

COMPLETION REPORT

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【Subject of Research Project】

The Role of Japanese and Indonesian Intellectuals in Promoting Mutual Understanding between Indonesian and Japanese People Through The Publication of Magazine Djawa Baroe in 1943-1945

The aim of this research is to determine the form of cooperative relations between Japanese and Indonesian intellectuals that occurred in the period 1942-1945 when the Japanese military government occupied Indonesia. Through the establishment of the Djawa Shimbunsha media company in 1942, Japanese intellectuals who were members of the Japanese Military Propaganda Division recruited Indonesian intellectuals to work together in the media sector. Djawa Shimbunsha manages two medias, namely Asia Raja and Djawa Baroe. Asia Raja is an Indonesian language newspaper, while Djawa Baroe is an Indonesian and Japanese language magazine. Indonesian and Japanese intellectuals wrote actively in both media. Both media contain actual news that is happening in Indonesia, Japan and other parts of the world. But, It cannot be denied that the main goal of the media was to help the Japanese government win the Greater East Asia War. However, in the course of this publication there have been many contacts and exchanges of ideas between intellectuals from both countries, thus influencing their subsequent life journeys.

For example, Ono Saseo's cheerfulness and high skill in the field of drawing and painting have made his name continue to be remembered as someone who contributed to the history of art in Indonesia. Ono was the first person to introduce mural art on walls and the first person to introduce puppet theater to people in Indonesia. Likewise, with Nakatani Yoshio, Ichiki Tatsuo, who are intellectual figures who have deep knowledge of Indonesian language and culture, have become a communication bridge between young people and leaders of Indonesia and Japan. After the Second World War ended, these two people continued to help the Indonesian people's struggle to defend their independence.

Special relations also tied between Asano Akira, Tomisawa Uio, Takeda Rintaro from the Japanese side and Boestami, Sanusi Pane, Rosihan Anwar, HB Jassin, Chairil Anwar, etc. from the Indonesian side. On the one hand, their relationship is between superiors and subordinates within the company. But on the other hand, they also have personal relationships as human beings. Their perspective on life reflects the ideology they adhere to. This also affects the results of their work in writing articles in newspapers and magazines. The common ideology that upholds East Asian culture has been able to unite them in thought and work. As fellow Asian nations, they have the same solidarity and ideals to immediately free themselves from Western domination in Asia. Many of them were influenced by Indian thinkers such as Mahatma Gandhi and Tagore who emphasized simplicity, self-denial, and Eastern aesthetic values. For Japanese intellectuals the influenced of Okakura Tenshin was also strong. Of course, not all intellectuals, both Japanese and Indonesian, have the same ideology. However, at this time, this ideology has become the main ideology for creating a new world order without Western domination.

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