Figure Drona as Personification of Role Figure for Intellectual within Governance

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Abstract

Up to this moment one country’s government is identical with politician, bureaucracy, and military. However, in reality apart from those mentioned ones, there are one other group that also sometimes emerged within the governance that is the intellectuals (priest/intellectuals). That is possible in the context of social structures within the society.

By literature study, this research is trying to expose the intellectuals’ roles in the governance. The research on intellectuals’ role in the governance is done by referring to the Javanese society folklore which is the Mahabharata. In the folklore, there was a figure, Dorna, who was an intellectual’s leader.

However, in fact, the expectation and the reality do not match. While the intellectuals are existed within the power and politic circles, between the expectation and reality, their roles could possibly be moved. Within the society structures, the priest (religious leaders and science authority) are made possible to act on different kind of activities such as governance and even military campaign. Drona is included as a figure that gives opportunity for the leaders of governments to formulate such unpopular policies. That is not surprising if then their intellectuality is being put in the questioning state through the degree of intellectuals principals (Endraswara, 2003) which are: purity of heart, no physical disability, kind words not filthy ones, good attitude, constancy, fight for justice or tranquility, keenness, struggle against goodness, do not possess pakareman.

Key words: intellectuals, governance, folklore, Javanese society, Mahabharata, Drona, social structure