

Artikel CCNU

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BOOSTING CHINA-INDONESIA EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL COOPERATION
 (FORUM of CHINA-INDONESIA PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE EXCHANGE AMONG UNIVERSITIES)
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I. INTRODUCTION

Since the ancient times, the people of China and the local tribes in Indonesia have long established a friendly and mutual relationships, and thus fosters the exchanges of knowledge, culture, language, various culinary and delicacies, local dances, musical instruments, as well as clothing pieces. This exchanges are found in many local tribes in Indonesia. Besides that, both countries also share a mutual trading connections which results in the prosperity of both. Moreover, family bonds are also established due to marriages between the descendants of China and local Indonesians.

I believe that people in Indonesia would agree that this mutual relationships between China and Indonesia should be foster even more, especially in especially in today's focus in Education and Culture, which would provide direct or indirect impact, which is positive towards the growth of economy of both countries in order to realize the One Belt One Road program and work together to make the prediction of Multinational Management Consultant Bloomberg and McKinsey and Company comes true: in 2050, China will be the world's number 1 and Indonesia would be world's number 4 in terms of economic power.

“Tuntutlah ilmu walaupun sampai ke negeri China.” (Learn all the way to China)

This is a very meaningful line taken from the Moslem's Hadits. The Moslem Prophet has predicted that people must learn in China, especially in the fields of education and culture which in turn bring impact towards the improvements of economy and prosperity.

II. THE CHINESE CULTURE HAS ALREADY ACCULTURATED AND ADOPTED BY THE INDONESIANS SINCE ANCIENT TIMES

(a case study of the Betawi Jakarta and Bali)

The influence of the Chinese culture is observable from the style of buildings, clothes, languages, and food.

There are a lot aspects of Chinese culture adopted by the Indonesians, though it may differ in the aspects, for instance: the Balinese art of music, performance, painting, dance, and architecture.

2.1 The Movements in “Tari Baris Cina” (the Balinese also called it ‘Pis Bolong’ Dance)

This dance looks more like kungfu. There is almost no basic movements of Balinese dance here. The weapons used are not ‘Keris’, but swords. This dance is performed by 18 males which will be divided into two groups: nine would belong to the white line and another nine would be from the *selem* (black) line. Both parties represent *rwa bhineda*, which are the two opposite different poles of the world. In Chinese terminology, it is called Yin-Yang.

Tarian Baris Cina becomes a sacred dance in Pura Dadia Banjar Kelod (Renon), Pura Mertasari Belanjong (Sanur), Pura Segara (Sanur), Pura Gerua Delod Peken-Intaran (Sanur), and Pura Petitenget (Kuta).

- 2.2. The folk arts of Cina Benteng society which has gone through acculturation with the local society, among them are *Gambang Kromong* and *Tari Cokek*. *Gambang Kromong* is originally a background music for *lenong* (local performance) show, which later can also played independently without any *lenong* show. The choice of musical instruments and the songs used strongly indicated the Chinese influence. In fact, the musical instruments of *Gambang Kromong* with names originated from Chinese, Malay, Sundanese and Javanese culture). For instance, there are three violins with Chinese-like names: *tehyan*, *kengahyan*, and *shukong*. Besides that, *krecek* and *gong* are musical instruments representing Sundanese and Javanese culture (Setiono, 2008: 594)

2.3. Several Chinese Principles/ Cultures to be Adapted

1. Respect and appreciate your parents for they love you indefinitely.
2. Success comes from hard works, thrifty and wise in managing finance.
3. Do not quick to fear and do not regret the decisions made.
4. The bigger the problem, the bigger the efforts and the trusts on our endeavor.

2.4. Many Chinese (*Hokkien* to be precise) vocabularies are commonly adopted in Indonesia.

Many commonly-used words since the older generations of Betawi in Jakarta practically come from Chinese words, such as *cepek* (100 rupiah), *gopek* (500 rupiah), *seceng* (1000 rupiah), or address call such as *engkong* (grandfather), *wa* (later on adapted into *gua* (I) and *Lu* (you).

The word ‘Kyai’ is used to address a well-respected Moslem. It comes from a Chinese words: *kya* (way) and *i* (correct). Thus, whoever walks the path of righteousness are essentially called *Kyai*. Another one would be *cukong*: an address for a rich person with a lot of companies; it is the same as the Chinese word *zhu-gong*.

III. Chinese Education and Culture become the Pillar for Advancements in Technology, Economy and People’s Prosperity

The Chinese revolution in 1978 and its joining WTO in 2001 become the milestone for China’s advancements in economy and industry.

In the year of 1990, the Indonesia-China relationship has been restored (the President of People’s Republic of China was Yang Shangkun)

In 2013, a new strategic partnership era was initiated by Indonesia’s President at that time, Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, together with the President of People’s Republic of China, Hu Jintao).

This culminated in OBOR Summit in May 2017, in which the President of Indonesia, Joko Widodo, and the President of People's Republic of China, Xi Jinping, initiated the One Belt One Road 2025, which focus more on the improvements of infrastructure and industry which bring impacts towards the world and Indonesia.

After the OBOR Summit in May 2017, the government of Indonesia was said to prepare project infrastructure in 3 provinces to be offered to China with total investment value of US\$ 201.6 billion or about Rp. 2,700 trillion.

The 3 Provinces are: North Sumatra (US\$ 86.2 billion), North Kalimantan (US\$ 45.98 billions), and North Sulawesi (US\$ 69.45 billions).

Indonesia is one from the 65 countries who takes part in that vision for this unification of international large trade market.

China has spent US\$ 40 billion to promote this program in which Indonesia has become one of the targets.

IV. INDONESIA AND CHINA NEED AN ECONOMY PARTNERSHIP (THE PILLARS ARE EDUCATION AND CULTURE)

4.1. Mutual Understanding between Leaders of the Two Countries are Getting Better

The Chinese revolution in 1978 and its joining WTO in 2001 become the milestone for China's advancements in economy and industry.

In 1990, during the tenure of President Gus Dur, the relationship between Indonesia and China is restored. The President of People's Republic of China at that time was Yang Shangkun.

In 2013, a strategic partnership era was established during the tenure of President Megawati and President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono from Indonesia with their counterpart President Hu Jintao from the People's Republic of China.

In May 2017, in the OBOR Summit between President Joko Widodo from Indonesia and President Xi Jinping from the People's Republic of China, agree on the China's economic initiative: "One Belt One Road" 2025, which focuses on the improvements of infrastructures and industry which will impact the global world and Indonesia.

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4.2. PARTNERSHIP IN CULTURE AND EDUCATION RESULT IN THE COMFORTABILITY OF VISITORS FROM CHINA AND GREATER CHINA, COMFORT AND MUTUAL CONDITION FOR INVESTMENT IN INDONESIA:

The average of tourism visit from People's Republic of China is 120 million/ year to the whole world. In 2017, the contribution of tourists from People's Republic of China is just 2 million people (1,500 x 2 million people = US\$ 3 billion).\

Greater China comprises of China, Taiwan, and Hongkong with a huge opportunity for tourism visits to Indonesia: Taiwan 284,000 people and Hongkong 132,000 people in 2017. The visit of foreigners contributes to the improvement of tourism industry, including the industries of: hotels, transportations, culinary, tourism objects, art and culture performance, travel agents with their guides, merchandises/ souvenirs and many more.

4.3 CHINA WILL POSITION MANY OF ITS BUSINESSES IN INDONESIA.

Among the big companies from People's Republic of China in Indonesia are: Zhongsheng group, SGMW, CFLD, Huawei, Bank Of China, Bank IBC Indonesia, SDIC Group, CONCH, China Shenhua, Julong Group, Haier, PetroChina, Tsinghan Holding Group, Alibaba.com, JD.com, OPPO VIVO, MI, Tencent, TCL, Lenovo, Changhong, China State Construction, ZTE, YOFC, GREE.

The partnership with China in the fields of science, education, culture, technology and research would strengthen Indonesia in the era of Industrial Revolution 4.0.

The technology from the People's Republic of China in the 21st Century: Intercontinental ballistic missiles, 400 km/ hour train, 500 m telescope, aircraft carrier, space station, quantum satellite, Stealth Fighter J-20, Super Computer, *Liu Yang* China's Female Astronauts, CH4 Military Drone, Big Airplane C919, Infrastructure.

V. Problems, strategy & education opportunity for Chinese Learning Education in Indonesia

Problems:

1. Lack of motivation to learn to speak Chinese among the Chinese-descendant youths.
2. The non-Chinese-descendant youths felt that speaking Chinese is difficult.
3. Having yet to see the future career prospects, competitiveness, business or work in the future in the fields of Chinese language teaching.
4. Schools lack competent teachers of Chinese
5. Very few teachers of Chinese from the local Indonesians (either the Chinese descendants or non-descendants)
6. Only some universities have the study program (S1) for Chinese Teacher's Training program focusing on producing competent and professional teachers of Chinese.
7. Only some are interested to be teachers of Chinese due to the minimum payment and financial supports of teachers (the salary standard of the teachers are less interesting).

Strategies:

1. All related parties must frequently conduct socialization to the younger generations that the future prospects in economy, business careers and future science and technology mastery are with China.
2. The urge, assistance, and scholarships for local non-Chinese descendants to learn to speak Chinese becomes very strategic to improve the status of their economy/ career/ work fields, create a sense of togetherness (when someone can speak the language of the other society, there will be mutual respects and non-discriminations; in this case, the Chinese will be the unifying tools for them).
3. Increase the production of local teachers of Chinese, either from the Chinese or non-Chinese descendants by sending students by using assistance/ sponsorship programs, affordable costs access, or full scholarships with the work contract agreement upon graduation with universities with S1 study program in Chinese Language Education.
4. Increase the number of departments of Bahasa Indonesia in order to have people from China to speak Bahasa Indonesia and know Indonesian culture better.
5. Related parties should make a deal on the matter teachers of Chinese language in the cities, rural areas or other areas in Indonesia.\
6. Advocating the policy makers in the field of education (the Ministry of Education in Indonesia, heads of the provincial and city/ district education services) to include Chinese as the compulsory language in state or private schools in Indonesia.

Opportunities:

1. Related parties towards the presence of investors or companies from the People's Republic of China in Indonesia should create work opportunities or transfer of knowledge (as urged by President Joko Widodo) which are suitable for the local societies. Thus, it is obligatory for companies or investors to fund the education programs as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in preparing and training the local Indonesians to speak in Chinese. As for the workers from China, it is obligatory for them to learn Bahasa Indonesia and its culture.
2. In preparing the local societies to communicate in Chinese, it is important for schools with Chinese language program to help facilitating the efforts. The same also goes to the universities with Chinese Language Program to productively and intensively work together in preparing systematic, measureable and attractive Chinese language learning packages.
3. To improve efficiency, it is advisable to employ the long-distance learning system by utilizing the technology in learning Chinese.
4. A study conducted for 15 years by Professor Ulrich Ammon, a professor of language in Duesseldorf, German, found that Chinese is spoken by 1.39 billion people around the world in various dialects.

VI. CHINESE LANGUAGE EDUCATION FOR THE FUTURE GENERATION OF INDONESIA'S ECONOMY

The following facts, data and trends strongly indicate the Indonesians to improve their understanding towards the use of Chinese. Thus, it is expected that by speaking Chinese,

the bilateral economy relationship could improve, communication could be properly conducted, resulting in mutual understanding and trusts in business, which in turn would provide mutual benefits, fostering transfers of knowledge and technology that lead to the economic growth which ensures proper economic distributions and decreases the rate of poverty.

With its continuous inclusive strategy, through the “new normal” model of growth triggered by consumption instead of merely investments, it is worth to try to adapt this strategy applied by the People’s Republic of China.

The concept of One Belt One Road which focuses on the improvements of infrastructure and industry has significantly impacted the world’s trade, in which Indonesia will also try to optimally benefit from it.

With its achievements in infrastructure building in 2017: highway 100,000 km, high speed train: 25,000 km, 266 airports, 2054 Deep Seaports, China deserves to be model/reference of the world and Indonesia.

China’s ability to maintain trade ratio is astonishing. In 2017, China managed to book 2.26 trillion for exports and 1.84 trillion for imports. This indicates that China manages to hold sovereignty in economy and makes use of local contents in production.

Data in 2017 also points the population of China numbering to 1.38 billion people with active workers reaches to 787.6 million people. This is a market for the world, as well as Indonesia.

Bloomberg predicted that the economic growth of China in 2040 is 6.5% while the US is predicted to only grow by 2%. Thus, the prospect for future business partners are no longer the Americans, but the Chinese.

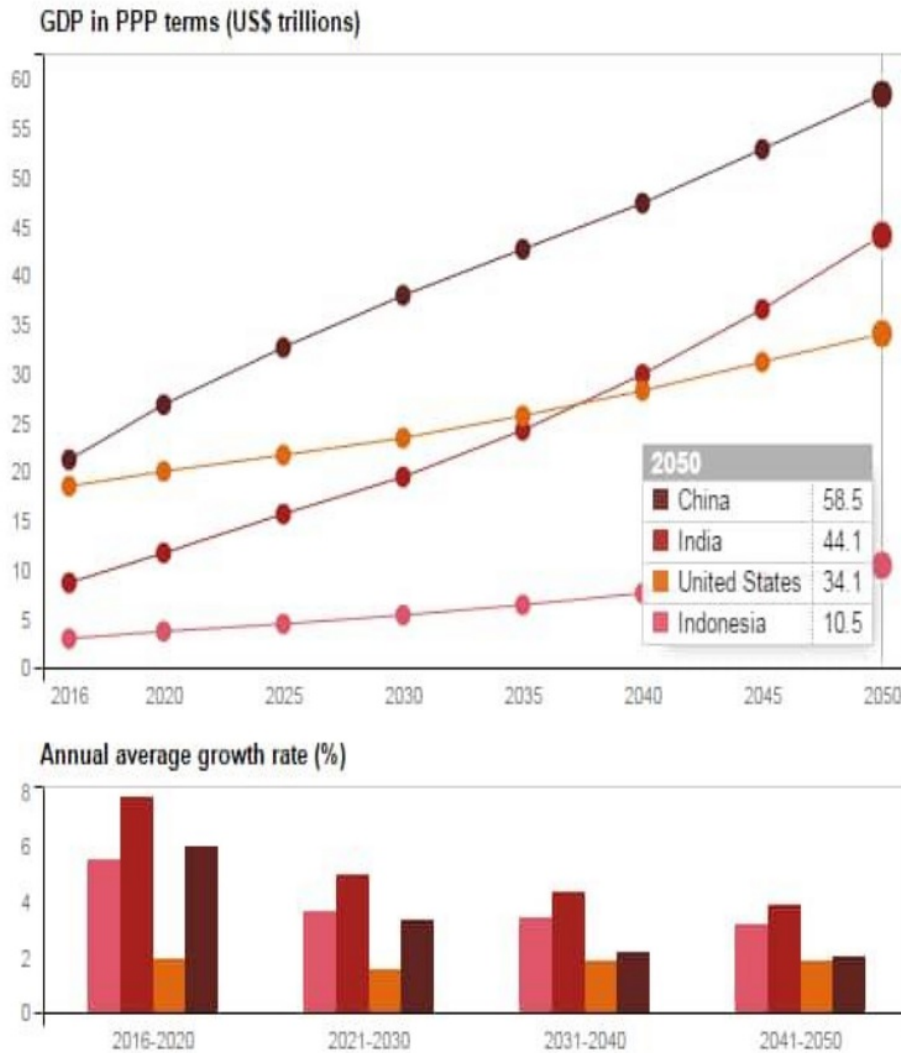
China also shows a magnificent strategy to decrease the rate of poverty. In 2012, the rate of poverty is 10.2%; 2016: 4.5%; 2017: 3%. President Xi Jinping even set his eyes to have 0% poverty rate by the year of 2020 (source: World Bank, China Statistical Yearly 2005). This poverty alleviating pattern could be studied and implemented by the world, including Indonesia, in a measurable and applicable manner.

The empowerment of farmers, fishermen, as well as strengthening and facilitating the micro, small and medium enterprises result in the emergence of new rich men in China. Such patterns need to be implemented in Indonesia along with the strengthening of affordable and rapid transportation infrastructures (trains, sea ports, airports, and many more).

Price-Waterhouse Coopers (henceforth, PWC) predicted that in 2050, Indonesia's economy would be the 4th largest after China, India and the United States. Indonesia would emerge as a country with strong economy and strategic, by partnership with China.

In its study, PWC projected among the increase of the GDP of China, India, the United States and Indonesia as the 4 biggest economy in the world, would suffer from slowing growth annually. This shows that there is a trend of lower global rate in the future.

Figure: Comparisons of Economic Growth of 4 Countries



Among the 4 countries, only the US (indicated by orange) would grow slower in regards of it as one of advanced countries. The other three would also experience slower economic growth as they are regarded as developed countries.

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