# IMPROVING COMMUNITY READING INTEREST THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC LIBRARY IN SUSUKAN VILLAGE OF PARAKAN JATI, BOJONGGEDE DISTRICT, BOGOR REGENCY, WEST JAVA

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**Abstract** - This service activity for society with title 'Upgrading reading society's interest with build public library in Susukan Village, District Bojong Gede, Bogor city. Will be held for 10 years by collaborate with two mitra, Karang Taruna Teenager, and women in RT 03 RW 05, Susukan Village. Mitra condition with amount of densely populated environment and middle down economic living, and dont have a public library, made this service as solution. Upgrading teenager karang taruna skill with this service go to make them as a manager and library staff, and then for women go to be a motivator and feedback source for public library development. This public general 'Rizanmila' has no fee (free) for everyone provide a lot of books, not only knowledge (66 books) but also religion book (38 books) and another books (29 books). It makes the total of book is 233 and go to be increase time by time. The attendant is 207 people which is dominate by kids with age range 8 till 15. Female with education range Junior High School till Senior High School. And the most favourite books is a story book, knowledge based and religion. By this condition we still need a charity a lot of books to prevent boring situation and increase the books variety in this public library. This library existence go to give a good benefit, not only for upgrading society reading interest, but also create an idea and trigger attendant creativity by activity such as culinary business, handicraft and another commercial activity in other to upgrading their business skill.

Keywords: Public general, reading interest, Rizanmila

# INTRODUCTION

The progress of a nation is greatly influenced by the condition of the nation both in terms of political, economic, socio-cultural and security of the nation. The condition of the community greatly affects the condition of the nation. One of the conditions what is meant is the level of education. Increasing the level of education can be done through various channels, both formal and informal. The level of education greatly influences the quality of society owned by a nation and it is very important to supports the development of the nation. A good level of education also affects the standard of living of the community, especially in terms of economic well-being and life. The better the level of education they have will tend to have a good level of economic life too.

According to Wirawan (2015), "The state is called advanced and developed if the population or the community has a high reading interest as evidenced by the number of books they published and the number of libraries they have in their country." If we talk about reading interest, it has often been written in various mass media and it is also often talked about and discussed in seminar, but this topic is still very interesting to talk about, this is because up to this moment the increase in the public's interest in reading still continues in place even though the effort has been carried out by the government assisted by certain parties that are closely related to people's reading interest, such as Teachers, Librarians, Authors, Mass Media and the Book Loves Movement. In fact, if we look closely at the publication of magazines and newspapers, in the last ten years the number of names / titles has greatly increased.

The more publishing newspapers and magazines necessarily, it will have an impact on increasing reading interest in books. It's just a pity, this reading interest is only limited to reading public references

to newspapers and magazines. As a community, especially the education community we must ask, why is this happening or what is the cause so that the reading interest of the Indonesian people is said to be low and walks in place?

# **Factors that Support and Inhibit Reading Interest**

Furthermore, Wirawan (2015) states that there are several factors that influence that can prevent people from loving and enjoying books as a source of information like reading newspapers and magazines, namely:

- 1. The learning system in Indonesia has not made students / college students have to read books more than what is taught and find the information or knowledge more than what is taught in class.
- 2. The amount of TV entertainment and games at home or outside the home that make the attention of children or adults to stay away from books. Actually, with the development of internet technology will have an impact on increasing the reading interest of our society, because the internet is a visual tool that can be synonymized with more uptudate information sources, but this is addressed differently because most of what is sought on the internet is visual that is less appropriate for children's consumption.
- 3. There are many of entertainment places such as recreational parks, karaoke, malls, supermarkets etc.
- 4. Reading culture is still not inherited by our ancestors, it is seen from the habits of mothers who often tell their children before their children sleep and this is only applied verbally and it is not accustomed to achieving knowledge through reading.
- 5. Mothers are preoccupied with various activities at home / office and help find additional income for the family, so the time to read is minimal.
- 6. Books felt by the general public are very expensive and so the number of libraries is still small compared to the population and it sometimes far away.

According to document of WSIS (2015), a human centered, inclusive and development-oriented Information Society, where everyone can create, access, use and share information and knowledge, which enables individuals, communities. At the scale of an individual, empowerment represents one's capacity to gain control over personal life and to promote changes in power structures that improve one's well-being (2012). According to Darmono (2015), the Library is defined as a center for learning resources and a source of information for users. Libraries can also be interpreted as a collection of books or places where books are collected and organized as student learning media. While Wafford translates that the library as one of the learning resource organizations that store, manage and provide library material services both books and non-books to certain communities and the general public.

Susukan village, located in Bojonggede sub district, Bogor district, West Java province, has an area of 3.40 km² with a population of 15,395 people and a density of 8,044/km². Susukan village is led by the village head, Mr. Yana Suryana. The village of Parakan Jati RT.05 Rw 03 which is the planned location of the establishment of the Public Library consists of 155 households (heads of families) with a population of around 548 people, chaired by Mr. Ojak as chairman of RT.

# **METHOD**

The process of building public general has 3steps:

- 1. Do a survey about society's reading interest in RW 03 especially RT 05 RW 03 Parakan Jati Village. We do the survey by giving a questionnaire and interview with random society. The respondent consists of men and women with age range between 7 till 55, which is age range has high reading interest.
- 2. Collaboration with the village leader.
  - The collaboration is about licensing issue and another technical issue, like spread out the advertise and proposal charity. Because the RT really supports this activity. The first meeting is when women's regular social gathering, when we are the organizer for that event. Invite the society especially for important people and teenager to discussing about technical stuff and planning to build the public library. For the socialization is done when regular social gathering. The socialization is done in third times (10 June, 10 September, and 20 August 2017).
- 3. Discussing about layout and infrastructure

The library is located in our backyard, which is there is already 'saung', with 5m x 5m area. The location is around Parakan Jati RT 05 Rw 03 No 16 in the edge of the public street.

#### RESULTAND DISCUSSION

## 1. Karang Taruna Organization

Teenagers who are at a very active and productive age with a variety of activities, activities ranging from pursuing ideals, formal and informal school activities, to activities that are actually less knowledgeable, such as gathering just chatting etc. This is of course very unfortunate when more time is spent on gathering just chatting without a clear purpose. The number of teenagers in Parakan jati Rt.05 Rw.03 which is around 340 people needs to be given positive activities and increase their knowledge and skills, and even contribute to the community. It will be very suitable when they are involved in the management of the Public Library as officers and users of the Library.

The existence of children aged 7 to 15 years (54%) is a very appropriate opportunity through the existence of this Public Library. Rather than the time spent quite a lot, it can be transferred by going to the Public Library which is affordable and free. They can get additional knowledge, stories about history and even other children's stories. The Karang Taruna Teenagers Empowerment in this Library are:

- 1. Helping as a library manager, both in terms of administration (eg: making loan books, book codes, member credit cards etc.) and in technical matters such as: maintaining existing books.
- 2. As a Library officer, which will be divided into several groups.
- 3. As a marketing team, especially informing residents about the existence of the public library.
- 4. Finding donors for the good books of the Institute as well as individuals.

## 2. Woman Regular Social Gathering (Arisan)

Parakan Jati Village Rt.05 Rw.03 which has 155 households (head of family), including a large and dense area compared to the surrounding villages. The activities of mothers who are dominated as housewives are: regular social gathering (Arisan) (2 times/month), regular recitation on Wednesdays and Saturdays (only a small part of the mothers), and some have stalls to trade. The most popular activity is RT Regular social gathering (arisan) which is held every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month.

In the regular social gathering (arisan) group, where we were administrators were attended by 85 residents, moving places from people's homes. This gathering (arisan) group is a very conducive time to conduct socialization about the Public Library. The free time is filled with chatting or gathering like the habits of housewives in general.

The empowerment of these regular social gathering (arisan) mothers in the Library is:

- 1. Become a donor. The book can be lent or granted.
- 2. As a motivator for their children to take advantage of the existence of the Library
- 3. As a source of advice and input for library managers.

It is expected that with the existence of this Public Library, it can be a means to increase general knowledge and to spend free time more useful. Through books that contain recipes, snacks and crafts, can add "expertise" as a housewife. The next opportunity can be realized with the establishment of a business in the culinary field by the group of women gathering. The solution we provide for partner is we build a reading room, public, free and its called public library. This library is located at Parakan Jati Rt.05 Rw.03. In the edge of the street with 5m x 5m wide (image attached). The location is cozy because there is a lot of trees and large space, so we hope the attendant will happy with it. The available books is including general knowledge, child story (religion, history, and heritage), recipe books and religion. Total of books collected till 10 Agustus 2018 is 233 books. The library open at Saturday and Sunday, from 09.00 till 16.00 WIB. This library existence is going to be be one of the solutions to increase society's reading interest, fill spare time with good stuff and activity, and of course that is going to be increase their knowledge too. Service activity's outer target is:

- 1. Public library existence at Parakan Jati Village, especially RT 05 RW 03, with a lot of people because the area contains 155 family.
- 2. Increase public general's book collection.
- 3. Increase reading interest and social activity.
- 4. Increase child, teenager and adult's positive activity in their spare time.

- 5. Has a big chance to make a collaboration with books publisher or book about their CSR activity.
- 6. This service to the society is going to be published in scientific articles.

The books is consist of some variant such: general knowledge, children's story, recipe, religion, and others.

**Book Total** No. Type General Knowledge 66 2. Children's story 57 3. 43 Recipe 4. Religion 38 5. Others 29 233 Total

Table 1. Total Books until August 10, 2018

## CONCLUSION

The result show that reading interest still low, its because there is no public library yet or reading room that everyone can attend. The infrastructure consists of: table for administration issue, book case, carpet and books for administration and registration.

- 1. The teenager will help about planning and building the public library.
- 2. The books consist of children's book, knowledge book and religion book.

And now, in progress to propose to book publisher such as Gramedia, and national library. Enlarge the public area both the place and books. If the libary is still not large enough we are going to find another location that has more space such as mushola Al Hidayah. And then inviting librarian to give a training about library management. The books is consist of some variant such: general knowledge, children's story, recipe, religion, and others. The book's source is private collection and dominant is charity from a donor both in library area or college. The attendant dominated with children with age 8 till 12, women with range of education Primary School till Junior High School. The most favorite books is children's book, general knowledge, school book and then religion.

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