

## Building a Patriotic Millennial Generation Through the Festive Independence Competition Activities in Panggungrejo Subdistrict

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### Volume

5

### Issue

1

### Edition

May

### Page

78-83

### Year

2024

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### Article History

Submission: 03-09-2022

Review: 11-11-2023

Accepted: 21-05-2024

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### Keyword

Next Generation of the Nation;

Love for the Homeland;

Festivity of Independence;

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### How to cite

Laili, I., Mutimah, N., Fadhilah, P. A., Risa, D. A. L. (2024). Building a Patriotic Millennial Generation Through the Festive Independence Competition Activities in Panggungrejo Subdistrict. *Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat*, 5(1), 78-83  
<https://doi.org/10.32815/jpm.v5i1.1264>

### Abstract

**Purpose:** This study aims to cultivate patriotism among Panggungrejo Subdistrict's millennials through technology-enabled community activities. Utilizing a participatory approach, the research explores the effectiveness of organized events in fostering national pride among youths.

**Method:** The study involves coordination between the youth organization and KKN-T Uniwara students, focusing on planning, socialization, implementation, and evaluation stages. Data collection includes meetings, task distribution, and participant engagement in competitions, with analysis emphasizing cooperation patterns.

**Practical Applications:** The research offers insights for community development and youth engagement efforts. Understanding the impact of organized activities can inform policymakers and community leaders in designing targeted programs to promote national identity, leveraging technology for enhanced communication and participation.

**Conclusion:** This study highlights the role of community initiatives in instilling patriotism, providing practical implications for fostering a sense of national unity among millennials through organized activities.



## Introduction

Education is one of the most important investments in preparing human resources (HR), especially to compete in this global era (Ismawati et al., 2020; Khairiyah & Dewinda, 2022). Through education, the Indonesian society can plan and prepare educated workforce capable of competing with other countries. It is also acknowledged that higher education institutions play a crucial role in producing quality human resources (HR) to meet development needs (Nurdiana, 2023; Ramayanti et al., 2023). Based on the Republic of Indonesia Law on Higher Education Number 12 Year 2012, Article 1 Paragraph 2 states that Tridharma is the obligation of Higher Education to conduct education, research, and community service (Khairiyati et al., 2020). In this regard, it is expected that students can conduct research, be equipped with knowledge, and able to contribute to the community in the form of community service. Community service is an academic community activity that utilizes Science and Technology with the aim of disseminating knowledge to advance community welfare and enlighten the nation's life (Syahputra, 2023). Every university in Indonesia realizes this in the form of the Real Work Lecture Program (Kuliah Kerja Nyata or KKN).

Kuliah Kerja Nyata (KKN) is a community empowerment activity by students as a realization of the higher education tridharma activities (Logo et al., 2022; Nadia, 2024). This activity is one of the obligations imposed by Universitas PGRI Wiranegara Pasuruan (UNIWARA). In 2022, Universitas PGRI Wiranegara Pasuruan (UNIWARA) conducted Kuliah Kerja Nyata (KKN) at IX (Nine) locations both in Pasuruan City and Pasuruan Regency, one of them being in Panggungrejo Village, located in the North Coast area of Pasuruan City. Kuliah Kerja Nyata is conducted to enhance the relevance of higher education to community needs while assisting in the development of potential in the KKN location. The thematic Real Work Lecture (KKN) organized by Universitas PGRI Wiranegara Pasuruan (UNIWARA) adopts the theme "Efforts of Uniwara in Higher Education Participation". The specific goal of KKN-T is to increase the awareness of Uniwara's academic community to increase the participation rate of higher education by participating as intermediaries to provide access to higher education in Pasuruan and its surroundings. One of the programs created in the KKN-T program is the celebration of Indonesia's 77th Independence Day, with the aim of increasing active participation and instilling a love for the homeland among the younger generation in Panggungrejo.

Love for the homeland is a sense of pride, ownership, respect, and loyalty to the country of origin (Ardiansa et al., 2023; Wartini et al., 2019). Love for the homeland needs to be cultivated in the soul of every individual from a young age. Therefore, KKN students collaborated with Karang Taruna to organize various competitions on Indonesian Independence Day. The target of this program is aimed at youth in Panggungrejo village with the hope of fostering a love for the homeland by participating in the lively Independence Day celebrations in Panggungrejo village.

## Method

The method employed in this research is participatory method. Participation according to (Martin et al., 2019) is the process when citizens as individuals or social groups and organizations take part and participate in specific activities. Several stages are undertaken:

1. In the planning stage, the youth organization (karang taruna) and UNIWARA's KKN-T students hold coordination meetings and tasks are allocated for activities, including determining the names of the competitions to be held in Panggungrejo village.
2. In the socialization stage, students create brochures containing the venue and date of the competition. Based on the local conditions and environment, students collaborate with the youth organization to socialize the event to each neighborhood chief (ketua RT) and distribute brochures in various places.
3. In the implementation stage, 4 competitions are held on August 15th, 16th, and 17th, 2022. KKN-T students and the youth organization carry out their tasks according to their respective roles in the committee.

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- In the evaluation stage, the aim is to determine whether the activity has been successful or not. Evaluation is carried out by KKN-T students by analyzing data on the total number of participants in the 77th Indonesian Independence Day competitions. Through data analysis, it is concluded that there are several important aspects in the work program, namely researching which programs need to be undertaken and studied, understanding a target object, developing attitudes, and skills.

## Result

During the celebration of the 77th Indonesian Independence Day, the KKN Team collaborated with the Youth Organization (Karang Taruna) to organize various competitions to commemorate August 17th. To support the event, the KKN Team and Karang Taruna created banners and brochures to be distributed to the residents of Panggungrejo Village. This statement can be seen in Figures 1 and 2.

Figure 1. Banner for the 77th Indonesian Independence Day Celebration



Figure 2. Brochure for the 77th Indonesian Independence Day Celebration



Before the commencement of the 77th Indonesian Independence Day celebration, children and teenagers from Panggungrejo Village were asked to register themselves. This statement can be seen in Figure 3.

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*Figure 3. Children Registering to Participate in the Competition*



The celebration of the 77th Indonesian Independence Day in Panggungrejo Village started from August 15th to August 17th, 2022, with participants being children and teenagers. The event ran smoothly and received very positive responses from the residents of Panggungrejo Village. This was evident in the enthusiasm of the participants and spectators during the competitions.

There were two sessions each day, in the afternoon and evening after the evening prayer (isya'). On the first day, during the afternoon session, the KKN Team and Karang Taruna organized a cracker-eating competition and a sack race, while in the evening there was a tug of war competition. These activities can be seen in Figures 4.

*Figure 4. Various kinds of competitions were held.*



On the second day, Tuesday, August 16th, 2022, the KKN Team and Karang Taruna only held one competition, which was putting nails into bottles. This activity can be seen in Figure 5.

*Figure 5. Putting Nails into Bottles Competition*



On the third day, August 17th, 2022, the KKN Team and Karang Taruna conducted elimination rounds or semi-finals leading to the finals. Starting from the cracker-eating competition, sack race, putting nails into bottles competition, and tug of war competition. After determining the first and second-place winners in the evening, after the evening prayer, the KKN Team and Karang Taruna distributed prizes to the winners.

The embodiment of unity and love for the homeland must be carried out in our family environment, schools, places of residence, and wherever we are (Abdatisyah et al., 2021;

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Hanifa et al., 2022). Participation from the younger generation is needed. The results of the program show that young people actively participated in the competitions. Overall, it shows that the implementation of these competitions can increase patriotism and strengthen brotherhood. This is evident from the data on the number of participants in the competitions. Tug of war and sack race competitions require team cooperation. Through teamwork, solidarity can be enhanced, fostering patriotism and unity. Data on the participants in the competitions can be seen in Table 1.

Table 1. Data on the Number of Competition Participants

No.	Competition Name	Gender		Number of Participants	Form of Cooperation
		Male	Female		
1.	Cracker Eating	34	16	50	Individual
2.	Sack Race	22	12	34	Group
3.	Putting Nails into Bottles	43	24	67	Individual
4.	Tug of War	25	15	40	Group

## Discussion

Love for the homeland needs to be nurtured in the soul of every individual from an early age to become good citizens in pursuing shared life goals (Yudi Firmansyah, 2019). Love for the homeland can be manifested by always participating in independence competitions held every year. Generally, Independence competitions have become a culture in Indonesia. Independence competitions in Indonesia have many benefits for the next generation to always have a resilient spirit and to be able to establish cooperation that can realize unity among fellow citizens.

Based on the journal by Erni Marlina, titled "Internalization of Pancasila Values and Love for the Homeland in Adolescents," the younger generation can better understand love for the homeland through thinking, behaving, and acting that show loyalty and concern for the environment. Through this, the implementation of the 77th Indonesian Independence Day competition instills a sense of love for the homeland and pride in being Indonesian citizens.

## Conclusion

The conclusion of the 77th Indonesian Independence Day celebration activities is that the implementation of competitions like this can evoke a sense of love for the homeland among millennials today. Not only that, thanks to competitions like this, it can also increase motivation for struggle to achieve achievements and hopes, strengthen brotherhood and friendship among everyone, and strengthen the unity of the residents of Panggungrejo Village.

## Acknowledgements

Thank you to Dr. Daryono, M. Pd., the Rector of UNIWARA, Mr. Miftakhul Munir, M. Pd., the Chairman of the STIT PGRI Pasuruan Institution, Mrs. Badriyah Wulandari, M. Pd., the Chairman of the KKN-Thematic UNIWARA-STIT PGRI Pasuruan, Mrs. Innayatul Laili, M. Pd., the Field Supervisor Lecturer, Mr. Subhan Muzakir, S.E., the Head of Panggungrejo Village, who facilitated the 77th Indonesian Independence Day celebration activities, and Mrs. Kiswatul Khasanah, the Chairman of Karang Taruna, who facilitated the implementation of this 77th Indonesian Independence Day celebration activities.



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