Enhancing Indonesian Nationalism: Exploring Archipelago and National Resilience (Social Philosophy Perspective)

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Abstract

This research delves into the endeavor to fortify Indonesian nationalism through an exploration of the Archipelago Concept and National Resilience, employing a social philosophy approach. The central inquiry revolves around the role that an understanding of these concepts plays in bolstering nationalism in Indonesia. The primary objective is to assess the impact of comprehending the Archipelago Concept and National Resilience on the level of nationalism in Indonesia, while also scrutinizing the role of social philosophy in interpreting the relationship between these concepts and nationalism. Employing a qualitative analysis with a literature study approach, this research explores relevant literature on the Archipelago Concept, National Resilience, and nationalism, utilizing a social philosophy lens to dissect these concepts in the Indonesian context. Findings reveal that a profound understanding of the Archipelago Concept strengthens Indonesia's national identity by emphasizing unity in cultural, geographic, and ethnic diversity. Simultaneously, National Resilience plays a crucial role in fostering love for the homeland through the preservation of sovereignty, security, and welfare. Within the realm of social philosophy, the research demonstrates that the comprehension of both concepts can be reinforced through reflection and critical thinking about their underlying values. Social philosophy aids in formulating the meaning and relevance of these concepts within the Indonesian social and cultural milieu. In conclusion, this research posits that a deep understanding of Wawasan Nusantara and National Resilience positively reinforces Indonesian nationalism, serving as the bedrock for constructing a robust and inclusive national identity capable of navigating global challenges while upholding unity in diversity.

Keywords: nationalism; national insight; national resilience; social philosophy

1. Introduction

Ernest Renan argued that Nationalism is a key element in the formation of a nation's identity and strength (Chaniago et al., 2020). In Indonesia, nationalism has played an important role in the struggle for independence from colonialism. However, to sustain and strengthen Indonesian nationalism in the contemporary era, a deep understanding of the elements that underpin it is required. One important aspect of understanding Indonesian nationalism is an understanding of two key concepts: Archipelago Concept and National Resilience. Wawasan Nusantara encompasses an understanding of the cultural diversity, geography and natural resources of Indonesia's vast archipelago. Meanwhile, National Resilience involves efforts to maintain the country's sovereignty, national security and people's welfare. A good understanding of the Archipelago Concept can help explore a sense of nationality through appreciation of Indonesia's cultural and natural wealth. (Widiastuti, 2022). On the other hand, National Resilience is an important foundation in ensuring Indonesia's continued existence and sovereignty as a state. A better understanding of how Archipelago Concept and National Resilience are intertwined and contribute to the formation of nationalism is crucial, especially in the midst of current global challenges and dynamics. Through this research, it will be explained how a deep understanding of Archipelago Concept and National Resilience can strengthen the sense of nationalism in Indonesia, as well as why this is relevant in the context of an increasingly globalized society.

Previous research conducted by Ratih and Najicha (Dewi Ratih & Ulfatun Najicha, 2021) entitled "Archipelago Insight as an Effort to Build a Sense and Attitude of Citizen"...
Nationalism: A Literature Review” which outlines that archipelago insight has a strategic role in awakening the spirit of nationalism towards citizens in the midst of the globalisation era. Furthermore, Hidayat (2023) in his research entitled "Nationalism Resilience of Simeulue's Young Generation in the Era of Globalisation" found that the spirit of nationalism was caused by the strong globalisation of foreign cultures that weakened the spirit of nationalism of the younger generation. Another previous research conducted by Kusumawardani and Faturochman (Kusumawardani & Faturochman, 2004) entitled "Nationalism" found that the attitude of nationalism as an assessment or evaluation of love for the homeland and nation on awareness and responsibility as a citizen. Therefore, the novelty in this research is the exploration of the relationship between Archipelago Concept and National Resilience through the lens of social philosophy, an approach that has not been widely explored before. The uniqueness of this research lies in integrating key aspects of national resilience and archipelago insight with the framework of social philosophy, providing a deep and contextual perspective on these concepts in the social and cultural reality of Indonesia. In addition, the focus of this research is to investigate how the understanding of Wawasan Nusantara and National Resilience can strengthen each other, identifying key elements in this process, analysing them with social philosophy in understanding and strengthening the spirit of nationalism. Specific aspects researched include economic aspects, education, regional diplomacy, and the maintenance of cultural identity. A better understanding of their role in shaping national identity can help formulate policies, education and strategic measures that support efforts to strengthen nationalism in the future. Therefore, this research will provide a deeper look into how Wawasan Nusantara and National Resilience can be important instruments in strengthening Indonesian nationalism in the 21st century. This research is very important because it explores efforts to improve Indonesian nationalism through a deep understanding of the Archipelago Concept and national resilience using a social philosophy perspective. In the face of global challenges and local diversity, a deep understanding of archipelagic identity and national resilience is key to building a solid foundation of nationalism. This research is expected to provide new insights into how social philosophical values can strengthen national identity and lead to the formation of an inclusive and strong national identity, which is able to cope with global dynamics while maintaining diversity. By integrating Social Philosophy, the understanding of Archipelago Concept and National Resilience becomes more holistic, supporting the development of an inclusive and adaptive national identity in facing the challenges of the times.

2. Methods
This research uses a literature study method with a qualitative approach to understand the concept of “Strengthening Indonesian Nationalism through Understanding the Archipelago and National Resilience (In the Light of Social Philosophy)”. Data was gathered through literature searches from various sources such as journals, books, and articles related to the research theme. This data includes theological interpretations, practical implementations, impacts, and recent developments related to Indonesian nationalism and the concepts of Wawasan Nusantara and National Resilience.

The qualitative analysis process involves reading, understanding, and interpreting the content of the related literature. The data was analyzed to identify patterns, themes, and concepts that emerged in relation to Indonesian Nationalism in the context of Archipelago Concept and National Resilience. The results of this analysis are used to understand the influence of people's understanding of the Archipelago Concept on nationalism in Indonesia, as well as the role of National Resilience in strengthening nationalism, and how the government and education can improve understanding of it.

The literature used in this research consists of readings, namely all kinds of books and articles related to Social Philosophy, Nationalism, Archipelago Concept and National Resilience. Furthermore, these sources are analysed through a Social Philosophical point of view to obtain philosophical reflections with the aim of providing new insights into how social philosophy values can strengthen national identity and lead to the formation of an inclusive and strong national identity, which is able to face global dynamics while maintaining diversity. This research has two main questions: how does the Indonesian people’s understanding of the Archipelago Concept affect the level of nationalism, and what is the role of the Archipelago Concept in strengthening nationalism and the government's and education’s efforts to improve understanding and awareness. The purpose of this research is to identify the relationship between people's understanding of the Archipelago Concept and the level of nationalism, and to understand the role of the Archipelago Concept in strengthening nationalism. The results of this research can be
used to formulate policies and actions that support the strengthening of nationalism in Indonesia. The relevance of this research lies in the guidance for education regarding the integration of the understanding of Archipelago Concept and National Resilience in the curriculum, as well as understanding how the understanding of nationalism and the role of the state in facing global challenges.

3. Results and Discussion
   a. Social Philosophy on Nationalism, Differences between Indonesian Nationalism and European Nationalism

   The social philosophy of nationalism has been the subject of debate and analysis by a number of prominent thinkers over the last few centuries. (Ilham, 2021). Nationalism has been a deep topic in social and political thought. Leading thinkers have debated and analyzed nationalism in various historical and cultural contexts, whether nationalism has a positive or negative impact in society. This shows that nationalism is not a new phenomenon and has been a central subject in social philosophy for centuries. Jean-Jacques Rousseau, a French philosopher, has contributed greatly to the idea of nationalism. In his work "The Social Contract" (1762), he considered the relationship between the individual, the state, and nationalism. (Do, 2023). Rousseau argued that nationalism can be a strong source of unity and identity for a society. Johann Gottfried Herder, a German philosopher, is considered one of the founders of romantic nationalism thought. He understood culture and language as important elements in shaping nationalism. (Hiroshi, 2021). His works, such as "Ideas for a Philosophy of the History of Humanity" (1784), voiced the importance of the existence of unique national cultures. Benedict Anderson, a political scientist, examined not only the origins of nationalism but also the concept of "imagined communities" in his work "Imagined Communities" (1983). He discusses how language; culture and the media play an important role in shaping our perception of nationalism. Ernest Gellner, a social philosopher and anthropologist, presents his thoughts on nationalism in his book "Nations and Nationalism" (1983). He argued that modernity and industrialization have played a major role in the formation of modern nationalism (Duara, 2021). Benedict Spinoza who lived in the 17th century, Spinoza's thoughts on the concept of sovereignty and individual freedom have provided the basis for modern nationalist thought. His views on individual freedom in his work "Tractatus Theologico-Politicus" (1670) influenced the views of nationalism in the following century (Magno, 2021). Leading philosophers Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels put forward a critical view of nationalism in the "Communist Manifesto" (1848). They saw nationalism as an ideology used by the ruling class to maintain their power (Rachmawati, 2020). Hannah Arendt, a 20th century political philosopher, discussed nationalism in the context of totalitarianism in her work "The Origins of Totalitarianism" (1951). She reviewed the impact of nationalism on politics and society (Salazar, 2021).

   These thinkers have provided diverse views on nationalism in the context of social philosophy, from historical perspectives to modern social and political perspectives. These thoughts continue to serve as a foundation for understanding the complexities and dynamics of nationalism in contemporary society. Of the various thoughts on nationalism, the thought of Indonesian Nationalism is an ideal and contextual philosophical thought in accordance with the situation of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. Soekarno developed the concept of socio-nationalism as a unique form of Indonesian nationalism. According to Octavian and Dianti, Socio-nationalism emphasizes that Indonesian nationalism is more than just popularizing one’s own nation to other nations. It is a nationalism that emphasizes the interests of humanity as a whole. Sukarno explained that the foundation of the desired nationalism was humanity, not chauvinist nationalism or an imitation of Western nationalism (Octavian & Dianti, 2023). It reflects the view that Indonesian nationalism was born out of the suffering experienced by Indonesians during foreign colonialism, thus emphasizing resistance to oppression and colonialism.

   The difference between Indonesian nationalism, represented by Sukarno’s socio-nationalism, and European nationalism can also be seen in their main goals. European nationalism was often more about political independence and prioritizing personal or group interests. Meanwhile, Indonesian nationalism, as stated by Sukarno, aimed to prioritize the interests of the people (Lestari, Sri Uji; Saraswati, Ufi; Muntholib, 2018) and emphasizes that a just political-economic system, which gives the common people space to manage economic resources, is an integral part of socio-nationalism. This reflects the difference between the focus on colonial expansion in Europe and the struggle against colonization in Indonesia. In conclusion, Sukarno’s socio-nationalism was a form of nationalism defined by a unique view of humanity and
social justice, which differed from European nationalism that favored self-interest and colonial expansion.

b. Concepts of Nationalism, Archipelago, and National Resilience

Nationalism is a central idea that has played an important role in Indonesian history. It is an ideology that promotes a sense of national identity and unity as an Indonesian nation. In the context of Indonesian history, nationalism was the main driver behind the struggle for independence from Dutch colonialism in the early 20th century. Nationalist figures such as Soekarno, Hatta and Sutomo led the independence movement that was based on the idea that Indonesia should unite as one independent nation. The history of the struggle against colonialism is clear evidence of how nationalism became a unifying force in achieving independence, and these values continue in the efforts to build an independent Indonesian state.

The Archipelago Concept itself is an idea that highlights the natural, cultural, and geographical wealth of Indonesia's vast archipelago. In the context of Indonesian history, the Archipelago Concept has played an important role in understanding national identity. National Resilience is an important concept and includes efforts to maintain the sovereignty, security and welfare of the country. The concept of Indonesian nationalism, National Resilience plays a key role in promoting love for the homeland. This includes maintaining the country's sovereignty from outside threats, such as military invasions, as well as maintaining internal stability and security. Based on the above statements, nationalism, Archipelago Concept, and National Resilience are three concepts that influence each other in the context of Indonesian history. The origins of the Archipelago Concept can be traced back to the leadership of Indonesia's first President, Soekarno, and the political context at the time which involved negotiations for Indonesia's independence from Dutch colonialism. In 1949, Indonesia and the Netherlands engaged in a Round Table Conference in The Hague, Netherlands, to discuss the future of Indonesia after a long period of Dutch colonization. The negotiations aimed to find a peaceful solution to end the conflict between the two parties.

At that time, the geopolitical situation of the world was changing greatly after World War II, and colonial powers such as the Netherlands began to face international pressure to grant independence to their colonies. In 1947, the Netherlands recognized Indonesia as a de facto independent state, but the issue of formal consent was still a matter of debate. In the context of these negotiations, President Soekarno, who played an important role in Indonesian diplomacy, began to develop the idea of the Archipelago Concept. He emphasized the importance of understanding that Indonesia is the "Archipelago," meaning "Great Archipelago," and that these islands should be seen as a unified whole. Soekarno also emphasized the importance of unity in the diversity that exists in Indonesia.

The Archipelago Concept initially had a political meaning in the context of negotiations with the Netherlands. Soekarno wanted to emphasize that Indonesia was a geographical unit that could not be separated, and this concept could be used to strengthen Indonesia's arguments in negotiations. Soekarno's idea of Archipelago Concept then became the basis for the development of this idea in Indonesian history and its influence in politics, diplomacy, and national identity. Based on the above opinions, the Archipelago Concept had a major impact on the development of Indonesian history. It became the basis for the development of thoughts that underlie the spirit of nationalism and unity in the diversity that exists in Indonesia. An understanding of the Archipelago Concept has had a significant impact on nationalism in Indonesia. The concept was initially introduced by President Soekarno during the Round Table Talks in 1949 as a diplomatic tool to gain independence from Dutch colonialism. However, over time, the concept has become an integral part of Indonesia's national identity. One of the main impacts is the strengthening of national unity and identity.

The Archipelago Concept emphasizes that despite the diversity of cultures, languages and religions in Indonesia, all Indonesians are one nation united in the spirit of nationalism, reducing the potential for disintegration.

An understanding of the Archipelago Concept also fosters an appreciation of Indonesia's cultural diversity. People came to better understand and appreciate the diverse cultures across the country, which created a sense of pride in their own cultural identity. The concept also influenced the understanding of Indonesia's geography and the importance of maintaining territorial integrity. In addition, Wawasan Nusantara influences Indonesia's regional diplomacy, giving moral legitimacy to its mediation and leadership role in the region. Thus, the
understanding of Wawasan Nusantara as a whole has strengthened nationalism by reinforcing national identity (Dewi Ratih & Ulfatun Najicha, 2021), values cultural diversity, promotes unity in diversity, and influences Indonesia's role at the international level. Based on the above, an understanding of Wawasan Nusantara has made a significant contribution to strengthening nationalism in Indonesia. The concept helps build a solid sense of national identity, appreciation of cultural diversity, an understanding of the importance of unity within this vast archipelago, and maintaining Indonesia's territorial integrity.

The concept of National Resilience is a framework that focuses on protecting the sovereignty, security and welfare of the country in the face of various threats. (Rumbekwan & Tanamal, 2023). It includes economic, social, political, cultural, and environmental aspects. In the Indonesian context, National Resilience is closely related to nationalism, as both are complementary. The economic aspect is a crucial component of National Resilience and has a major impact on nationalism (Sudjana, 2019). Economic prosperity creates a strong attachment to the state, as people who feel that the state provides fair and stable economic opportunities will support national identity. Education and national consciousness are also strengthened by National Resilience, as national education programs that cover national history, values and culture help build a strong national consciousness among the younger generation (Susdarwono, 2020). In addition, National Resilience includes maintaining territorial integrity and playing a role in regional diplomacy, which also has an impact on nationalism by emphasizing the importance of unity in diversity.

Based on the above opinions, The concept of National Resilience, with its focus on protecting the country's sovereignty, security and well-being, has significant implications in the Indonesian context. An inclusive economy is an important pillar that strengthens nationalism, while national education plays a key role in shaping national consciousness, especially through programmes that include local history, values and culture. In the context of regional diplomacy and the maintenance of territorial integrity, the emphasis on unity in diversity supports the formation of an inclusive national identity.

c. A Critical Analysis of Nationalism in Indonesia

Nationalism has played a key role in Indonesian history, especially in the struggle for independence from Dutch colonialism and the formation of national identity. However, over time, Indonesian nationalism has faced challenges that need to be carefully considered. Indonesia's ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious diversity is one of the biggest challenges in maintaining a strong nationalism. While the concept of Wawasan Nusantara has helped strengthen unity amidst this diversity, conflicts and tensions can still arise. Managing this diversity well and educating the public on the importance of unity is an ongoing task.

Wide social and economic disparities are also factors that can affect nationalism. Inequality in the distribution of wealth and opportunities can create discontent and distrust of the state. Efforts to reduce these disparities and ensure that all citizens feel included in the development process are important in strengthening inclusive nationalism. The challenges of globalization must also be faced. The free and rapid flow of information from abroad can influence people's values and views. Maintaining strong national values and dealing with outside influences that may not always be in line with national values is a task that requires awareness and effort. Finally, regional issues and regional autonomy can also affect nationalism. Giving more authority to regional governments can support better local development, but it also raises potential issues of regionalism that can disrupt national unity. Therefore, there needs to be a good balance between regional autonomy and national unity. Despite these challenges, nationalism remains an important pillar in the development and maintenance of the Indonesian state. With an awareness of its complexity, critical analysis and wise efforts can shape a strong and inclusive nationalism, which promotes unity and prosperity for all Indonesians.

4. Conclusions

Indonesians' understanding of the Archipelago Concept has a significant positive impact on the level of nationalism in the country. Nationalism is differentiated from patriotism, which emphasises pride and love for universal values and the homeland, but rather, nationalism goes hand in hand with policies that strengthen the sovereignty and sustainability of the Indonesian state. The concept strengthens national identity by emphasizing unity within a diversity of cultures, languages and religions. This helps reduce the potential for disintegration and motivates citizens
to feel part of one united nation. The respect for cultural diversity instilled by Wawasan Nusantara also creates a sense of pride in their cultural identity, which is an important aspect of nationalism. Meanwhile, National Resilience plays an important role in strengthening the sense of nationalism in Indonesia. The concept helps maintain the country’s sovereignty, security, and domestic stability, which creates an enabling environment for a strong sense of patriotism and nationalism. The government’s efforts in promoting National Resilience through defense and security policies, as well as national education that integrates this concept in the curriculum, can improve people’s understanding and awareness of National Resilience. Thus, the government and education have a key role in strengthening this concept in society and increasing nationalism in Indonesia.

5. Reference


