Research Article

The Lampung History According to Old Newspapers Collection at the National Library of Indonesia

Atikah

The National Library of Indonesia, Indonesia

Abstract.

This paper raises the theme of the history of Lampung in the old newspaper collection. The old newspaper collection is one of the rare collections in the National Library of Indonesia. Rare newspaper collections, apart from being a primary source in historical research, have other characteristics that are not shared by the collection of books or other collections in the National Library of Indonesia. This is the background of this research.

This research used a descriptive analysis method. It observed and analyzed several collections of selected rare newspapers representing various periods from the Dutch colonial era, the Japanese occupation period, era of the independence revolution, and the old order government to the new order government period.

The newspaper collections selected were those that contained information about Lampung from different periods. This is to prove that there are many traces of Lampung's history in old newspaper collections and they are not minor sources of data. There is a lot of important data that can become primary sources for historical research on Lampung.

Keywords: old newspapers, collection, library, Lampung, history, information-searching

Corresponding Author: Atikah;
email: tt6340571@gmail.com

1. Introduction

One of the roles of the printed press in the past was to find out the development of society in its era. Including when we want to know about the development of society and in the Lampung region in the past. Among them can be traced in the collection of old newspapers in the National Library of Indonesia.

New discoveries from primary sources about the history of a region will encourage the formulation of a view of the region's history as part of national history. Because history is not synonymous with the past, but is also a process of development that leads to the present and the future. Therefore, knowing more about the history of Lampung from various historical collections, we can get a better view of how Lampung was in the past, as the development of Lampung into the future.

The reason for raising the collection of old newspapers is due to some of its unique-ness that is not possessed by other types of collections. In the era of printed newspa-pers, apart from being a means of mass communication that has been used for decades in Indonesian society, it is also a source of reading for the general public. Newspapers are also a medium that broadcasts news of various events to satisfy human curiosity, information on the development of society at home and abroad, political, economic, social, cultural developments throughout the world.

In his era, printed newspapers channeled many messages from the society (Sinar Harapan, 23-01-1985 p 6, col 4-9). It is appropriate to find out how the people of Lampung lived in the past by utilizing old newspaper collections as a source for tracing the history of Lampung. Old newspaper collections have a distinctiveness that other collections, such as monographs or magazines, do not have, and are also different from scientific collections. With the uniqueness of the old newspaper collection, it is hoped that it can provide input and different views in searching for information related to Lampung's historical traces as an integral part of the Indonesian territory. Another goal is to enrich the literature on Lampung, although it still needs improvement for future development due to time constraints.

2. Methods

The method used was descriptive analysis. Several collections of featured newspa-pers representing various periods in Indonesian history were selected. The periods in question are the Dutch Colonial era, the Japanese Occupation, the Independence Revolution, the Old Order Government, and the New Order Government. Rare featured newspapers here are newspapers that are read with a high frequency by librarians.

Based on the selected collection, the content of "history about Lampung" was traced to prove the research question of whether the traces of Lampung's history in the old newspaper collection constitute major data, and what interesting topics were often raised by the mass media about Lampung in the past.

The data collection period started from June 26 - July 2, 2023. The data processing period began on July 3, 2023 to July 7, 2023.

3. Results and Discussion

News from newspapers, when first published, cannot be said to be valid news, but the aim is to keep the information up-to-date. For a news report, there is usually subsequent

news to update the previous news so that the news of one event really becomes a whole news from the beginning of the incident, when it happened, the consequences of the event or incident to the analysis or opinion of several experts.

These are the results of Lampung-related searches, starting from newspapers published during the Dutch Colonization, The Japanese Occupation, Independence Revolution Era, The Old Order, to the New Order government.

3.1. Overview of the Physical Condition of the Old Newspaper Collection in the National Library

TABLE 1: Overview of the National Library's Old Newspaper Collection.

Old Newspapers collection	Dutch Colonial era (1900-1942)	Japanese occupation (1942-1945	Revolution (1945-1949)	Old Era (1950-1965)	New Era (1966-1997)
Presentation	99%	99%	99%	99%	30%
Solution Preservation	Digitalization Microfilm	Digitalization Microfilm	Digitalization Microfilm	Digitalization Microfilm	Digitalization

The digitization process has been carried out by the National Library in the last 3 years. The results can be checked on the web: Khastara.perpusnas.go.id.

The National Library of Indonesia is still working to improve the quality of the digitization of old newspapers.

3.2. The result searching for Lampung History

TABLE 2: some selected articles of Lampung.

Old Newspapers collection	Dutch Colonial era (1900-1942)	Japanese occupation (1942-1945	Revolution (1945-1949)	Old Era (1950-1965)	New Era (1966-1997)
Total of Articles	13	1	1	3	42

3.3. The Lampung subjects are found in old Newspapers Collection

From table 3 above, it can be concluded that the major topics related to Lampung are:

1. Transmigration

This is the most common article found in newspaper collections from various periods. During the Dutch East Indies, transmigration was called colonization. The transmigration

TABLE 3: The Lampung subjects are found in old Newspapers Collection.

No.	Dutch Colonial era (1900-1942)	Japanese occupation (1942-1945	Revolution (1945-1949)	Old Era (1950-1965)	New Era (1966-1997)
1	Transmigration (2)	Transmigration (1)	Governance (1)	Transmigration (1)	Transmigration (5)
2	Agricultural economy (1)			Transportation (1)	Economy (3)
3	Transportation (1)			Mining(1)	Transportation (5)
4	Islam (1)				Fauna (1)
5	Volcanoes (3)				Governance (1)
6	Governance (1)				High Education(3)
7	Plantation (1)				Islam 3
8	Women (1)				Architecture
9					Forest (2)
10					Folklore (1)
11					Social Conflict (1)
12					Culture (1)
13					Environment (1)
14					Electric (1)
15					Literacy (1)
16					Sport (1)
17					Industry (2)
18					Plantation(1)
19					Agriculture (2)
20					Tribe (1)
21					Figures (3)

project in Lampung has been started since 1936. During the Japanese occupation, a number of people from East Java were sent to Lampung. It was continued in the post-independence era during the reign of President Soekarno and President Soeharto.

2. Transportation

Transportation occupies the second place as the most frequently found topic. Transportation here is related to transportation facilities such as: train transportation, Ferry as a means of transport crossing connecting Lampung with Java Island. In addition, other facilities, such as bridges, connect one region to another in Lampung which is crossed by several large rivers (Way).

3. Islam

The next frequently found topic related to Lampung is : Islam. The religion is practiced by the majority of Lampung's population. The sources of information related to Islam

in Lampung are one of the major pieces of information often written by the printed mass media at that time. This topic is still a big topic, which when broken down again consists of : religious buildings (mosques, Islamic boarding schools), educational institutions (Islamic boarding schools, Islamic higher education), Islamic organizations (Muhammadiyah, Al-Irsyad).

4. Economy

The topic of the economy in Lampung is one that is often found in newspapers. Lampung as a land of hope for transmigration, is to improve Lampung's economy both from the Agriculture, Plantation, and Transportation sectors.

5. Figures

Figures from Lampung or important figures visiting Lampung are often reported in the print media. A figure from Lampung who later became a hero: Raden Intan, can be found in the Old Newspaper Collection. A related female figure who lived in Lampung is Ida Loemongga.

6. Literacy in Lampung

An interesting point that needs to be underlined here, is the finding of an article related to "Literacy" in Lampung Society. In Kompas Daily dated February 19, 1989, p. 4, col. 1-9, an article was found with the title: "Lampung skills destroyed". In summary, this article tells that Lampung is known as the first area where the Dutch East Indies government opened colonization (Transmigration). The area became a shelter for people moving from Java, which had been overcrowded since the beginning of the 19th century.

Beyond all that, there is one more advantage of Lampung. When the Dutch East Indies government conducted a population census in 1930, a surprising result was obtained regarding the literacy condition of Lampung people in that era. The census results showed that no less than 45% of adult men and 34% of adult women in Lampung proved to be literate. With this result Lampung holds the highest record for the number of non-literate people in the entire Dutch East Indies region. In fact, it far surpassed areas where the Dutch had established educational institutions such as in Ambon or North Sulawesi. It was not the ability to read and write Latin or Arabic letters, but to read and write in the Indonesian alphabet called "ka-ga-nga". The ability to read and write was not taught at school, instead they inherited it from the habits of young people when they gathered at dusk to exchange rhymes that they quoted from old manuscripts.

Unfortunately, this skill of understanding Indonesian script disappeared a century after Western civilization entered.

Interestingly, the people's ability to understand reading and writing predates the school system officially established by the government. This happened even in the animist era before Islamic and Western cultures entered Lampung. In this era, the ability to disseminate literacy was part of the role of women.

From the above, we can conclude that Lampung has a unique literacy history rooted in the customs and traditions of the past.

3.4. Names of Newspapers are contains Lampung articles

TABLE 4: Newspapers contains Lampung Articles.

No	Dutch Colonial era (1900-1942)	Japanese occupation (1942-1945	Revolution (1945-1949)	Old Era (1950-1965)	New Era (1966-1997)
1	Adil	Asia Raja	Berita Indonesia	Indonesia Timur	Kompas
2	De Indische Mercuur			Harian Indonesia	Berita Buana
3	Bintang Timoer			Merdeka	Sinar Harapan
4	Bintang Batavia				Indonesia Raya
5	Oetoesan				Merdeka
6	Pertja Selatan				Angkatan Bersenjata
7	Soeara Oemoem				Neraca
8					Pelita
					Suara Pem-baruan
					Sinar Indonesia Baru
					Berita Yudha
					Suara Karya

In this research, several sources were used to search for the history of Lampung which were taken randomly. For the Dutch East Indies era, there were 7 newspaper titles, namely: Adil, De Indische Mercuur, Bintang Timur, Bintang Batavia, Perca Selatan and Suara Umum. In the Japanese occupation era, articles about Lampung were found in the newspaper Asia Raya. In the revolutionary era of the independence war, articles were found in Berita Indonesia newspaper. For the Old Order government, three newspapers about Lampung were found, namely: Indonesia Timur, Harian Indonesia, and Merdeka newspaper. The most newspapers were in the New Order era, with 12 newspaper titles. This is because most of the physical conditions in this era are still in good condition. Meanwhile, the most articles were found in Kompas Daily newspaper, followed by Sinar Harapan, then Indonesia Raya Daily and Merdeka newspaper.

4. Conclusion

When we search for information, we have to make sure that the data we are looking for whether it is about a character, an event, a place, or an idea/thought in the past is categorized as minor or major data. Let's say we are looking for somebody in the past. It just so happens that in the past the person who was looking for was often mentioned in the mass media or he/she had/often sent his ideas in the form of writing to the mass media in his era, it is certain that the data about the character is major data. It will be difficult, if you search for somebody in the past, although in this recent time that person is already a VIP figure. When he/she was as "nobody", none of the media ever published/reported. Then became "most wanted" in the next period. There is a statement that to see the quality of a figure, one can see how important the figure is often reported by the print media. The coverage of the figure in the print media can become primary sources for writing material about the figure in the future. If there is almost no print media that is contemporaneous with the figure, then for this case, of course, it requires hard work and a well-planned search strategy.

In order to conduct a search in an old newspaper collection, it is necessary to consider about :

1. Whether the information sought in that era is categorized as minor or major information Major. Minor information is whether the "thing you are looking for" (place, event, person, object, idea/thought) in the past was/is reported by the mass media in its era. It is difficult and takes a lot of effort to trace a character or event that never made the headlines in the press in the past.

2. The difference between past and present keywords will affect the determination of search results.

3. Lack of understanding or not knowing the development of spelling and language in the past, because the language of the press mostly describes the language used in the community in its era.

4. Not finding historical sources can be caused by: physical damage, short publication period of the newspaper.

5. The need for interactive communication between librarians and researchers to determine the time, keywords, etc.

6. Librarians convey the physical condition or offer other alternatives if the source sought is not available

7. The need for sufficient time planning in conducting searches.

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