

Quality Education Plays A Central Role in Shaping A Superior and Competitive Generation

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Abstract. Quality education plays a very important central role in shaping a superior and competitive generation. A quality education provides individuals with the necessary knowledge, skills and attitudes to face the challenges of a complex and globally connected modern world. In addition, quality education also shapes character, understanding of global issues, encourages innovation and improves quality of life. Therefore, serious investment in quality education is essential to create an excellent and competitive generation for the future. In this article, we will explore some of the reasons why quality education has a significant impact in shaping an excellent and competitive generation.

Keywords: Quality Education; Superior Generation; and Competitiveness.

INTRODUCTION

Education is the pillar of a nation where the nation will advance when the education system is qualified and directed. Indeed, the education sector is not the only sector that can advance the nation. However, education is one of the main and most important sectors that participate in advancing a nation. Given, the world of education as a means of shaping, forging, and exploring the various potentials of students as the next generation of the nation. The purpose of education is clearly the formation of superior, competitive and globally competitive human resources. No matter how advanced the economy of a nation, no matter how established the politics of a nation and no matter how much spending income a nation has, if its people are far from progress in the field of education, the nation will eventually falter and even disintegrate (Muvid, 2022).

Seeing the important role of human resources, it is necessary to make efforts to improve and improve existing human resources and efforts to form quality human resources. Therefore, education is one of the elements that plays a role in creating quality human resources, this is in accordance with the mandate of article 3 of Law number 20 of 2003 concerning the national education system which states that the purpose of national education is to create or develop the potential of participants.

students to become human beings who are faithful, devoted to God Almighty, have noble character, healthy, knowledgeable, creative, capable, independent and democratic and responsible (Mantiri, 2019).

In general, there are two orientations of education in nation building, namely individual orientation and community orientation. Individual orientation, education plays a role in the formation of educated people, namely through the process of developing their potential. The abilities possessed by educated people are a means for self-understanding and the environment, adaptation efforts and participation in change, the main actors for change, and have a predictive and anticipatory orientation. Thus, educated people can be rolemodels for others and have a role in building society. For this reason, educated human beings must have participatory excellence for the realisation of comprehensive social transformation.

As for community orientation, education has three main roles, namely as a conservative agent, innovative agent, and agent of change. As a conservative agent, education is operationally practical through learning activities that are oriented towards the cultivation and preservation of indigenous socio-cultural values that have resilience and resilience. Thus, the community will have an identity in responding to globalisation. As an innovative agent, education has a role in developing knowledge, disseminating, socialising and applying it. Through its role, education will produce a community of learners who are expressed by being fond of seeking information, using and communicating it. As an agent of change, education has consequences for the application of educational innovation products, so that education becomes a catalyst for social transformation. Education is not only orientated towards the present, but is dynamic and

anticipatory of change (Ningrum, 2009).

The young generation is a valuable asset for the future of a nation. In an era dominated by advances in technology and knowledge, a quality generation becomes an irreplaceable driving force in fuelling a country's growth and progress. Quality education is not just about imparting knowledge, but also involves developing the skills, attitudes and values needed to cope with an ever-changing world. Quality education provides a solid foundation for young people to develop broad and deep knowledge in various fields, such as science, maths, humanities and technology. In addition, a good education also involves the formation of intellectual and practical skills such as problem-solving, creativity, collaboration and effective communication. By having this knowledge and skills, the younger generation can better face global competition, adapt quickly to changes, and have high competitiveness in an increasingly competitive labour market.

The quality of education is important to produce Indonesia's golden generation in 2045. That means, education is the main key for a country to excel in global competition. Education is considered as the most strategic field to realise national welfare. Intelligent and characterful human resources are a prerequisite for the formation of a high civilisation (Dewanti, 2022). In addition, quality education also helps young people understand global issues and appreciate cultural diversity. In the era of globalisation, it is important for individuals to have a good understanding of the different cultures, customs and values that exist in the world. Quality education involves learning about universal values, cross-cultural experiences, and cross-cultural communication skills. This enables the younger generation to interact well in a multicultural environment, appreciate diversity and establish harmonious relationships with people from different backgrounds. Thus, serious investment in quality education is crucial to ensure that young people are highly competitive, able to cope with change and make meaningful contributions in an increasingly complex society and world.

METHODS

Research on the role of quality education in shaping a superior and competitive generation uses a qualitative approach. Qualitative research is used to reveal the descriptive power of

information about what they do, and what they experience on the research focus. Qualitative research has characteristics including: scientific, human as an instrument, using qualitative methods, inductive data analysis, descriptive, more concerned with process than results, focus, criteria for data validity, temporary research design, and research results are negotiated and agreed upon (Moleong, 2018).

The data collection technique uses a literature study, which is a method used to collect data or sources related to the topic raised in a study. Literature studies can be obtained from various sources, journals, documentation books, the internet and libraries. This research is basically a literature study that shows the flexibility of the researcher's knowledge of the material discussed (Sholahuddin,

2021). This data collection method involves reviewing and analysing the literature and previous studies that have been conducted on quality education and its impact on young people. Researchers may collect articles, books, research reports and other theoretical sources to gain a comprehensive understanding of the topic under study.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Low Quality of Education is the Cause of the Crisis in Human Resources

Education plays a very important role in improving superior and competitive human resources. Given that the current era is increasingly penetrating forward, which automatically affects economic development. So, it is fitting if the job field requires human resources who are truly competent to work together. The factors causing the low quality of education are the cause of the human resource crisis.

1. Unequal Education in Indonesia

One of the causes of the lack of quality human resources is unequal education. As we all know, education has been focussed more on Java. Although schools have been provided on each island, it has not been running optimally as well as schools on Java Island. Both in terms of infrastructure and teaching staff. In fact, many teachers outside Java have to travel kilometres and miles over extreme terrain to get to school and teach. And it can be seen that many of the students outside Java Island choose to migrate and study in cities in Java Island.

If the equitable development of national

education is truly promoted, then there will be no such thing as advanced schools and non-advanced schools, favourite and non-favourite schools, luxury and non-luxury schools and other labels. All will be equal, and parents will also not sort out which schools are advanced and not advanced for their children. So, in addition to being evenly distributed in the field of education, it will also be evenly distributed in the acceptance of each new student. This will eliminate the unrest in every new school year for some schools that need new students, which in this case is experienced by many schools; private madrasah (Muvid, 2022).

2. Low Awareness of Demanding Knowledge

The low quality of human resources can also come from the community itself. Where there is still low awareness to study. There are still many students who think that education is not a necessity for them. This can occur due to several factors. It can be due to the assumption that school is a waste of time and adds to the burden and pressure of having to study. And it can also be due to economic problems, where parents feel heavy with life dependents and added to school fees. It is well known that there are still many children who drop out of school and are forced to work without being equipped with qualified *skills* or abilities.

So, this is what limits them from being able to get a decent job with a suitable income. Moreover, everyone's character is different. There are people who have the money and ability to go to school, but their fighting spirit in learning is not high. There are also those who do not have the money, but still struggle to be able to go to school by doing some work. And of course there are also people who have the money and enthusiasm to continue to get the highest education possible to realise their dreams.

Shaping a Superior and Competitive Generation Through Quality Education

Quality education is a key factor in shaping a superior and competitive generation. In the era of globalisation and rapid technological advancement, competition in various aspects of life is getting tougher. Therefore, it is important for a country to have an education system that is able to produce individuals who are ready to face challenges and able to compete at the global level. A quality education does not only focus on imparting academic knowledge alone, but also involves the development of skills, attitudes and values necessary for success in everyday life and professional careers. The next generation must

have a strong foundation of knowledge in various disciplines such as maths, science, humanities and technology. They should also be equipped with intellectual skills such as problem solving, critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and effective communication.

In addition, quality education also involves good character building. The superior generation must have ethical values, integrity, responsibility, discipline, and a positive attitude towards others. They should be able to adapt to change, have the ability to work in teams, and have a high work ethic. Strong character and good work ethics are essential to produce individuals with integrity and positive contributions to society. Furthermore, quality education must be able to prepare young people to face global challenges. In an increasingly globally connected era, the next generation must have an understanding of global issues and the ability to adapt in a multicultural environment. They must be able to appreciate cultural diversity, have a deep understanding of universal values, and have effective communication skills across cultures.

It is important for a country to invest in quality education to form a superior and competitive generation. A quality education will give young people the necessary tools to face global competition, adapt to rapid change and make a positive contribution to community and nation building. Quality education requires a holistic and integrated approach in the following two areas:

1. Quality Education Provides a Solid Foundation for the Development of Individual Potentials

Through a correct and good educational process, the ideals are believed to be realised in the reality of human life. In education, there is a process of developing human potential and the process of inheriting culture. Education is an activity that involves many individuals who behave educationally. This behaviour is manifested by anyone involved in education, such as educators, students, education managers, education administrators, education planners, education researchers, and the educational environment (Amaliyah & Rahmat, 2021).

Potential is a basic ability that has not yet been revealed. Every human being has the potential to develop themselves differently. For this disclosure, a condition outside of himself is needed. Educational institutions are formal institutions that have the main task of revealing and developing the potential of each learner,

therefore in coaching and evaluating students should use an individual approach, not generalised, (Masni, 2018). Therefore, potential can be formulated from the overall ability that exists in learners, which allows it to develop and be realised in reality. Between one learner and another does not have the same potential. One is sharper of mind, or finer of feeling, or stronger of will or more sturdy, robust of body than the other.

Developing the potential of learners is a very important effort in education, even being the essence of educational efforts, (Nurhasanah, 2017). To develop the potential of learners, it is necessary to know and understand in advance what potential is inherent in them. Learners have not fully developed and used the potential that exists in themselves. This happens because they have not or do not even know their potential and the obstacles in developing their potential. To provide understanding and develop the potential of learners, appropriate assistance is needed.

Quality education plays a very important role in providing a solid foundation for the development of individual potential. Each individual has unique talents, interests and potentials, and quality education enables them to explore, develop and optimise these potentials. Quality education involves the provision of comprehensive and relevant knowledge, the development of required skills, and the formation of positive attitudes and values. Through a purposeful educational process, individuals can develop intellectual abilities, creativity, problem-solving, critical thinking and effective communication skills. They are also taught to have good work ethics, social responsibility, self-confidence and teamwork.

Quality education also plays an important role in opening doors of opportunity. Through fair and equitable access to quality education, individuals from different backgrounds and social groups can have equal opportunities to develop their potential. Quality education helps fight social and opportunity gaps, and enables individuals to achieve a better and more successful life. In addition, quality education also helps individuals to grow and develop personally. Through a good education, individuals learn to recognise and appreciate themselves, develop self-confidence and face challenges with confidence. It also gives them the opportunity to explore their interests and talents, develop new hobbies and interests, and broaden their horizons in various aspects of life.

2. Education Based on Excellence Taking into Account Technological Developments and Global Trends

Technological progress is something that cannot be avoided in this life, because technological progress will run in accordance with scientific progress. Every innovation is created to provide positive benefits for human life. Technology also provides many conveniences, as well as a new way of doing human activities. Humans have also enjoyed many benefits brought by technological innovations that have been produced in the last decade. In the current era of globalisation, mastery of technology has become a prestige and an indicator of a country's progress. Countries are said to be developed if they have a high level of technological mastery, while countries that cannot adapt to technological advances are often referred to as failed states (Ngafifi, 2014).

The development of communication and information technology is a trend that cannot be dammed and unstoppable. The era of globalisation has ushered in developments in various aspects of human life. The presence of communication and information technology with a myriad of sophistication and convenience it brings can lead humans to an order that has a better quality and standard of living. Therefore, an equal understanding of this technology is the basis for the totality of society to be able to enter the era of globalisation. The use of technology without knowledge and ethics will be difficult to provide benefits in people's lives. Conversely, knowledge of a field without the use of technology will only result in a long and tiring endeavour (Ahmad, 2012).

Education that relies on excellence and takes into account technological developments and global trends is an important key in preparing the younger generation to face the challenges of the evolving modern world. In the globally connected digital age, rapid technological changes and trends have significantly altered the education landscape. Therefore, it is important for the education system to adapt to these changes and steer education in a relevant and innovative direction. Technological developments have brought about changes in the way humans learn, communicate and work. Education that is centred on excellence must take into account the role of

technology as an effective learning tool and utilise it to its full potential. Technologies such as computers, the internet, mobile devices and online learning platforms have provided greater

access to information and interactive learning. By utilising these technologies, education can be tailored to individual learning styles and enable learners to develop digital skills that are essential in an increasingly connected world of work.

The world today faces challenges and opportunities that are global in nature, such as the industrial revolution 4.0, climate change, sustainability issues, and complex social challenges. Quality education must prepare young people to understand and address these challenges. This involves providing knowledge on important global issues, such as peace, cultural diversity, human rights, and the skills to work collaboratively with people from different backgrounds. In addition, education based on excellence must also be responsive to trends in the world of work. Rapid changes in the economy and industry require relevant and *up to date* skills. Education should prepare learners with skills needed in the labour market, such as technical skills, creativity, problem-solving, effective communication, and the ability to adapt to rapid change. By paying attention to these trends, education can ensure that young people are highly competitive and can actively contribute to an increasingly competitive world of work.

CONCLUSIONS

Quality education in shaping a superior and competitive generation requires a holistic and integrated approach. *Firstly*, quality education provides a solid foundation for the development of individual potential. By providing equitable access to quality education, every individual has the opportunity to learn and develop according to their talents and interests. In this context, the advantage of education lies in its inclusive and learner-centred approach, which takes into account individual needs and differences. In this way, education can help unlock the best potential of each individual, creating a more diverse, innovative and highly competitive society. *Second*, education based on excellence pays attention to technological developments and global trends. Education should be able to keep up with advances in technology and

integrate it into the learning process. In the digital age, excellent education will utilise technological advancements to provide interactive, collaborative and personalised learning experiences. This enables learners to

develop skills relevant to the future world of work, such as programming, data analysis, creativity skills, and critical thinking skills.

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