

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Research Background

Education held in order to fulfill the mandate of the 1945 Constitution that is to develop the intellectual life of the nation. This is a very complex process as a sub system in nation-building. There are component of students, faculty, curriculum and learning, infrastructure, organization, and finance inside the education. The success of realizing the mandate can not stand alone, but need an integrated support from other subsystems. Noble ideal of developing the nation's intellectual life is difficult to achieve if the phenomenon is contrary to the practice of education in the community (Suparman, 2010: 1).

There are many parameters to measure the quality of education. One is the quality of graduate. The quality of graduate is not only seen from the results' study in the form of the test results' value. The quality of graduate should be evaluated from all aspects of learning which includes cognitive, affective, and psychomotor by referring to the demands Graduate' Competency Standard based on education level.

The fact indicates the graduate' quality is often measured by test scores obtained. Aspects of attitude, character, manners, and skills are not tend be criticized. This can be seen from the school entry requirements on SMP and SMA that based on the results of any tests or knowledge tests. The

problems faced this nation requires a comprehensive answer in the form of strengthening the intellectual aspects, behavioral, mental, character, and nationality character of each graduate.

From the description above, it can be concluded that the quality of the graduate should not only be measured from the aspect of knowledge or test scores, but the quality of graduate also must be measured from the aspect of attitude, behavior, manners, personality, character, and skills appropriate national education goals set.

In Primary Schools has been implemented the National Standard School Final Exams (UASBN). Consequently, most of study time is used to improve the mastery of UASBN material. Other subjects are not signed in UASBN material tends to be ignored. UASBN graduation standards are specified by the respective schools. Manuscript matter is under the control of National Education Standards Agency (BSNP) and the central government.

Determination of graduation standard is decided in the meeting of teachers' council. They consider a minimal graduation standard of each subjects tested. Graduation standards can vary based on the schools. The higher standards established show that the school is more qualified. This is one difference between UASBN with the UN. School also organizes School Exams (UAS). The exams can be in the form of written test and also practical test. The practical test intended to produce qualified graduate. Not only qualified in cognitive but also in affective and psychomotor. So, if UASBN

and the US are done correctly and balanced, it will produce graduate with the high quality according to expectations of national education goals.

It is also carried out at SDN Karangasem 1 Demak. SDN Karangasem Demak which is one favorite Primary School in Sayung District, Demak. In 2009 and 2010 all sixth grade students passed 100% with quite encouraging values. It is certainly because the principal, teachers and other school personel have made various efforts to improve students' achievement and graduate' quality of. Based on this background, the author is interested in studying about *THE IMPROVING GRADUATE STRATEGY AT SDN KARANGASEM 1 SAYUNG, DEMAK.*

B. Research Focus

Based on the description above, the focus of this research is what are characteristic of improving graduate' strategy at SDN Karangasem 1 Sayung, Demak. The focus is divided into three sub focus.

1. What are characteristics of school policy to improving the graduate at SDN Karangasem 1 Sayung, Demak?
2. What are preparation of a special learning plan to improving the graduate at SDN Karangasem 1 Sayung, Demak?
3. What are learning outcomes achieved by graduate of SDN Karangasem 1 Sayung, Demak?

C. Research Objective

There are three objective to be achieved in this study.

1. To describe characteristics the school's policy to improving the graduate at SDN Karangasem 1 Sayung, Demak.
2. To describe the preparation of a special learning plan to improving the graduate at SDN Karangasem 1 Sayung, Demak.
3. To describe the learning outcomes achieved by graduate of SDN Karangasem 1 Sayung, Demak.

D. Research Benefit

1. Theoretical Benefit

The result is expected to increase scientific knowledge in management science education, particularly the strategy to improve the quality of graduate at the school.

2. Practical Benefit

The results of this research can provide practical benefits.

- a. to the Department of Education as an input to formulate a strategy to improve the quality of graduate in primary schools.
- b. to Principal, the results of this research are expected to be used as input and evaluation of the implementation of learning and quality improvement strategies in the elementary school graduate.
- c. to teachers serve as comparative material and additional material in an effort to improve student learning outcomes.

- d. to school board, the results of this study should to be considered for the school board to provide input to the school.
- e. to the citizens of the school, the results of this research are expected to be used as an input to more actively participate in efforts to improve the quality of graduate and school quality.

E. Glossary

1. Output of school activities are all things that we learned in school, i.e. how much is learned and how well we learn them.
2. The output is a graduate school that is useful for life, namely graduate who are useful to themselves, their families, and their environment, meaning graduate include outcomes, i.e. results from education investments that had been undertaken by students to be a useful and beneficial.
3. The strategy for improving the quality of graduate is a series of efforts made by schools to improve student learning outcomes and school quality.