

# Javanese Local Color Literature as a Vehicle for Strengthening the Nation's Character

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## ABSTRACT

This study aims to describe the form of local Javanese colors in Javanese local colored literary works and the use of Javanese local colored literature as a vehicle to strengthen the nation's character.

The data sources in this study were novels written by Javanese authors which contained Javanese local colors, namely (1) *Para Priyayi* and (2) *Jalan Menikung* by Umar Kayam, (3) *Pasar* by Kuntowijoyo, (4) *Ronggeng Dukuh Paruk*, (5) *Lintang Kemukus Dini Hari*, and (6) *Jantera Bianglala* by Ahmad Tohari, which has the potential to be used as literary learning material in the context of education and character development of students. Data obtained by reading-note technique and analyzed by qualitative descriptive analysis.

The results showed that (1) the form of local Javanese colors in the novel is art (especially puppets, Javanese song, and *ketoprak*), belief (Islamic *abangan*, belief in ancestral spirits, mantras, and heirloom objects), *priyayi* and *wong cilik* social status. (2) The local Javanese color can be used to strengthen religious character, honesty, tolerance, discipline, hard work, democracy, love for the country, love peace, social care, and responsibility by using local Javanese colored novels as alternative learning materials and reading materials for literacy activities in the morning for 15 minutes before learning in class.

Kata Kunci: *Javanese local color literature, character strengthening*