

**THE ROLE OF WOMEN'S EDUCATION IN OVERCOMING
PATRIARCHAL CULTURE ACCORDING TO HJ RASUNA SAID'S
PERSPECTIVE**

Sirli Amry, Dewi Anggraeni

UIN KH Abdurrahman Wahid

sirli.amry@mhs.uingusdur.ac.id, dewi.anggraeni@uingusdur.ac.id

ABSTRAK

Pendidikan perempuan memiliki peran yang penting dalam memerangi ketimpangan gender, terutama dalam konteks budaya patriarki yang masih merajalela di masyarakat. Artikel ini membahas peran pendidikan perempuan dalam mengatasi budaya patriarki menurut perspektif Hj. Rasuna Said, seorang pahlawan perempuan Minangkabau yang terkenal dengan perjuangannya dalam membebaskan perempuan dari belenggu patriarki. Metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah kajian kualitatif deskriptif dengan pendekatan studi tokoh. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mendeskripsikan peran Hj. Rasuna Said terkait dengan pendidikan perempuan. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pemikiran dan tindakan Rasuna Said memberikan inspirasi yang tak ternilai dan wawasan yang sangat penting dalam memahami peran pendidikan dalam mengatasi ketidakadilan gender. Beliau mencapai hal ini melalui pendirian sekolah, pemberdayaan pendidikan perempuan, serta advokasi kesetaraan gender. Penelitian ini memberikan kontribusi penting terhadap perjuangan kesetaraan gender dalam pendidikan, dengan membuka jalan bagi banyak perempuan di Indonesia untuk mendapatkan pendidikan yang layak dan berkualitas. Warisan Rasuna Said terus menginspirasi generasi berikutnya dalam perjuangan mencapai keadilan dan kesetaraan gender melalui pendidikan.

Kata kunci: Gender, Pendidikan Perempuan, Rasuna Said

ABSTRACT

Women's education has an important role in combating gender inequality, especially in the context of a patriarchal culture that is still rampant in society. This article discusses the role of women's education in overcoming patriarchal culture from the perspective of Hj. Rasuna Said is a Minangkabau heroine who is famous for her struggle to free women from the shackles of patriarchy. The research method used is a descriptive qualitative study with a character study approach. The purpose of this study is to describe the role of Hj. Rasuna Said related to women's education. The results of the study show that Rasuna Said's thoughts and actions provide invaluable inspiration and insights that are very important in understanding the role of education in overcoming gender injustice. She achieved this through the establishment of schools, the empowerment of women's education, and the advocacy of gender equality. This research makes an important contribution to the struggle for gender equality in education, by paving the way for many women in Indonesia to get a decent and quality education. Rasuna Said's legacy continues to inspire the next generation in the struggle to achieve gender justice and equality through education.

Keywords: Gender, Women's Education, Rasuna Said

INTRODUCTION

The increasingly rapid development of technology has brought many changes in various aspects of people's lives, such as education, economics, social, political and other aspects. This progress is of course inseparable from the two main actors, namely men and women. Both are actively involved in technological developments in this increasingly modern era. However, today there are still many gender disparities that arise from societal stigma. This has also become a focus of attention that is always widely discussed.

The issue of gender equality has become a constant concern from the time period. The evidence is that many modern societies still implement a patriarchal culture, thus causing gender inequality. Where patriarchy itself is placing men and women in different positions as if it means that women are different from men in getting the opportunity to achieve the things they want in their lives (Fajar et al., 2022). This then raises awareness of the importance of gender equality and overcoming patriarchal culture in various aspects of life.

The struggle for gender equality has been widely advocated since the Dutch colonial era. Many great women have emerged since ancient times who have spoken out for gender equality, one of the many female fighters in Indonesia who deserves to be emulated is Hj. Rangkayo Rasuna Said. Her struggle to advocate for gender equality deserves to be studied more deeply. She has a strong desire to promote women's equality so that they have the same position as men (Agnesti & Sanjaya, 2022).

There have been many studies that have raised the role of Hj. Rasuna said in various fields such as education, politics, social and religion. Esti Nurjanah, in her research results, revealed that Rasuna Said chose to fight in the field of education because according to her, women need broader knowledge (Esti, 2017). Rasuna Said is also actively involved in the organizations she joins, including being a writer for the Indonesian Islamic Sarikat Party (PSII) and as a propaganda section for the PERMII party (Agnesti & Sanjaya, 2022).

Hj. Rasuna Said, a national hero and champion of women's rights, emphasized the importance of education as the main tool for overcoming gender inequality caused by patriarchal culture. The role of Hj. Rasuna Said is very big in

various aspects. However, there are still few of these articles that discuss Rasuna Said perspective in more depth. Rasuna Said in looking at education, especially for women. So, in this article the author will discuss the role of education for women in facing gender inequality according to the perspective of Hj. Rasuna Said in more depth.

Hj Rasuna Said struggle for women's emancipation is not like the liberal feminist movement practiced by Western society and contemporary society today (Pratama, 2024). Therefore, this research will discuss the thoughts of Hj. Rasuna Said views the importance of education for women who cannot be marginalized by the power and domination of men.

In this research, the author used a descriptive qualitative method based on library research, with a character study approach where data was obtained from analysis and interpretation of relevant literature (Munawir & Amalia, 2023). A character study approach was used to explore Rasuna Said thoughts and actions comprehensively. The focus of the research is on her role and views regarding the importance of education for women in the context of a society that is still influenced by male power and domination.

Data for this research was collected through a thorough and comprehensive literature study from various sources relevant to the topic discussed. The data collected was then analyzed systematically to identify patterns, themes and main thoughts related to Rasuna Said's views on women's education. Data analysis is carried out by summarizing and compiling information found from various sources. Data was analyzed descriptively to describe Rasuna Said's views and contributions.

DISCUSSION

1. A glimpse of Hj. Rangkayo Rasuna Said

Hj. Rangkayo Rasuna Said was born on September 14 1910 in Panyinggahan village, Maninjau, Agam, West Sumatra (Esti, 2017). She comes from a respectable Minang family. Muhamad Said, Rasuna Said's father, is a former activist and entrepreneur (Agnesti & Sanjaya, 2022). With her father's various activities, Rasuna Said was finally raised by her uncle's family. Little Rasuna Said grew up to be an intelligent and brave girl under the guidance of her uncle who was also active in politics.

Since childhood, Rasuna has always been active in various religious activities. After completing elementary school, she continued her education at the Ar-Rasyidiyah Islamic Boarding School, where she was the only female student. Rasuna is known as an intelligent student because she is able to absorb all the lessons given by her teachers. In 1923, she continued her studies at the Diniyah Putri Padang Panjang Islamic Boarding School (Sari et al., 2021). Because of her intelligence, Rasuna Said was asked to teach at the school. However, three years later she had to return to her village because a large earthquake hit Padang Panjang. During this time, She spent two years studying at a school involved in political activities, following the principal's discourse on patriotism and Indonesian independence.

At the age of nineteen, Rasuna Said decided to marry in 1929 to a man named Duski Samad. However, Rasuna Said's family opposed her second marriage. This marriage was opposed on the grounds of differences in social status. The two lovebirds still decided to get married and were blessed with two children. Duski Samad, who is an activist, also has a busy schedule, which makes communication between the two strained. This caused the two of them to decide to divorce (Esti, 2017).

Her intelligence and tenacity brought her into a people's movement. His honest and sincere nature led him to become a leader in the movement. Then in 1926, she joined an association called "Sarikat Rakyat" (SR) which later changed its name to PERMI (Indonesian Islamic Union Party) (Agnesti & Sanjaya, 2022).

From Rasuna Said's profile, it can at least be seen that the formation of thoughts related to women's equality cannot be separated from the education she received at the Diniyah Putri Panjang school. Furthermore, Rasuna Said's marriage to Djamaludin Mangan, who has a different social status, had several important impacts that influenced her personal and professional life in strengthening Rasuna Said's spirit in fighting for equality, including gender and social equality. The difference in social status in her marriage may have provided a deeper perspective on existing social injustices, which further encouraged her to fight for change.

2. The role of Hj. Rangkayo Rasuna Said in Education

The role of Hj. Rasuna Said in the field of education is one of several important aspects in her life journey that deserves to be understood in depth. As a figure who has a big influence in Minangkabau and Indonesian society, her role in advancing education, especially women's education, is a major highlight. Hj. Rasuna Said has a significant role in the field of education, especially related to the development of women's education and advocacy for gender equality in access to education. Some of its main roles in education include:

a) School Founder

Rasuna Said's involvement in the Indonesian Muslim Association (PERMI) organization paved the way for a greater role in the world of education. As an active member of PERMI, she was appointed as the inter-party propaganda section and inter-party spokesperson. This role gave her a platform to voice her views on the importance of education for women and fight for their rights in the public sphere.

This is one of the reasons for the establishment of the "Surregular" school, this school was founded as a response to the lack of access to quality education for women. Through this school, Rasuna Said seeks to provide education that not only teaches science, but also instills the values of justice and gender equality.

Rasuna Said was also involved in the establishment of the "Girls' Course" school. This school is specifically designed to provide skills training to women, so that they can be economically independent. The curriculum at the "Girls' Course" not only focuses on practical skills, but also includes moral and social education, preparing girls for a more active role in society (Agnesti & Sanjaya, 2022).

Rasuna also became a person who played an active role in designing the curriculum and organizing educational programs. This school is part of Rasuna's efforts to provide comprehensive religious education to women. She believes that a strong religious education will provide a

solid moral foundation, so that women can contribute positively to society.

Rasuna Said not only played a role in establishing these schools, but also played an active role in designing the curriculum and organizing educational programs. She ensures that the curriculum taught in these schools covers various important aspects, such as science, practical skills, moral education and social justice values.

With this holistic approach, Rasuna Said tries to create an educational environment that not only develops the intellect but also the character of its students. Through the curriculum she designed, she wanted to ensure that women educated in these schools would become individuals who were independent, confident, and ready to contribute in various aspects of life.

Rasuna Said's role in establishing and managing these schools has had a long-term impact on women's education in Indonesia. It paved the way for women to receive an education equal to men, and gave them the tools to achieve independence and equality.

Rasuna Said's legacy in the field of education continues to inspire future generations to continue their struggle to achieve justice and gender equality through education.

b) Empowering Women's Education

Rasuna Said is someone who is a supporter of women's education. This can be seen from her role in working together to teach even when she was still studying at Diniyah Putri Padang Panjang (Pratama, 2024).

Rasuna Said's dedication to women's education began when she was still studying at Diniyah Putri Padang Panjang. At this school, Rasuna not only studied, but also started teaching. Even at a relatively young age, she has shown a commitment to sharing knowledge and encouraging fellow women to pursue education. Her involvement in teaching at the Diniyah Girls' school shows her initial concern for the importance of education as a tool of empowerment.

Rasuna Said firmly believes that education is the key to empowering women. She believes that with education, women can improve their quality of life, become more independent, and contribute significantly to society. For him, education is not only about acquiring knowledge but also about building the character and skills needed to face life's challenges.

c) Advocacy for Gender Equality in Education

Rasuna Said's role in all the organizations she has participated in is quite important. In the Indonesian Islamic Sarikat Party (PSII) she served as a writer. She also served as a propaganda section in the PERMI Party. She also founded a women's college and spread her ideas through a magazine called *Menara Poetri*. In this magazine she expressed ideas that talked a lot about women.

Rasuna Said is also active in providing outreach about the importance of education for women. She often travels to various regions to convey the importance of education and invites people to support education for girls. Additionally, she writes articles and op-eds in newspapers to influence public policy and raise awareness about gender equality in education.

As a member of the People's Representative Council, Rasuna Said uses her position to fight for policies that support women's education. She encouraged the government to create policies that ensure equal access to education for all children, regardless of gender. Her legislative efforts demonstrate her commitment to gender equality and education (Blackburn, 2004).

3. Rasuna Said's views on women's education

In understanding an educational problem, it is important to reflect on Rasuna Said's perspective which has contributed to change and struggle. In this case, the author will discuss Rasuna Said's views on the importance of women's education to overcome patriarchal culture. What was discussed was Rasuna Said's personal experience in the field of education itself, how

she thinks, and the impact of her involvement in the world of education for women.

In the previous discussion, it was explained that Rasuna Said was a figure in the struggle for women's emancipation. This can be seen from her role in establishing the women's college and the women's tower magazine. She wrote down ideas on various issues. Rasuna believes that students should be equipped with a variety of skills needed for individuals who will be involved in the movement. If necessary, religious education and religious activities should provide more opportunities for political training (Takunas, 2018). This shows that Rasuna wants change for all women through mastering skills and knowledge, especially in education (Sufyan, 2022).

Rasuna also wants change for all her people, women, to become quality women. Rasuna, through this organization, wants awareness among women about the importance of education. This also shows the intellectual increase of women in Indonesia.

Rasuna Said, who is part of PERMI, really upholds PERMI's ideological values, namely Islam and Nationalism. As a devout Muslim, Rasuna Said interprets Islamic teachings as a basis for fighting for justice and gender equality. The spirit of nationalism also encouraged him to see the role of women as an integral part of the struggle for independence and nation building. This makes her a woman who is passionate about fighting for women's rights, especially in education and politics.

Rasuna actively defends equal rights between men and women. She believes that women should be active in Islamic reformist movements but not in nationalist politics (White, 2013).

Rasuna Said also understands that gender equality is not only about providing equal rights, but also eliminating all forms of discrimination and injustice that hinder women's development. Through education, she seeks to open doors for women to develop themselves, acquire skills, and participate actively in social, economic and political life.

Apart from that, Rasuna Said also emphasized the importance of cultural transformation in society to create an environment that supports

gender equality. She realizes that the many patriarchal norms and values that are still strong in society can be an obstacle for women to reach their full potential. Therefore, she not only fought for policy changes, but also for changes in people's mentality and mindset.

In other words, Rasuna Said's view of gender equality is not only limited to formal aspects, but also includes social, cultural and psychological dimensions. For him, gender equality is the foundation that must be laid in building a just, inclusive and sustainable society. Her dedication and struggle in advancing women's rights and achieving gender equality has left an invaluable legacy for the gender equality movement in Indonesia.

CONCLUSION

The significant role of Hj. Rangkayo Rasuna Said in fighting for women's education and gender equality, especially in the context of patriarchal culture which is still rooted in society. Through an examination of her views, we highlight her persistent efforts to empower women through education as a key instrument in addressing gender inequality. Rasuna Said's life story reflects a deep commitment to nationalism, Islam and women's rights, especially in the field of education. More than that, her proactive role in establishing schools and organizations, as well as advocating for gender equality in access to education, makes her a motivating figure in the struggle for women's emancipation in Indonesia. This conclusion confirms that Rasuna Said's thoughts and actions provide invaluable inspiration and very important insight in understanding the role of education in overcoming gender inequality. This also underlines the importance of continuing to research and explore her views in the context of the ongoing struggle for gender equality.

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