumi," "Tumpeng Sewu," and "Mepe Kasur."

B. Extracurricular Activities

Extracurricular activities are eagerly anticipated by the children at Kartini Kindergarten. These activities include traditional dance lessons, specifically the "Gandrung Dance," a traditional art form of Banyuwangi that is still popular today. One unique aspect of the Gandrung Dance is the combination of dynamic movements

and diverse musical instruments, blending Javanese and Balinese cultural elements. Most of the people in Kemiren Village are skilled in performing both the Gandrung and Barong dances, with Gandrung being especially well-known. It is a regular feature in Banyuwangi's events, including the annual "Gandrung Sewu" festival organized by the Banyuwangi Regency Government.

This extracurricular activity is held on Saturdays, with dance teachers from the school and Barong dance instructors from the local community assisting in the lessons.

C. Habituation of Osing Culture-Based Learning

The habituation of Osing culture-based learning begins with morning exercises, specifically a traditional aerobics routine called "Sejolaciba" (Senam Joget Lare Cilik Banyuwangi). "Sejolaciba" is accompanied by music unique to Banyuwangi. The lyrics of the song not only introduce local tourist destinations but also contain moral messages for the children, such as the importance of not eating indiscriminately and of being diligent in worship and study for a happy life. The second activity, every Thursday, is designated as "Osing Day," during which both children and teachers must use the Osing language for all learning and non-learning activities. Although Osing is the daily language spoken in Kemiren, many younger parents have shifted to using Indonesian as their primary language, causing many children to mix Indonesian with Osing. The school therefore decided to dedicate a special day for the in-depth learning of the Osing language.

During break time, the children share meals from home. However, every Thursday, they are required to bring traditional Banyuwangi food as part of an effort to preserve the culinary traditions of the Osing people. Traditional foods from Banyuwangi include tahu walik, orog-orong, uceng-uengan, kesrut, kelor bening, pepes oling (sidat), pecel pitik, and others. Before implementing this rule, the school held discussions with parents to reach an agreement.

Traditional games are also introduced by the teachers, such as engrang bathok kelapa (a game using coconut shells tied to ropes as stilts) and estafet dingklik (a relay game involving small stools). Engrang bathok kelapa helps stimulate the children's gross motor skills, social-emotional development, and cognitive abilities. The estafet dingklik game involves children passing two small stools in a relay, where each child must step on a stool to move forward until the last child has finished.

Based on the results above, it can be concluded that through the introduction and instillation of local culture starting from the foundational level of education, this should be given special attention in designing engaging learning activities that introduce local wisdom to children. Therefore, if educators understand how to integrate local wisdom into learning activities, children will easily recognize the potential of their ethnic cultural heritage, such as the Osing tribe culture, actively participate in preserving it, and feel proud to acknowledge it as part of their national identity.

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