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## Komunikasi dalam Berbagai Bahasa dalam Interaksi Sosial Mahasiswa Teologi di Sekolah Tinggi Teologi di Jakarta

# The Importance of Communication in Multiple Languages in the Social Interaction of Theology Students at the Theological College in Jakarta

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Abstract: This study aims to study communication in various languages in the social interactions of Theology students at the Theological College in Jakarta. The focus of this research is to explore how students can communicate in various languages, namely Indonesian, English, and regional languages (Javanese, Batak, Banjar, and Sundanese). In addition, this study also aims to identify how students and the community can establish active and comfortable communication in conveying ideas and ideas. Lastly, this research will study the views of the people in Jakarta, especially the people on the outskirts of Jakarta such as the borders of Bekasi, Depok, Tangerang, and Bogor Cities, towards the presence of Christian Theology students in contributing to society. This research method involves collecting data through observation, interviews, and document analysis. The data obtained will be analyzed critically to gain a deep understanding of student's communication skills in various languages, their efforts to build active and comfortable communication, as well as public perceptions of the role and contribution of Christian Theology students in Jakarta. The results of this research are expected to provide valuable insights into the development of Theology education, crosscultural understanding, and the social contribution of Theology students in society. Through a better understanding of the importance of communication in multiple languages in the social interactions of Theology students, steps can be taken to improve the quality of education, communication skills, and social contributions of future Theology students. In this context, cooperation between educational institutions, the community, and the government in Jakarta is very important to create a conducive environment for the development of theology students' communication skills in various languages and establish harmonious relations between students and the community.

Abstrak: Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mempelajari komunikasi dalam berbagai bahasa dalam interaksi sosial mahasiswa Teologi di Sekolah Tinggi Teologi di Jakarta. Fokus penelitian ini adalah untuk mengeksplorasi bagaimana mahasiswa dapat berkomunikasi dalam berbagai bahasa, yaitu bahasa Indonesia, bahasa Inggris, dan bahasa daerah (Jawa, Batak, Banjar, dan Sunda). Selain itu, penelitian ini juga bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi bagaimana mahasiswa dan masyarakat dapat menjalin komunikasi yang aktif dan nyaman dalam menyampaikan ide dan gagasan. Terakhir, penelitian ini akan mempelajari pandangan masyarakat di Jakarta, terutama masyarakat di pinggiran Jakarta seperti perbatasan Kota Bekasi, Depok, Tangerang, dan Bogor, terhadap kehadiran mahasiswa Teologi Kristen dalam memberikan kontribusi kepada masyarakat. Metode penelitian ini melibatkan pengumpulan data melalui observasi, wawancara, dan analisis dokumen. Data yang diperoleh akan dianalisis secara kritis untuk mendapatkan pemahaman yang mendalam tentang kemampuan komunikasi mahasiswa dalam berbagai bahasa, upaya mereka dalam membangun komunikasi yang aktif dan nyaman, serta persepsi masyarakat terhadap peran dan kontribusi mahasiswa Teologi Kristen di Jakarta. Hasil penelitian ini diharapkan dapat memberikan wawasan yang berharga dalam pengembangan pendidikan Teologi, pemahaman lintas budaya, serta kontribusi sosial mahasiswa Teologi di masyarakat. Melalui pemahaman yang lebih baik tentang pentingnya komunikasi dalam berbagai bahasa dalam interaksi sosial mahasiswa Teologi, langkah-

langkah dapat diambil untuk meningkatkan kualitas pendidikan, kemampuan komunikasi, dan kontribusi sosial mahasiswa Teologi di masa depan. Dalam konteks ini, kerjasama antara institusi pendidikan, masyarakat, dan pemerintah di Jakarta sangat penting untuk menciptakan lingkungan yang kondusif bagi pengembangan kemampuan berkomunikasi mahasiswa Teologi dalam berbagai bahasa dan menjalin hubungan yang harmonis antara mahasiswa dan masyarakat.

Kata Kunci: multi-bahasa, komunikasi, interaksi sosial

#### INTRODUCTION

In this increasingly complex and multicultural globalization era, the ability to communicate across languages is very important. In a society with various cultures and languages, the ability to communicate in various languages is a necessity that cannot be ignored. Especially for Theology students at the Theological College in Jakarta, good communication skills in various languages will have a significant impact on their social interactions. This study aims to understand how Theology students can communicate in various languages, including Indonesian, and English, as well as regional languages such as Javanese, Batak, Banjar, and Sundanese. The ability to communicate in these languages will enable students to interact effectively with the community around their campus. With broad language skills, students will be able to adapt to a culturally and linguistically diverse environment and establish good relationships with the surrounding community.

Effective communication is the main key to producing good understanding between individuals of different cultural and linguistic backgrounds. In the context of Theology students, the ability to convey thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively is very important in forming a better understanding of their religious beliefs and values to the surrounding community. Theology students need to develop communication skills that enable them to convey their ideas appropriately, respect the views of others, and build constructive dialogue. In carrying out their social duties, Theology students are expected to play an active role in building a better society through activities such as teaching religion, developing social programs, and participating in religious and social activities in the surrounding community. Through this research, it is hoped that the community will be able to see the positive role and contribution made by Theology students, as well as strengthen the relationship between students and the community in achieving the same goal, namely sustainable social development. This research will involve data collection methods through observation, interviews, and document analysis. The data obtained will be analyzed critically to gain a deep understanding of student's communication skills in various languages, their efforts to

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build active and comfortable communication, as well as public perceptions of the role and contribution of Christian Theology students in Jakarta.

With a better understanding of the importance of communication in multiple languages in the social interactions of Theology students, steps can be taken to improve the educational quality, communication skills, and social contributions of future Theology students. In order to achieve this goal, cooperation between educational institutions, the community, and the government in Jakarta is very important to create a conducive environment for the development of theology students' communication skills in various languages and establish harmonious relations between students and the community.

#### **METHOD**

This research will use a qualitative approach with a descriptive research design. This method will be used to gain an in-depth understanding of communication in various languages in the social interactions of Theology students at the Theological College in Jakarta, as well as their efforts to build active and comfortable communication in conveying ideas and ideas. In addition, this method will also be used to explore public views on the contributions of Christian Theology students in Jakarta. The population in this study were students of Theology who were currently studying at the Theological College in Jakarta.

The research sample will be selected using a purposive sampling technique, namely selecting a sample based on certain criteria that are relevant to the research objective. The sample will consist of students from various generations and different cultural backgrounds. Data will be collected through several techniques, namely:

- 1. Observation: Researchers will observe the social interactions of Theology students in the campus environment. Observations were made to gain an understanding of how students communicate in various languages and their social interactions in everyday contexts.
- 2. Interview: The interview will be conducted using an interview guide that has been prepared beforehand. Interviews will be conducted with Theology students to explore their experiences in communicating in various languages and their efforts to build active and comfortable communication. In addition, interviews will also be conducted with people in Jakarta, especially people on the outskirts of Jakarta, to get their views on the contribution of Christian Theology students to society.
- 3. Document Analysis: Relevant documents, such as lecture notes, papers, and student

activity reports, will be analyzed to obtain more complete information about students' communication skills in various languages and their contribution to society.

Data obtained through observation, interviews, and document analysis will be analyzed using descriptive analysis. Data will be organized, categorized, and analyzed systematically to answer research questions. The validity and reliability of data will be guaranteed through data triangulation, namely by comparing and matching data from various sources. In addition, researchers will also use member-checking techniques, namely showing research results to participants to verify the correctness and suitability of research findings. By using this method, it is hoped that this research can provide a comprehensive understanding of communication in various languages in the social interactions of Theology students, as well as explore community views about the contributions of Christian Theology students in Jakarta.

#### **RESULTS**

The results of this study indicate that there is a significant need and urgency in developing the communication skills of Theology students in various languages and establishing harmonious relationships with the people in Jakarta. Several important findings that support the urgency of this research are as follows:

- 1. The Need for Multilingual Communication: Theology students at the Theological College in Jakarta face a multicultural and multilingual environment. In their daily social interactions, they need to communicate in various languages, including Indonesian, English, and regional languages such as Javanese, Batak, Banjar, and Sundanese. The results of the study show that students feel an urgent need to develop multilingual communication skills in order to facilitate effective interactions with fellow students and the surrounding community.
- 2. Challenges in Communication: This research reveals that Theology students face several challenges in communicating in various languages. Some of these challenges include differences in dialects, differences in the level of fluency in certain languages, and obstacles in understanding typical vocabulary or expressions in regional languages. This condition indicates the need to strengthen students' communication skills in these languages.
- 3. The Importance of Active and Comfortable Communication: Theology students are

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expected to be able to develop active and comfortable communication in conveying ideas and thoughts. The results showed that students felt it was important to be able to express their thoughts clearly and effectively. In addition, they also realize the importance of listening empathetically and respecting the views of others in establishing harmonious communication. This underscores the urgency to pay attention to the development of the interpersonal communication skills of Theology students.

4. Community Perception: The findings of this study also provide insight into how the people in Jakarta, especially the people on the outskirts of Jakarta such as the borders of the cities of Bekasi, Depok, Tangerang, and Bogor, see the presence of Christian Theology students. Most people recognize the positive role and contribution of Theology students in making contributions to society. However, there are also perceptions that need attention, such as a lack of understanding of the role of Theology students in social contributions and the lack of opportunities to interact with them.

Therefore, this study shows the urgency in strengthening the relationship between Theology students and the surrounding community, as well as increasing people's understanding of their contributions.

Based on the results of this study, it can be concluded that there is an urgent need to develop the communication skills of Theology students in multiple languages and strengthen their relationships with society. This urgency encourages the importance of attention and collaborative efforts between educational institutions, the community, and the government in creating a conducive environment for the development of multilingual communication and the social contribution of Theology students in Jakarta.

Apart from that, in multi-language studies, this research produces relevant findings related to the application of multi-language and social communication of theology students at the Theological College in Jakarta. Some of the significant research results are as follows:

1. Multilingual Ability: Theology students demonstrate good proficiency in communicating in multiple languages, including Indonesian, English, and regional languages such as Javanese, Batak, Banjar, and Sundanese. They are able to adapt well in the context of communication using these languages. This ability helps students interact with fellow students who come from various cultural and linguistic backgrounds. In addition, students also feel more confident in communicating with people around the campus who use local languages.

- 2. Implementation of Active and Comfortable Communication: Theology students have a high awareness of the importance of active and comfortable communication in conveying ideas and thoughts. They use a variety of communication strategies, such as listening attentively, asking questions to clarify understanding, and expressing thoughts in a clear and structured way. This creates an inclusive and open communication environment, where ideas and ideas can be easily conveyed and understood by all parties.
- 3. Community Perceptions of the Contribution of Theology Students: Communities in Jakarta, especially those on the outskirts of Jakarta such as the borders of Bekasi, Depok, Tangerang, and Bogor Cities, see the presence of Christian Theology students as valuable contributors to society. Theology students are considered to have in-depth theological knowledge and positive moral values. Their role in contributing to society is recognized and valued. However, there are also perceptions that need attention, such as a limited understanding of their contribution outside the campus environment. Therefore, greater efforts are needed to broaden people's understanding of the role and contribution of Christian Theology students in society.

Based on these findings, it can be concluded that the application of multi-language and good social communication is very important for Theology students in establishing effective interactions with fellow students and the community around the campus. Theology students need to continue to develop their multilingual communication skills, as well as improve interpersonal communication skills to ensure active and comfortable communication in conveying ideas and thoughts. In addition, efforts need to be made to expand public understanding of the contributions of Christian Theology students outside the campus environment. Thus, Theology students can become more effective and competitive agents of change in making a positive contribution to society.

#### **DISCUSSION**

## A. Multi-Language Implementation

In this study, the application of multi-language is a very important aspect of the social interaction of Theology students at the Theological College in Jakarta. Students demonstrate good ability to communicate in multiple languages, including Indonesian, English, and regional languages such as Javanese, Batak, Banjar, and Sundanese. This

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ability allows students to interact with fellow students from various cultural and linguistic backgrounds. By mastering various languages, students can easily communicate with the community around the campus who use local languages. This multi-language application encourages the creation of an inclusive communication environment and strengthens relations between students and fellow students and the community around the campus.

## B. Active and Comfortable Social Communication

The results of the study show that Theology students have a high awareness of the importance of active and comfortable communication in conveying ideas and concepts. Students use effective communication strategies, such as listening attentively, asking questions to clarify understanding, and expressing thoughts in a clear and structured manner. This active and comfortable communication creates a harmonious and open communication environment, where all parties feel valued and can contribute optimally. In this context, Theology students also act as agents of change who are able to create productive and respectful communication, both among fellow students and in interactions with the community around the campus.

## C. Need and Urgency

This research shows that there is a significant need and urgency related to multilingual communication skills and social communication among Theology students. Students face a multicultural and multilingual environment, so the ability to communicate in various languages is important in establishing effective interactions. In addition, students also realize the importance of active and comfortable communication in conveying ideas and ideas and understanding the views of others with empathy. The urgency of this research can be seen in the effort to meet the needs of students in developing better multi-language communication skills and social communication skills. Apart from that, this research also highlights the importance of strengthening the relationship between Theology students and the community around the campus, especially the people on the outskirts of Jakarta such as the borders of Bekasi, Depok, Tangerang, and Bogor cities. By increasing public understanding of the contribution of Theology students to society, it is hoped that a positive synergy will be created between students and the community in making wider social contributions.

In order to meet this need and urgency, it is important for related parties, such as

educational institutions, the community, and the government, to work together in creating an environment that supports the development of multilingual communication and social communication for Theology students. These efforts include developing a curriculum that pays attention to the mastery of various languages, facilities that support using local languages, social communication training, and collaborative programs between students and the community. Thus, Theology students can play an active role in making a positive contribution to the people of Jakarta, especially in the suburbs such as the borders of Bekasi, Depok, Tangerang, and Bogor.

## **CONCLUSION**

In this research, an in-depth analysis has been carried out regarding the application of multi-language and social communication in the social interactions of Theology students at the Theological College in Jakarta. Theology students have good skills in communicating in various languages, including Indonesian, and English, as well as regional languages such as Javanese, Batak, Banjar, and Sundanese. This allows them to interact well in a multicultural and multilingual environment. Students and the community can establish active and comfortable communication in conveying ideas and ideas. Theology students have a high awareness of the importance of effective communication, such as listening attentively, asking questions to clarify understanding, and expressing thoughts in a clear and structured manner.

In a multicultural and multilingual environment like Jakarta, there is a significant need and urgency regarding multilingual and social communication skills. Theology students need to have communication skills in various languages to establish effective interactions with fellow students and the community around the campus. There is a need to develop the multilingual communication skills and social communication skills of Theology students through a holistic educational approach. This can be done through curriculum development that pays attention to the mastery of various languages, facilities that support using local languages, social communication training, and collaborative programs between students and the community.

In creating an environment that supports the development of multilingual and social communication skills, it is important for educational institutions, communities, and governments to work together. This effort will strengthen the relationship between Theology students and the surrounding community, as well as increase public understanding of the

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positive contribution that Christian Theology students can make in society. Through the application of good multi-language and social communication skills, Theology students can play an active role in making a positive contribution to the people of Jakarta, especially in the suburbs such as the borders of Bekasi, Depok, Tangerang, and Bogor.

This will strengthen the role of Theology students in building an inclusive and sustainable society. Thus, this study emphasizes the importance of developing the multilingual communication and social communication skills of Theology students as well as collaboration between various parties to create a supportive environment.

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