

A Comparative Literature Approach in Teaching BIPA: Building Cross-Cultural Understanding

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Abstract

The Comparative Literature approach in teaching Indonesian for Foreign Speakers (BIPA) offers a new perspective in building cross-cultural understanding. Through the study of literature from different countries, especially the comparison of Indonesian literary works with works from the learner's home culture, this approach aims to connect their literary experiences with the social and cultural context of Indonesia. This approach allows BIPA learners to understand the values, norms, and social realities that exist in Indonesia in a more relevant and in-depth way. Literature serves as a bridge that connects language and culture, helping learners develop linguistic competence while increasing awareness and appreciation of cultural differences. By understanding thematic comparisons, narrative styles and symbolism between literary works, learners not only master the language technically, but also enrich their understanding of the complexity of Indonesian culture. In the context of cross-cultural learning, comparative literature offers an effective way to build intercultural dialog that strengthens intercultural communication skills.

Keywords: Comparative Literature, BIPA, Cross-Cultural, Cultural Understanding, Language Teaching