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# Merdeka Belajar Application Training for Teacher of SMP Negeri 1 Hamparan Perak

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#### **Abstrak**

Merdeka Belajar merupakan salah satu program dari Kementrian Pendidikan Kebudayaan Riset dan Teknologi yang saat ini digalakkan. Mengusung pada pelajar yang secara bebas menemukan hak belajarnya dengan berdasarkan minat dan kepintarannya. Merdeka Belajar merupakan program pemerintah berbasis platform web aplikasi. Aplikasi ini merupakan wadah bagi pelajar yang akan mencari keilmuannya yang dapat dijangkau melalui gadget yang saat ini sudah didapatkan. Akan tetapi pelaksaan program Merdeka Belajar memiliki kendala yaitu pada penggunaanya. Tidak semua kalangan sivitas sekolah dapat menggunakannya. Terutama pada kalangan Guru yang notaben nya selalu melakukan aktivitas pembelajaran berbasis tatap muka (konvensional). Melalui aplikasi ini pembelajaran dapat dilakukan via daring atau pun luring. Terkhusus pada Guru SMP Negeri 2 Hamparan Perak yang masih kesulitan dalam penggunaan aplikasi Merdeka Belajar. Sehingga pelatihan dilakukan atas permintaan Sekolah kepada Universitas Potensi Utama untuk mengadakan pelatihan Aplikasi Merdeka Belajar. Dengan pelatihan yang dilakukan maka peningkatan Guru terhadap penggunaan aplikasi Merdeka Belajar dapat meningkat.

Kata Kunci: pelatihan, merdeka belajar, guru, aplikasi

## Abstract

Merdeka Belajar is one of the programs from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology which is currently being promoted. Carrying out students who freely find their learning rights based on their interests and intelligence. Merdeka Belajar is a government program based on a web application platform. This application is a forum for students who will seek knowledge that can be reached through the gadgets that are currently available. However, the implementation of the Merdeka Belajar program has problems, namely its use. Not all school community members can use it. Especially among teachers who in fact always carry out face-to-face (conventional) learning activities. Through this application learning can be done via online or offline. Especially for SMP Negeri 2 Hamparan Perak teachers who are still having trouble using the Merdeka Belajar application. So that the training was carried out at the request of the School to the Universitas Potesi Utama to hold training on the Merdeka Belajar Application. With the training carried out, the teacher's improvement in the use of the Merdeka Belajar application can increase.

Keywords: training, merdeka belajar, teachers, application

## **INTRODUCTION**

Merdeka Belajar Program supports many innovations in the world of education, especially the progress of various educational institutions including schools or forming madrasas, by also teacher Teachers who competencies. are independent in teaching are aware of the needs of their students according to the environment and culture of the students. Considering that Indonesia has many tribes, customs and cultures, manners and ethics in an area are certainly different. It is precisely the differences that make us know each other, and become a prosperous nation by respecting existing differences, mutual which cooperation has become commendable legacy of ancestors from generation to generation.

The values of Pancasila and those contained in Bhinneka Tunggal Ika from the kakawin Sutasoma book must become values that are shared by all Indonesian people, including students. The use of the Internet as an educational medium can be considered as something that is widely used among students. For this reason, schools can use the Internet as a means of learning apart from books and to be able to be a solution in overcoming problems that have been happening so far, for example the lack of books in the library, limited experts, distance from home to educational institutions, high costs and limited study time.

Realizing that any kind information can be found on the Internet, the use of the Internet has become a necessity. In every teaching and learning activity, the teacher is someone who provides guidance to his students. In addition, teachers must also have other skills in the field of Information technology, especially the Internet, because nowadays teachers are required to be able to use the Internet because they can dig up more information other than those in books.

The benefits of Merdeka Belajar for students are:

- a. Creating a happy learning atmosphere without being burdened with achieving certain scores or grades.
- b. As a means to communicate interactively with teaching staff more effectively in the education and teaching process.
- c. Optimizing the teaching and learning process because it is no longer too bound by space and time.
- d. As a means of debriefing and training on the use of ICT.
- e. Maximizing student capture because teaching materials are not only glued to text but can be in the form of images, videos or other interesting media.

While the benefits for teachers (teachers/lecturers/instructors):

- a. Make it easier to monitor student learning activities.
- b. Simplification Learning of the Implementation Plan (RPP).
- c. As an indicator of the teaching and learning process that aims to monitor and evaluate the performance teachers.
- d. As a form of using ICT in the development of interactive teaching and learning activities.
- e. As a means of showing competence and professionalism of teaching staff.
- f. Develop yourself or do research to improve your insight.

For this reason, it is necessary to study the independent learning application.

## **METHOD**

In carrying out Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat, it is necessary to carry out the implementation steps as outlined in Figure 1 below.



Figure 1. Method

## **Training Request From School**

This stage is the beginning where there is a request for training from the school, namely SMP Negeri 2 Hamparan Perak to conduct training, namely learning on the Merdeka Learning application.

# Preparation

After there is a request from the school, the Institution, namely Universitas Potensi Utama, makes preparations by assessing that there are Competent Lecturers who can become presenters in the Merdeka Belajar Application learning training so that they will become Tri Darma Lecturers, namely doing Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat

## Observation

The team was formed then the presenters team made observations with initial visitors to the target school, namely SMP Negeri 2 Hamparan Perak. After the observations were made, it was decided to determine the date of the training and what was needed in the Merdeka Belajar application training.

# **Study of Literature**

Sources of books or journals are needed to add knowledge about the use of the Merdeka Belajar application in literature studies at the Universitas Potensi Utama institution.

## **Implementation**

The training was carried out on Juny 08, 2022 with smooth conditions without any problems.

#### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

# A. Realization of Problem Solving

Preparation for Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat. Before the activity is carried out, the following preparations are made:

- 1. Conduct a literature study on various media for making learning aplication Merdeka Belajar and their assessment by using the web-based Merdeka Belajar application which is still difficult for teachers to make and how to use it.
- 2. Prepare tools and materials for the use of the Merdeka Belajar application.
- 3. Determine the implementation time and duration of service activities with the implementing team.
- 4. Determine and prepare material to be delivered in community service activities.

# **Implementation of Service Activities**

The service activities took place on Wednesday, June 8, 2022 from 09.00 to 14.00 WIB, attended by 15 participants, teachers and staff of SMP Negeri 2 Hamparan Perak. Activities in the form of delivering material and direct practice of using the Merdeka Belajar application from registration and use of learning modules and each participant practicing directly after being given an explanation by the instructor team.

## **B.** Target Audience

The target audience selected were teachers and staff of SMP Negeri 2 Hamparan Perak. The place chosen was the class room of SMP Negeri 2 Hamparan Perak.

## C. Relevance for Teachers

This service activity has relevance to the needs of teachers in the field. Based on the results of the survey before the implementation, teachers still have difficulty in making presentations of teaching materials because it is done manually so it takes a long time. So that with this workshop and training, it is hoped that teachers can conduct online and offline learning from the web-based Merdeka Belajar application.

# **D.** Activity Results

# 1. Workshop and Training Results

Based on interviews, questions and answers and direct observations during the activity, this community service activity gave the following results:

- a. Increased knowledge and understanding of teachers on the use of the Merdeka Belajar application with the available teaching modules.
- b. Increasing the skills of teachers in using the Merdeka Belajar application so that the implementation of the Merdeka Belajar curriculum can be implemented.

The results of this achievement are 85%.

# 2. Supporting Factors and Inhibiting Factors

Several factors that support the implementation of this community service activity are the amount of interest and enthusiasm of the participants during the activity, so that the activity runs smoothly and effectively. While the inhibiting factors are the limited time for the workshop and the lack of availability of laptops or computers for learning media for teachers and staff of SMP Negeri 2 Hamparan Perak in this training.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In training on the use of the Merdeka Learning application at SMP Negeri 2 Hamparan Perak, it was concluded that the activities went well and the enthusiasm of the teachers was very high because this application is a Government program that will be implemented by every school because currently schools must use the Merdeka Belajar Curriculum. Although it is stated that it is rather difficult to use, teachers can understand how to use it from those who understand 20% up to 85%.

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