




The Future Of Psychology In Asia



Prof. Dr. M. Noor Rochman Hadjam
Faculty of Psychology
Gadjah Mada University
Yogyakarta



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- **Jogjakarta :**
- **Good Location for Promoting Indigenous Psychology**

- ***Jogjakarta as Indonesian miniature.***
 - ***Jogjakarta as a Culture City.*** Jogjakarta characterize “culture city” because there are pure tradition, local wisdom, strong spiritual belief and social values still exist in this city
 - ***Jogjakarta as a Multicultural City.*** A lot of people come from different cultural, ethnic, social economic background are staying here. They blend together in diversity and harmony.
 - ***Prosperous.*** Development of indigenous psychology in Jogjakarta is very prosperous. Jogjakarta becomes a model for promoting Indigenous psychology in Indonesia

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- **Jogjakarta :**
- **Good Location for Promoting Indigenous Psychology**

- ***Gadjah Mada University (UGM) Contribution***

- ***Jogjakarta Representation.*** UGM represents Jogjakarta condition. Students from multicultural and ethnic background are studying in UGM. This is very ideal condition to develop indigenous psychology
- ***Concern and Participation.*** UGM is very concerned with contextual-cultural approaches to study human/social science, especially in psychology. Many researchers has been conducted to explore values exist in social life that can be used to develop scientifically sound “Local Wisdom”

Initial Problem #1

Diversity of Culture

- **Diversity.** Asia comprises numerous tribes that have different traditional cultures, values and religions
 - This fundamental differences in the cultural boundaries may lead to inter-cultural misunderstandings with potentially serious consequences in the context of psychological assessment and treatment
- **Example.** Our Mental Health Program in Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam has been adapted to religious based treatment and intervention

Initial Problem #2

Cultural Research Issue

- **Research domination.** American academicians are the largest producers of psychological research although they only represent 5% of the world's population. Research findings are generalized to world based on this minority everyone
- **Research Concern.** Asian Researcher in psychology pay little attention to specific cultures that elaborate specific psychological constructs that didn't have equivalence in American-European research traditions
- **Methodology.** Psychological Research in Asia didn't have specific scientific method compatible with the studies of psychological phenomena, they also restricted to their own social, cultural, and historical contexts

Initial Problem #2

- **Cultural Terminology Equivalence**

- **Language.** Language represents human experience whereas there is may no equivalent word between one culture to another.
- **Example.** The Javanese emotion word for shame, however with its characteristic does not have exact equivalents in other languages. “Isin”, “Ngisin-ngisini”, or “ngisini”. There are ethical culture control for this expression that may not represent in other language
- **Conclusion.** For this reason, we should gather our specific psychological construct that can be used to explain in language specific in our culture

Initial Challenge :

Psychology Participation in Globalization

- With increasing globalization we believe that our goal should be a global or international psychology
- A major challenge for regional and international psychological organizations are to encourage and enable participation in activities among psychologists around the world

The Future Trend of Psychology

- **Innovation.** Psychology will be fully innovative and new perspectives may evolve. These may be expected to result from more precise measurement and more sophisticated experimental methodology, information processing, and analysis provided by advanced computer technology
- **Multidiscipline.** Explanations for behavior may include genetic, environmental, biological, culture-religion and social influences. This multidisciplinary works will contribute to scientific advancement

The Future Trend of Psychology

- **Applied.** Psychological services become more accessible, contextual, socially acceptable, have greater visibility status as the prime human science, both natural and social. Psychology to be well accepted and highly appreciated by both professional and by the world public opinion as such
- **Contextualized.** Psychology's influence become grow more indigenous, consider the tradition, local wisdom, matching country's growing diversity and meet to the socio-cultural context. Asian psychology become truly international and to take culture more seriously

Key Elements On Future Trend of Psychology

FUTURE ORIENTATION

1. *Multidiscipline*

- Psychology connected with other discipline

2. *Applied*

- Psychology interventions are accepted by community

3. *Contextualized*

- Psychological phenomena exist within a context of field factors

KEY ELEMENTS

1. *Research Collaboration*

- Collaboration conduct in research activity

2. *Competence Advance*

- Success of application require psych. competence

3. *Culture Sensitive*

- Contextualization psychology reached by involving local wisdom

Research A Key Challenge

- **Current Status**

- The concept of culture has come to the forefront of social science to address issues of human diversity in psychological processes. Debates about the role of culture in psychological processes have sparked a movement towards research that is directly applicable to social problems.

- **A Key Challenge**

- A key challenge lies in how to reconcile this debates toward community-specific applications with broader theories that guide research. Research in psychology would include the impact of the cultural environment and contextual effects on community

Research A Key Challenge

- **Research theme**

- We should be more clear about the differences between Asian and Euro-American psychology. We do not think there is a distinctively “Asian psychology,” but rather different developments in application and in research activities in different Asian countries
- Researcher investigate Asian psychological construct that can capture culture-specific value, attitudes, norms in precise and express Asian culture-independent terms

CULTURE

The Role Of Culture in Psychology

- ***Culture as Core societal values***
 - By defining culture as core societal values, individualism-collectivism theories trace variation in behavior across cultures explained by core values that exist outside the individual
- ***Culture as Contexts***
 - By defining culture as contexts, psychology hold the potential to address diversity in unique psychological processes by looking at the interrelationships of individuals
- ***Culture as background***
 - By defining culture as caste, psychological theories explain cultural variations in behavior as a function of psychological processes, particularly perceptions of opportunity and efficacy.

- ***Culture as capital***
 - By defining culture as capital, psychology interface the concept of culture as core values with those of context and caste
- ***Culture as a set of universally adaptive tools***
 - By defining culture as a set of universally adaptive tools, eco-cultural and socio-cultural theories posit universal concepts to understand similarities and differences across cultures and variations within cultures as a function of dynamic interactions
- ***Culture as a dynamic psychological construct***
 - By defining culture as a dynamic psychological construct, multiple-worlds theories link individuals with contexts and conceptualize people as agent in negotiating cultural boundaries

Cultural Competencies

Asian Psychologist in Global Frameworks

- **Cultural Competencies**

- Psychology need to be concerned with the tasks of mastering skills by acquiring the specific cultural knowledge. For example, therapists must be culturally competent, if they are to work in specific community. No rigorous research has determined that psychotherapy is effective with ethnic minorities ¹⁾

- **Need for Action**

- A key challenge is how to improve cultural sensitivity and competencies for psychologist to deliver psychological services in ways that are consistent with the cultural backgrounds of community
- Conducting training programs of practitioners to include a community based practicum internship so that networking and consultative skills can be developed

Cultural Competencies

Asian Psychologist in Global Frameworks

Asian Psychologist should have character and spirit to improve their knowledge and skills related to cultural and tradition

- **Cultural Competency elements**

- **Being scientific minded**

- Basing conclusions on data vs. assumptions.
- Finding creative ways to test hypotheses.

- **Dynamic Sizing**

- Knowing when to generalize and when to be exclusive
- Avoiding stereotypes while appreciating the importance of culture

- **Proficiency with a particular cultural group**

- ***Local wisdom as an applied knowledge***

- Wisdom is an applied knowledge in the fundamental pragmatics of life that permits exceptional insight, judgment, advice about complex and uncertain matters
- By defining wisdom as an applied knowledge, psychology discourse become more applied, concrete, participated and involved
- Example, our study showed that tribal tradition and interaction with their environment has expressed wisdom in nature conservation

LOCAL WISDOM

The Role Of Local Wisdom in Psychology

- ***Local wisdom as part of environmental variables***
 - Wisdom functions to achieve a balance among adaptation to existing environments, shaping of existing environments, and selection of new environments
 - By defining wisdom as part of environment variables, psychological explanation may involve environmental changing that mediate /moderate the relations of one psychological construct to another construct

4. LOCAL WISDOM

The Role Of Local Wisdom in Psychology

- ***Wisdom as an independence thought***
 - There is a heritage of independence in thought and action that intervenes the lives of human being. Some people belief in thought of wisdom heritage by culture drive them how to live
 - “*Gemi nastiti ngati-at*” (Javanese proverb) represent humble of living on personal manner was the greatest
 - “*Nerimo ing pandum*” (Javanese proverb) represent live attitude toward God for the great of His giving

Recommendations

- **Discourse Theme Advance**

- **Asian Core Value.**

- The psychology in Asian should be discourse based on the core values of Asian social and cultural heritage, equity, social inclusion and diversity

- **Socio-cultural Contexts.**

- The Asian psychology should reflect strong commitment in relation to socio-cultural contexts issues and be operational in international context promoting Asian values in participation developing global frameworks
 - Indigenous psychologies will become more important in this century, and discipline will be enhanced by increased globalization and internationalization

Recommendations

- ***Academic Movement***

- Psychology should be treated not only as a discipline but also as a methodology and an academic movement (e.g. to promote the methodology and accomplishments of re-indigenization psychology).
- In order to achieve this goal, psychologist should avoiding internal rivalries and competing subdivisions and tolerate diversity.
- Psychologist should not be restricted to conferences, publications and other international activities to psychologists from the so-called developed world

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- ***Diversity Toleration***

- If "potential wisdom" that can help provide guiding principles for the global environment and life in the 21st century