

# **THE COMPETITIVE DEBATE IN ACEH**

## **SKRIPSI**

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## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

In this chapter, the researcher writes some point that related to the theoretical of study. Those points are background of the study, the research problem, the objective of study, the scope of study, the significance of study and definition of key term.

#### **1.1 Background of study**

Debate is the process of each individual in giving particular contentions by using critical thinking about various issues from many points of view. It aims to convince the certain people regarding the idea that they offer or defend (Syahputra:2020).

Similarly, debate pushes students to build, develop, and maintain their perception or idea through a logic way of thinking and the reliable references about the issue being discussed. Therefore, the students are required to be able to deliver their argument explicitly and rebut their opponent team's idea successfully. In short, debate can elevate the students' qualification of communication and critical thinking (Wahyuni:2020).

Currently, competitive debate has been practiced in the long run and has been frequently held as annual events by government and many institutions as the platform for students to actualize themselves especially in critical thinking and communication skill, as well as

enriching their knowledge and experience. It also creates the network for all students who are passionate in it. The popular events that are usually run by the government like NUDC, JOVED, SOVED are also engineered by the other institutions by releasing the debate competition with diverse names or events in different areas like VEDA, ALSA UI, CIMSA, and ATMA OPEN.

According to Wahyuni (2020), competitive debate is a type of debate that is held in academic circle. The students are encouraged to think critically and work in team cooperatively in order to provide the best way to solve a problem so they can win the competition. The main part of debate is argumentation which must be principally and practically relevant to trust and implement. It means that an argumentation should be logic, relevant and important to be talked in the debate.

Nevertheless, the gap of debate quality between Acehese debaters and the other provinces' debater is very tangible. The Acehese debaters' achievement in national and international level still as a utopia (Iqhrammullah, 2017:50). For instance, none of Aceh debate teams has ever reached the semifinals or grandfinal of NUDC. It shows that the qualification of Acehese debaters is still left behind.

Furthermore, the number of participation of Acehese debaters in competitive debate is still low. The researcher found that there are only a few debaters who actively participate in competitive debate especially

in regional and national level (Iqhrammullah, 2017:21). It shows that most of debaters are not courageous enough to compete with the debaters from other provinces. They tend to be disincentivized to win the debate match nationally or internationally. It happens because some factors either internalities or externalities; those factors can be in a form of self-doubt about their capability, inadequate budget for the registration fee, limited sources in terms of coaches, teammates, and learning platforms.

Due to the facts that the debaters will be more likely insecure to appear among individuals who are genuinely distinctive from themselves. They are also probably some debaters who want to participate but at the same time they do not have enough fund to sign up for the competitions unless there are a sponsor or an institution that will capitalize them. Besides, when they want to enroll themselves to the matches and they are being funded, they need to find their teammates and coaches to teach them.

There are multidimensional problem happening around the Acehnese debaters in general, and in Aceh campus in particular. Therefore, it needs a quick and serious response to cope with the problems in order to reform the competitive debate into a better form. To overcome the problems, we need to apprehend the current circumstances of the competitive debate in Aceh and it will be exposed within this research.

There are some previous research that is related to the current research. The first research is from Muhammad Iqhrammullah and Natasya Zuelda from Syiah Kuala University Debating Club with the title of the research “The Landscape of Competitive Debate in Aceh”. This research generally focus on all of educational layers up the senior high school to university. This research’s purposes are to s to explore the impact of debate activities in Aceh, Acehnese students’ competitive debate experience and achievement, challenges of competitive debate proliferation and quality of debate competition in Aceh.

The second research is from Misna Aura from Universitas Bina Bangsa Getsempena with the title of the study “An Analysis of Adjudicators’ Feedback Strategy in Competitive Debate”. The research hel in 2021 which focused on analyzing the strategy of the adjudicator while giving feedback in competitive debates.. Every debate competition must have the adjudicators that will give some feedbacks about the result of the debate towards the debater who compete in the events. Therefore, there is a correlation between the adjudicators feedback strategy and the competitive debate itself.

The third research is entitled “The Effects of Debate Competition on Critical Thinking among Malaysian Second Language Learners” by Moomala Othman et. al. (2015) from Faculty of Educational Study of University of Putra, Malaysia. This study talks about how the competitive debate affects the critical thinking of Malaysian second

language learners. It also includes the circumstances of the competitive debate where the study also mostly discuss about the impact of the debate competition towards human being.

Based on some researches above, the researcher wants to carry out the research by conducting a new research entitled “**The Landscape of Competitive Debate in Aceh Private Universities** ”. What makes this research very exclusive is that this research is going to focus on the landscape of the debate in Aceh higher education.

## **1.2 Research Question**

According the previous background and the focus of the research being elaborated above, the research question is “How is the landscape of competitive debate in Aceh private universities?”.

## **1.3 The Objective of study**

Based on the research question being appended above, so this research aims to know the landscape of competitive debate in Aceh private universities.

## **1.4 Scope of study**

The research focuses on investigating the landscape of competitive debate in Aceh private universities which consists of the multi-dimensional perspectives in competitive debate among private universities in Aceh.



### **1.5 The significant of study**

This study is expected to give benefit for some stakeholders such as adjudicator, debater, teacher, student, and researcher. The significances as follow:

#### **1. Debaters**

Knowing the landscape the Acehnese debaters among private universities will be the self-introspection or evaluation for each debater so they will push themselves to be better in term of credibility.

#### **2. Government**

This research can also become the parameter for the government to design the competitive debate. It will send the message towards the government about what things that have gone well and what things should still be improved in competitive debate that they held.

#### **3. Teachers**

This research is also going to very beneficial towards the teachers in term of how they apply debate in their classroom. They can also be inspired by this research because it can be the channel for themselves to acknowledge how the landscape of competitive debate in Aceh is. By recognizing the landscape, they will be more concerned to improve the implementation of the debate in their classes.

#### **4. Students**

The study will also be useful for the students. Knowing the landscape of competitive debate, the students are going to understand

on what things that still need to upgrade and pursued in competitive debate. Knowing the landscape means that they will be able to contextualize the circumstances happening in competitive debate. They will also keep actualizing themselves due to the fact that they need to represent their school in a debate match as well as possible.

#### 5. Institution

This research will also push the institutions that want to hold a debate competition to be more concerned about the quality or credibility of the competition that they have and ensure the benefit of the competition. By this study, all institutions that intend to make a debate competition will get the constructive critique or evaluation that urge them to make and have a qualified and significantly better competitive debate in Aceh, especially in higher education level (campus).

#### 6. Researchers

This study will be useful for the researcher to enlarge the writers' capability in creating the next researches that have correlations with this research. It will become an experience for the researcher to engineer such research and the experience will help the researcher to have a better way on the next researches.

## **1.6 Definition of key term**

To avoid the misconception about some keywords that become the main points of the study that may be the readers do not have familiarity with those words so the writer provides some definitions that will help the readers to comprehend the study. The definition as follows:

### **1.6.1 Competitive Debate**

Competitive debate is the clash of idea between pros and cons teams that struggle to win the debate. In competition, every team compete and against each other according to their position and stance. Winning teams are determined by a set of criteria centered on the ideas of content, delivery, and strategy (Cambridge Union Society:2015).

Competitive debate can be in the form of a formal, disciplined, and rule-governed contest/competition that is conducted within a set framework. A competitive debate may comprise two individuals that against one another or two teams or more that against each other. A team can win the debate if they are have most exclusive idea and are able to engage with the others' teams' case (Medan Debate Academy:2020).

### **1.6.2 Landscape**

The landscape that the writer means in this research is the multi-dimensional sides of competitive debate that are linked each other which leads to circumstances from the multiple points of view. According to Oxford Dictionary by Elizabeth Mavor, 1598, landscape is characteristic features of an area of activity. It is relevant to use as the keyword of the

study regarding how every features or side of competitive debate looks like.

Features can be in a form of participation, achievement, interest in debate competitive debate, especially in private campuses of Aceh province.