



Outreach on the Importance of Civic Virtue in Building a Harmonious Community in Bleke Village, Central Lombok Regency

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Abstrak

Civic virtue (kebajikan warga negara) merupakan nilai penting yang perlu dimiliki masyarakat untuk mewujudkan kehidupan sosial yang aman, tertib, dan harmonis. Berdasarkan hasil observasi awal di Desa Bleke, Kabupaten Lombok Tengah, ditemukan adanya kebutuhan penguatan pemahaman masyarakat mengenai tanggung jawab sosial, kepedulian terhadap lingkungan, serta partisipasi aktif dalam menjaga keharmonisan kehidupan bermasyarakat. Oleh karena itu, kegiatan pengabdian kepada masyarakat ini bertujuan untuk meningkatkan pemahaman dan kesadaran masyarakat mengenai pentingnya civic virtue dalam kehidupan sehari-hari. Metode yang digunakan adalah sosialisasi partisipatif melalui ceramah interaktif, diskusi, dan tanya jawab yang melibatkan tokoh masyarakat, pemuda, perangkat desa, dan warga setempat. Kegiatan dilaksanakan melalui tahapan persiapan, pelaksanaan, evaluasi, dan tindak lanjut. Hasil kegiatan menunjukkan bahwa peserta memiliki antusiasme yang tinggi selama kegiatan berlangsung serta mengalami peningkatan pemahaman mengenai nilai-nilai civic virtue, seperti tanggung jawab, toleransi, gotong royong, kepatuhan terhadap norma, dan partisipasi sosial. Kegiatan ini memberikan kontribusi positif dalam meningkatkan kesadaran masyarakat akan pentingnya peran warga negara dalam menjaga keamanan, ketertiban, dan keharmonisan sosial di Desa Bleke. Dengan demikian, sosialisasi civic virtue dapat menjadi salah satu upaya strategis dalam membangun kehidupan bermasyarakat yang harmonis.

Abstract

Civic virtue is an important value that communities must embrace to achieve a safe, orderly, and harmonious social life. Based on preliminary observations in Bleke Village, Central Lombok Regency, it was found that there is a need to strengthen the community's understanding of social responsibility, environmental awareness, and active participation in maintaining harmony in community life. Therefore, this community service activity aims to enhance the community's understanding and awareness of the importance of civic virtue in daily life. The method used was participatory outreach through interactive lectures, discussions, and question-and-answer sessions involving community leaders, youth, village officials, and local residents. The activity was carried out through the stages of preparation, implementation, evaluation, and follow-up. The results of the activity showed that participants displayed high enthusiasm throughout the event and demonstrated an increased understanding of civic virtue values, such as responsibility, tolerance, mutual cooperation, adherence to norms, and social participation. This activity made a positive contribution to raising public awareness of the importance of citizens' role in maintaining security, order, and social harmony in Bleke Village. Thus, promoting civic virtue can serve as a strategic effort in building a harmonious community.



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INTRODUCTION

Society is a vital element in the life of a nation and state, playing a strategic role in fostering a safe, orderly, and harmonious social environment. Harmony in social life is not only determined by the existence of laws and social norms but is also influenced by citizens' awareness of exercising their rights and fulfilling their obligations responsibly. In the context of democratic life, every citizen is expected to possess character traits that reflect a concern for the common good, respect for the rights of others, and active participation in maintaining social order. These character traits are known as civic virtue (Lindfeldt et al., 2019).

Civic virtue is a set of values, attitudes, and behaviors that reflect a citizen's responsibility in social, national, and civic life. The values of civic virtue include social responsibility, concern for the surrounding environment, tolerance, mutual cooperation, respect for the law, and active participation in community life. The presence of civic virtue is a key factor in building a harmonious society because it encourages individuals to prioritize the common good over personal interests and to contribute to maintaining social stability (Sujana, 2019).

In modern society, various social challenges are still frequently encountered, such as a lack of social concern, conflicts among citizens, violations of social norms, criminal acts, and a decline in the spirit of community. These conditions indicate that strengthening civic character remains an urgent need. If the values of civic virtue are not instilled and developed on an ongoing basis, the potential for various social problems to arise will increase and could disrupt the harmony of community life (Izzati & Novitasari, 2023).

Based on the results of initial observations conducted by the community service team in Bleke Village, Central Lombok Regency, several social conditions were identified that indicate the need to strengthen civic values within the community. The findings indicate that the community still faces challenges in maintaining security and order in their neighborhood. Additionally, there is a need to raise collective awareness among community members to strengthen social harmony, foster a sense of shared responsibility, and increase citizen participation in maintaining stability in community life.

The results of initial discussions with village officials and several community leaders also indicate that civic education remains necessary as a preventive measure to reduce the potential for social conflict and behavior that runs counter to social norms. The community needs a better understanding of the importance of fulfilling their role as good citizens by showing mutual respect, maintaining unity, obeying applicable rules, and actively participating in social and community activities (Louise et al., 2025; Palisa Aulia Dewanti & Usman Alhudawi, 2023).

Various studies show that reinforcing civic values contributes positively to the development of a democratic, responsible, and socially conscious society. Through a sound understanding of civic virtue, society is expected to be able to foster a more harmonious way of life, enhance social solidarity, and create a safe and conducive environment for all citizens.

In an effort to address these issues, the community service team conducted an outreach activity on the importance of civic virtue for the residents of Bleke Village. The outreach activity

was chosen as a form of educational intervention aimed at fostering an understanding of civic virtues, the importance of maintaining social harmony, and the community's active role in creating a safe and orderly environment. Through this activity, community members gained an understanding of the concept of civic virtue, its application in daily life, and the positive impacts that can result when these values are consistently practiced.

This community service activity aims to enhance the public's understanding and awareness of the importance of civic virtue in community life. In addition, this activity is expected to foster a sense of social responsibility, environmental awareness, tolerance, and active community participation in maintaining security and social harmony in Bleke Village, Central Lombok Regency.

IMPLEMENTATION METHOD

Activity Locations and Objectives

This community service activity was carried out in Bleke Village, Central Lombok Regency, West Nusa Tenggara Province. The target audience for the activity was the Bleke Village community, consisting of community leaders, youth, village officials, and resident representatives who participated in the outreach activities. The target audience was selected based on the results of preliminary observations, which indicated the need to strengthen the community's understanding of civic virtue in building a harmonious society.

Implementation Method

The method used in this community service activity is the participatory outreach method. In PAR research, the community is not merely the subject of the study, but also a researcher with the same authority and power as other researchers, as well as the beneficiary of the research (Siswadi & Syaifuddin, 2024). This method was chosen because it encourages active community participation in the learning process through the presentation of material, discussions, question-and-answer sessions, and group reflection (Kurniawansyah & Alqadri, 2021). A participatory approach allows participants not only to receive information, but also to share their experiences, perspectives, and the challenges they face in community life. The outreach materials focus on the concept of civic virtue, the importance of social responsibility, concern for the community, respect for norms and laws, tolerance, and active participation in maintaining security and social harmony.

Stages of Activity Implementation

The program was implemented in four main phases, namely:

- **Preparation Phase**

This phase included field observations to identify the partners' challenges, coordination with village officials and community leaders, the development of outreach materials, and the preparation of resources and evaluation tools for the program.

- **Implementation Phase**

During this stage, material on civic virtue was presented through interactive lectures, group discussions, case studies, and question-and-answer sessions. The activities were conducted in a participatory manner so that participants could share their experiences regarding social conditions in their communities.

- **Evaluation Phase**

An evaluation is conducted to assess participants' level of understanding of the material presented. The evaluation is carried out through observation of participants' engagement during the activity, a question-and-answer session, and the distribution of a questionnaire to gauge participants' feedback on the outreach activity.

- **Follow-Up Phase**

The follow-up phase involves encouraging the community to apply the values of civic virtue in their daily lives and to build a shared commitment to maintaining safety, order, and harmony within the community.



Figure 1. Stages of the Outreach Activity Implementation Method

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

A community service activity themed “Raising Awareness of the Importance of Civic Virtue in Building a Harmonious Community in Bleke Village, Central Lombok Regency” was carried out according to the planned schedule. This activity involved the Bleke Village community, including village officials, community leaders, youth, and representatives of local residents.

- **Preparation Phase**

The preparation phase began with field observations and coordination with the Bleke Village government to identify community needs regarding the strengthening of civic values. The observations revealed that the community required education on the importance of maintaining social harmony, increasing concern for the social environment, and strengthening awareness of their responsibilities as citizens.

- **Implementation of Outreach Activities**

Outreach activities were conducted through interactive lectures, group discussions, and question-and-answer sessions. The material presented covered the concept of civic virtue, the importance of civic virtue in community life, the values of social responsibility, tolerance, mutual cooperation, adherence to norms, and active participation in maintaining community safety and order.

Participants showed great enthusiasm throughout the event. This was evident from their active engagement in discussions and the numerous questions they asked regarding the application of civic virtue values in daily life.



Figure 2. Implementation of Civic Virtue Outreach to the Community of Bleke Village

- **Discussion and Q&A**

The discussion session was lively. Several participants shared their views on the importance of fostering social awareness and cooperation among residents to maintain community safety. In addition, participants identified various social challenges that can be addressed through the application of civic virtue values such as mutual cooperation, tolerance, and social responsibility.



Figure 3. Discussion and Q&A Session with Participants

- **Activity Evaluation Results**

Based on observations made during the activity, participants demonstrated a better understanding of the concept of civic virtue and the importance of applying these values in community life. Participants also expressed their commitment to applying the values of responsibility, social concern, and active participation in community activities as part of efforts to create a more harmonious environment. Overall, the outreach activity went well and received a positive response from the community. This activity provided participants with new insights into the role of citizens in maintaining order, security, and social harmony within the community.

Discussion

The implementation of the outreach activity demonstrated that the community has a significant need to deepen its understanding of civic virtue. Before the activity took place, some participants understood civic virtue merely as compliance with rules. However, after the outreach activity, participants began to understand that civic virtue encompasses various aspects of social life, such as social responsibility, concern for others, tolerance, community participation, and respect for prevailing norms. The participants' improved understanding was evident in their active participation in the discussion sessions and their ability to relate the material presented to the social conditions in their communities. (Ujang Ruslandi et al., 2025). This indicates that participatory socialization methods can provide opportunities for the community to understand the concept of civic virtue in a contextual manner, based on their everyday experiences.

Civic virtue values play a crucial role in building a harmonious society. Citizens who are aware of their social responsibilities will be more motivated to maintain community safety, respect differences, and participate in various social and community activities. (Harahap & Ndona, 2025; Kurniawati & Najicha, 2023). Thus, the potential for social conflict can be minimized by fostering a positive sense of citizenship. Furthermore, this initiative also raises public awareness of the importance of mutual cooperation as a form of civic virtue in action. Through the spirit of mutual cooperation, communities can build stronger social solidarity, fostering harmonious relationships among residents. This aligns with the values of Pancasila, which emphasize the importance of unity, cooperation, and shared responsibility in community life.

The results of the activity demonstrate that civic virtue outreach can serve as an effective educational strategy for raising public awareness of the importance of citizens' roles in creating a safe, orderly, and harmonious social environment. Therefore, similar activities should be conducted on an ongoing basis, involving various segments of society, so that the values of civic virtue can be consistently applied in daily life.

CONCLUSION

A community service activity aimed at raising awareness of the importance of civic virtue in Bleke Village, Central Lombok Regency, was successfully carried out and received a positive response from the community. This initiative successfully enhanced participants' understanding of the importance of civic virtue values, such as social responsibility, concern for others, tolerance, mutual cooperation, adherence to norms, and active participation in community life. Through these outreach activities, the community gained a better understanding

of their roles and responsibilities as citizens in maintaining security, order, and social harmony. The participants' active engagement during the discussion and Q&A sessions demonstrated a growing public awareness of the importance of applying civic virtue values in daily life as an effort to build a safe, peaceful, and harmonious environment. Therefore, outreach activities on civic virtue need to be conducted on an ongoing basis by involving various community members, the village government, community leaders, and the younger generation. It is hoped that these efforts will strengthen the community's civic character and support the creation of a more harmonious and sustainable social life in Bleke Village, Central Lombok Regency.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Follow-up programs are needed, including mentoring, civic education, and community-based educational activities to strengthen the implementation of civic virtue values in daily life. In addition, village governments and community leaders are expected to play an active role in developing activities that encourage community participation, strengthen social solidarity, and maintain security and order in the community on a sustainable basis.

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