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Are we ready to go there?**

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**Graduate Hall IBI Darmajaya
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Informatics and Business Institute Darmajaya
Muhammadiyah University of Metro
STIKES Muhammadiyah of Pringsewu**

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Foreword by Rector of Muhammadiyah University of Metro

Greetings

All praise be to Allah the Almighty of Universe who has given us very much bounty so that we can live well and work to make our country get advance through Education sector.

Grace and Safety may always be over flown to our prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) who made and enlightened us as well as brought us to the science and technology era at present.

As a manifestation of thanks to God and think positively, the whole civitas-academica of Muhammadiyah University of Metro (UMM) welcome the implementation of Asean Economy Community (AEC) in December 2015. For that reason, we sincerely support the first activity of this University Consortium that we have agreed on and signed it last month, in form of Essay Competition of South East Asia, under the topic: "Toward Asean Community: Are We Ready to Go There?" We believe that this activity will be a stimulant for writers or researchers in spreading out ideas and reminding our readiness to face AEC 2015. For this purpose as well, we would like to welcome --with full of hearth- and support this activity as well as to thank to all parties who participated in this remarkable event.

Our thank is also addressed to all Committee members of this Consortium who had tried to carry out this event from the beginning until the end. We wish you may get reward from God for our goodness now and the day after.

Furthermore, we hope that there will be any follow up activity in Research and with the purpose of developing civilization and improving better human resources so that we can be a nation which is always ready to face whatever waves forging and challenging us particularly in higher Education milieu. In particular, we hope that whatever activity will be carried out, it has to be in reference to University Accreditation so that every single penny of money we paid for, will be useful and an added value for all universities in this Consortium.

Finally, henceforth, let us hope and always try to make us better for future life of our community and mankind.

Thank you very much.
Warmest Greetings

Metro, December 4, 2014
Muhammadiyah University of Metro
Rector,

Dr. Handoko Santoso

Keep Your Mother Tongue Alive in Globalization Toward ASEAN Community

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Language as one of the main tools for communication creates different circumstances among the society. The different social background will speak different language; student to teacher, son to dad, and so on. The language development status changes that condition into a level. The environmental situation has the contribution in making it. The children who were born in modern era will have variety in using language. Their existence among the society needs to be accepted by their generation, so that's why the use of their mother tongue will slowly decrease toward the received language in their community. They think that the higher language knowledge they master in their community, the more prestigious level they are. It is because their parents give less awareness to them how important to heritage their mother tongue is. The young generation now does not care about the changes and shifts of this condition. How can they do that? This could be a number of factors which can be considered as the major causes of what is going on to young generation.

The first is their awareness to convent their mother tongue. The role of parental supervision in introducing and applying their mother tongue is consequential especially in family environment. If they can do it since early, there will be number of the generation who can practice and keep their mother tongue alive. Have you ever asked to young generation to speak in their mother tongue? Ironically, they have almost forgotten how to speak. They say that since they were born, they never tried to practice. It is another factor that parents should ask their children and practice to speak by using their mother tongue since they were childhood.

The second is government policy. As we know that Indonesia has many languages within. It is important to make some regulation policies that can make the language exist. The government should provide additional courses of national and original language (mother tongue for each region) to take for the students as a must, not only in elementary but it must be also university students or for all the government institution. We must have "*language day*", even this activity has done by some regions, the government should name in certain situation in which the people must speak in their mother tongue.

The third is research area. This will give many benefits to language researchers and learners who study language. They will easy to find the resources like script data, books, journals, and other printed data that can be used to study. The students and young generation will no longer difficult to seek all the vocabularies and phonetics symbol of their mother tongue. So, they can increase their interest in learning their mother tongue.

These factors will lead to the young generation in practicing their mother tongue starting from their small community which is their family, their school environment and public. It is really necessary to make them understand why they have to do it since they were childhood. This will be our identity and symbol that we as Indonesian are really proud having this priceless culture. Many countries around the

world come to Indonesia only to learn our culture. Can we imagine that one day there is no generation that can speak their origin language (mother tongue)? We will be no different from other country that has no identity to be proud of. We can learn it from our neighbor country Malaysia that is now trying to protect their Malay from the death. The children of that country are not able to speak Malay; they prefer choosing English as the second language to Malay. The result is most of young generation from toddler to adult do not know their Malay. Their language is almost death. This condition makes that government does regulation; like they have to use Malay language in special days, classroom and in formal situation. The children are commonly introduced language of Malay rather than English. This will lead to the genation recognizing their original language.

Indonesia is taking a good decision to state that our nasional language is Bahasa, the first language known will become our mother tongue, and English is as a foreign language. We shall have the same condition like Malaysia if our foreign language become our national or even second language. To protect our mother tongue from the shift and death is our obligation. We can do small thing like persuade the young genartion to love and interest in using their mother tongue instead of using foreign language. The impact is not in short way, but it will take a very long time to recover when evertything we have has lost and gone. So, keep your mother alive. Thank you