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Djawa Baroe as a Rich Research Data Source: Focus on Literature Content

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Abstract

Djawa Baroe magazine was published during the Japanese occupation of Indonesia from 1 January 1943 to 1 August 1945, with a total of 63 issues. This magazine contains various political, social, cultural, or economic articles, so it is a research source for various fields. *Djawa Baroe* does not specialize in literature magazines but has a lot of literature content. Therefore, this study aims to find data on the kind of literature content in *Djawa Baroe*. This study used a quantitative method to record all articles in 63 editions with literature content. The results show many literature genres in *Djawa Baroe*: short stories, plays, *Lelucon* or Indonesian comedy plays, poetries, paper theatres, comics, *Kisah Sepanjang Jalan*, or *tsuji shousetsu* in Japanese. All of these literature works were written not only by Indonesian authors but also by Japanese authors. There are also several essays written by Japanese writers. *Djawa Baroe* gives a clear picture of the Japanese military government's efforts to promote literature as a means of war propaganda at that time. It is not a literature magazine, but its large and varied literature contents make it a rich and interesting data source for literary research during the Japanese Occupation of Indonesia.

Keywords: Djawa Baroe; literature content; Japanese occupation

1. Introduction

Djawa Baroe is a magazine published during the Japanese Occupation of Indonesia (1942-1945). The magazine was published twice a month, from 1 January 1943 to 1 August 1945. Therefore, 63 issues of *Djawa Baroe* magazine were published. As stated in its first edition, *Djawa Baroe* was published by Djawa Shinbunsha. This publishing company was founded by the Asahi Shimbun Company from Japan. In addition to *Djawa Baroe*, Asahi Shimbun also published several other newspapers, such as the Japanese-language newspaper called *Djawa Shimbun* and the Indonesian-language or called Malay language newspaper *Asia Raya*.

In the first issue of *Djawa Baroe*, there was an article entitled "Tjita-cita Djawa Baroe," which was the primary purpose of publishing this magazine. The contents were:

1. To give in particular a correct picture of Nippon, the area of common prosperity in the South, with Java as its center.
2. To serve as the best intermediary between the Indonesian people and Nippon.
3. It can also be a tool to achieve the current great war. It can also arouse a sense of brotherhood between the Nipponese and Indonesian nations.
4. Led by the Indonesian and Nippon sides together.
5. It will definitely advance quickly, and its contents will be perfect.

The first point mentions the reason for choosing images/photos that will dominate this magazine: they show reality and truth. The content of the magazine's articles is indeed dominated by photographs. In fact, some articles are just large photos that fill the page with a little picture caption.

The cover photo is also fascinating. The cover of the first issue of *Djawa Baroe* features a photo of several small children playing together. Some children wear batik sarongs, while others wear traditional Japanese clothing. The cover photo caption reads:

Kanak-kanak Nippon dan kanak-kanak Indonesia, jang sedang bermain bersama-sama dengan ramah tamah¹ (Japanese and Indonesian children are playing together)

Which comes with Japanese translation,

ナカ ヨク アソブ ニツポン ト インドネシア ノ コドモ

Furthermore, in the 1 November 1943 issue, the cover was a photo of one of Indonesia's leaders, Ir. Sukarno. The cover photo in the 1 March 1944 issue shows children working happily in a radish field in Surabaya. Furthermore, according to the caption, the photo on the last edition of *Djawa Baroe* magazine is a photo of members of the *Koogeki tai* troops smoking casually before carrying out the attack.

In general, the magazine's columns were divided into several topics: politics, war news, culture, society, Japanese language lessons, and literature. In accordance with the wartime society at that time, there were many political or Japanese war news from various battlefield areas, including in Manchukuo or Myanmar. However, there were also cultural articles, such as those showing traditional dances in Solo, as well as societal news, such as how the Japanese military government expected women's duties and roles at that time, or household lessons, such as how to wash correctly, or articles on proper rice cooking, etc.

Japanese lessons from the basic level, including writing katakana and hiragana, are also included. The articles in this magazine not only focused on Javanese or Indonesian society at that time but also contained articles that introduced Japanese society, such as Japanese traditional culture, what daily life was like in Japan, etc. Therefore, *Djawa Baroe* magazine is rich with information from various fields.

2. Methods

This research uses quantitative research methods. The primary data are all articles published in the 63 volumes of *Djawa Baroe*. By the research focus on literary content, the data studied are articles related to literature in the form of literary works such as poetry or short stories, as well as essays written by Japanese and Indonesian writers. In addition, the secondary data is in the form of books, articles, or other written data related to the research topic.

3. Result and Discussion

From the author's findings, *Djawa Baroe* had several characteristics that were not shared by other magazines or newspapers during the Japanese occupation, including:

1. Bilingual. Almost all articles in *Djawa Baroe* had Japanese translations. This meant that both Indonesian and Japanese readers could read the magazine.
2. Another thing is using photos that dominate the magazine pages. This was not found in similar magazines of its era. This is in line with what was written in the ideals of *Djawa Baroe* in the magazine's first edition.
3. The content was varied. There were various types of columns in *Djawa Baroe*, not only political; this was different from, for example, the newspaper Asia Raya, which contained more political and war news.

Next, the author will describe the research results related to literary content in *Djawa Baroe* magazine.

3.1. Indonesian Authors Works

The literary column has always been present in the magazine from the first issue until the last. The genre of literature published in *Djawa Baroe* is very diverse. The research data will be described in the form of a table.

Table 1. Short Stories and Serial stories by Indonesian authors

Issue	Title	Author
1 January 1943	<i>Setinggi-tinggi Terbang Bangau...(1)</i>	Andjar Asmara
15 January	<i>Setinggi-tinggi Terbang Bangau... (2)</i>	Idem
1 February	<i>Setinggi-tinggi Terbang Bangau...(3)</i>	Idem
15 February	<i>Setinggi-tinggi Terbang Bangau...(4)</i>	Idem
15 March	<i>Setinggi-tinggi Terbang Bangau...(5)</i>	Idem
1 April	<i>Setinggi-tinggi Terbang Bangau...(6)</i>	Idem
15 April	<i>Koerban Gadis</i>	Winarno
1 May	<i>Tangan Mentjentang Bahoe Memikoel(1)</i>	M. Dimiyati
15 May	<i>Tangan Mentjentang Bahoe Memikoel (2)</i>	Idem
1 June	<i>Tangan Mentjentang Bahoe Memikoel (3)</i>	Idem
15 June	<i>Tangan Mentjentang Bahoe Memikoel (4)</i>	Idem

Issue	Title	Author
1 July	<i>Hamid Pahlawan Perkoempoelan "Anti-A.V.C" (Dibawah Bajangan Djembatan) (1)</i>	A.S. Hadisiswojo
15 July	<i>Hamid Pahlawan Perkoempoelan "Anti-A.V.C" (Dibawah Bajangan Djembatan) (2)</i>	Idem
1 August	<i>Hamid Pahlawan Perkoempoelan "Anti-A.V.C" (Dibawah Bajangan Djembatan) (3)</i>	Idem
15 August	<i>Radio Masyarakat (1)</i>	Rosihan Anwar
1 September	<i>Radio Masyarakat (2)</i>	Idem
15 September	<i>Radio Masyarakat (3)</i>	Idem
1 October	<i>Radio Masyarakat (4)</i>	Idem
15 October	<i>Mendjelang Hari Gemilang (1)</i>	Soetomo Djauhar Arifin
1 November	<i>Mendjelang Hari Gemilang (2)</i>	Idem
15 November	<i>Mendjelang Hari Gemilang (3)</i>	Idem
1 December	<i>Panggilan Tanah Air. Citra (1)</i>	Usmar Isma'il
15 December	<i>Panggilan Tanah Air. Citra (2)</i>	Idem
1 April 1944	<i>Lajar Poetih!</i>	Idem
15 April	<i>Boekan Karena Akoe...</i>	Aoh Kartahadimaja
1 May	<i>Tonari Kumi</i>	NES
1 June	<i>Djiwa Pahlawan</i>	Nji R. Hadidjah Machtoem
15 June	<i>Pamankoe</i>	Rosihan Anwar
1 July	<i>Darah Laoe</i>	H.B. Jassin
15 July	<i>Aroes Mengalir</i>	Karim Halim
1 August	<i>Pemoeda Pantjaroba</i>	Soetomo Djauhar Arifin
15 August	<i>Karjo, Pandai Besi</i>	Djojokoesoemo
1 September	<i>Tanda Bahagia</i>	Bakri Siregar
1 February 1945	<i>Seboeah Bingkisan</i>	A. Kartahadimadja
15 April	<i>Oejian Tamtama</i>	Ki Santoso
1 May	<i>Boeboer Perdjoengan</i>	Widya
15 June	<i>Samboengan Njawa</i>	Djanis

From the data above, there are total 21 short stories or serial stories published in *Djawa Baroe* magazine.

Table 2: Poems by Indonesian Authors

Issue	Title	Author
1 April 1943	Ingat Ingat !	St. P. Boestami
1 April	Awat Mata-mata Moesoeh!	Idem
1 June	Sembojan	Idem
15 June	Oentoek Saudara	Rosihan Anwar
1 September	Zaman Baroe	Usmar Isma'il S.M.A.
1 October	Darah Moeda	Noersjamsoe
1 November	Ditengah Segara	Soetan Perang Bustami
15 January 1944	Jarak Beloem Bertitian	Rosihan Anwar
15 February	Meminta dan Memberi	Usmar Isma'il
1 October	Bintang Merdeka	Armijn Pane
	Merah-Poetih	Usmar Isma'il

Issue	Title	Author
15 December	Waspada Pasti berkibar Pelaot Angkatan Baroe	S.D. Arifin Armijn Pane M.R. Dajoh

From the data above, there are 14 poems by Indonesian writers published in *Djawa Baroe* magazine.

Table 3. Paper Plays by Indonesian Authors

Issue	Title	Title in Japanese and Composing institution
1 Maret 1944	<i>Roekoen Mendjadikan Sentosa</i>	隣組
15 March	<i>Pengaroeh Zaman</i>	婦人會
1 April	<i>Melipatgandakan Hasil Boemi</i>	No title or author listed
15 April	<i>Perboeatan Baik, Baik Balasnja</i>	よい行ひには、よい報 いがある
1 May	<i>Radja Oentoek Semalam</i>	一夜王
15 May	<i>Tiga Saudara</i>	三人兄弟
1 June	<i>Salah Tampa</i>	誤解
15 June	<i>Dongeng Joko Kendil</i>	ジョコ・ケンディル
1 July	<i>Nasehat jang Bermanfa'at</i>	有益な忠言
15 July	<i>Insaf Membawa Bahagia</i>	自覚は幸福をもたらす
1 August	<i>Ta' Ada Pekerdjaan Hina</i>	職業に貫賤なし
15 August	<i>Bawang Putih dan Bawang Abang</i>	No title or author listed
1 September	<i>Sembadra dan Srikandi</i>	スンバドレとスリカン デイ, by Sendenbu

From the data above, there were 13 paper plays published in *Djawa Baroe*. All of them were published consecutively in the 1944 edition from 1 March 1944 to 1 September 1944. In terms of content, the stories were very diverse. Some told about the real life of the Javanese people at that time, such as *Roekoen Menjadikan Sentosa* or *Pengaroeh Zaman*. In contrast, others were fictionalized, such as *Radja Oentoek Semalam* or *Dongeng Joko Kendil*.

Table 4. Heroism Story

Issue	Title	Author
15 November 1944	<i>Rana "Manggala" Tjeritera Petikan dari Sedjarah Keradjaan Banten (1)</i>	Darmawidjaja
1 December	<i>Rana "Manggala" Tjeritera Petikan dari Sedjarah Keradjaan Banten (2)</i>	Idem
15 December	<i>"Poepoetan" Tjerita Petikan dari Sedjarah Djatoehnja Keradjaan—keradjaan di Bali (1)</i>	Idem
1 January 1945	<i>"Poepoetan" Tjerita Petikan dari Sedjarah Djatoehnja Keradjaan—keradjaan di Bali (2)</i>	Idem
15 February	<i>Dipanegara Pahlawan Indonesia (1)</i>	Muhammad Yamin
1 March	<i>Dipanegara Pahlawan Indonesia (2)</i>	Idem
15 March	<i>Dipanegara Pahlawan Indonesia (3)</i>	Idem

The heroic stories in Table 4 above differ significantly from the previous data's literary genres. The three heroic stories published from 15 November 1944 to 15 March 1945, are original historical stories originating from Indonesian society.

Djawa Baroe also contains four genres of jokes or comedy plays that were published from 1 April to 1 August 1945.

In addition, *Djawa Baroe* also contained many short comics and caricatures that were accompanied by words or not. One of the illustrated comics accompanied by words is a comic entitled *Embok Sarinem*, which consists of 3 pictures published in the 1 June 1945 edition. The comic shows *Embok Sarinem* asking about the term "new life" she read in the newspaper. So, she went to *Kumicho* and got the answer that "new life" meant Indonesia living independently, for example, providing for its own needs by growing its vegetables or cotton to achieve Indonesia's independence.

Tabel 5. Leloetjon or Comedy Plays

Issue	Title	Author
1 April 1945	<i>Gerakan Hidoep Baroe</i>	Ananta Gs.
1 June	<i>Kumityoo Istimewa (1)</i>	Ananta Gaharasjah
15 June	<i>Kumityoo Istimewa (2)</i>	Idem
1 July	<i>Koeli dan Roomusya (1)</i>	J. Hoetagoeng
15 July	<i>Koeli dan Roomusya (2)</i>	Idem
1 August	<i>Hidoep dan Mati</i>	Ananta Gs.

3.2. Japanese Authors Works

Djawa Baroe magazine published not only works by Indonesian writers but also some works by Japanese writers. Since the number is not large, the data obtained will be displayed in only 1 table as follows:

Table 6. Short stories, dramas, *Tsuji Shousetsu* (Kissah Sepanjang Djalan), and movie stories by Japanese authors

Issue	Title	Author
1 January 1944	<i>Kitjizo Kemedan Perang!</i> (cerpen)	火野葦平 (Joshihei Hino)
15 January	<i>Ditempat Asoehan Garoeda</i> (cerpen)	丹羽文雄 (Hoemio Niwa)
1 February	<i>Batoe</i> (cerpen)	河合哲吉 (Tetsoekitji Kawai)
15 February	<i>Peradjoerit Nogikoe</i> (cerpen)	菊池寛 (Kan Kikoetji)
1 March	<i>Perkawinan 25 tahoen (1)</i> (drama)	佐々木孝丸 (Takamaroe Sasaki)
15 March	<i>Perkawinan 25 tahoen (2)</i> (drama)	同上
1 April	<i>Torpedo (tsuji shousetsu)</i>	井上友一郎 (Tomoichiro Inoue)
1 April	<i>Iboe (tsuji shousetsu)</i>	秋山六郎兵衛 (Rokurobei Akiyama)
15 May	<i>Kaigun</i> (Angkatan Laoet) (cerita film)	岩田豊若 (Iwata Toyowo)
15 September	<i>Pahlawan Barisan Belakang atau Kebaktian Rakyat</i> (puisi)	高橋大佐 (Kolone1 Takahashi)
1 November	<i>Nama² Kapal Perang dan Artinja (tsuji shousetsu)</i>	宮内寒彌 (Miyouchi Kanya)
1 November	<i>Terong (tsuji shousetsu)</i>	櫻井忠温 (Sakurai Chūon)
1 November	<i>Peta Boemi dan Penggambarannja (tsuji shousetsu)</i>	畑耕一 (Hata Kōichi)
1 November	<i>Memberi Hormat (tsuji shousetsu)</i>	劉寒吉 (Ryū Kankichi)
1 November	<i>Ditengah Djalan (tsuji shousetsu)</i>	埴原一亟 (Hanihara Ichijō)
1 November	<i>Semangat Berdjoeang (tsuji shousetsu)</i>	北村小松 (Kitamura Komatsu)
15 May 1945	<i>Soerat dari Naraka</i> (puisi)	高橋こおりよ (Takahasi Kooryo)

Table 6 lists four short stories, one serial drama, eight *tsuji shousetsu*, and two poems written by Japanese authors. Apart from the poems, all the works of Japanese writers listed in the table have data proving that they were published in Japan before republishing in *Djawa Baroe* magazine. However, based on their contents, two poems may be original works first published in *Djawa Baroe*.

The first short story is by Hino Ashihei (written "Joshihei Hino" in *Djawa Baroe*), a well-known Japanese writer of the period. The short story *Kitjizo Kemedan Perang!* is a small part of Hino Ashihei's travel novel *Tsuchi to Heitai*, published in 1938. *Tsuchi to Heitai* is part of Hino Ashihei's trilogy, which was very popular in Japan at the time. So, the original novel was published in Japan in 1938, then republished in 1944 in *Djawa Baroe*.

The following story is *Ditempat Asoehan Garoeda* by Niwa Fumio, published in *Djawa Baroe* on 15 January 1944. This short story is a small part of a short story by Niwa Fumio that was published in Japan in 1941 under the title *Haru no Yamakaze*. *Haru no Yamakaze's* short story was published in *Dai 12 Nihon Shousetsu Daihyousaku Zenshuu*.

The third work is a short story, *Batoe*, by Kawai Tetsukichi, published in *Djawa Baroe* on 1 February 1944. This short story is part of a short story with the same title, *Ishi* in Japanese, published in the May 1943 issue of *Chuokoron* Literature magazine.

Furthermore, a short story, *Peradjoerit Nogikoe*, by Kikuchi Kan, is published in the 15 February 1944 edition of *Djawa Baroe*. Like the previous short story, *Batoe*, this short story, *Peradjoerit Nogikoe*, has the same title as the original work, *Nogikoe no Heishi*, published in Japan in the March 1939 edition of *Fujin Kurabu* magazine.

The last work is serial play *Perkawinan 25 tahoen* by Sasaki Takamaru. This drama, in Japan, was first published in *Kokumin Engeki* magazine in January 1943 with the same title, *Ginkonshiki*. Unlike the other four works, the play *Perkawinan 25 tahoen* can be called the most interesting because it is set in Japan and Indonesia at that time. The play tells the story of a married couple, Midorikawa Yoshinosuke, and his wife, Sono, who joined a group of land openers in the South. After nine years of living in Indonesia, Sono returned to Japan with her four children while her husband remained in Indonesia. The marriage of 25 years refers to the 25th anniversary of their marriage, which coincided with the official seizure of Indonesia by Japan from the Netherlands.

To the demands of the times during the Japanese occupation, the five works carry propaganda messages in different ways and contain different contents (Anwar, 2020a). The main themes include sacrifice for the sake of war in *Peradjoerit Nogikoe* and hatred towards the Dutch in the play *Perkawinan 25 tahoen*.

3.3. Essays by Japanese Authors

Djawa Baroe also contains several essays by Japanese writers. For example, Kiyoko Mikawa with her essay entitled "Children of the Southern Region," published in the 15 May 1943 edition, and Abe Tomoji with his essay entitled "Kisah Pendaratan Balatentara Dai Nippon Ditengah Djawa," published in the 1 March 1944 issue.

Anwar (2020b) wrote that Kiyoko Mikawa was a member of a group of female writers sent to Malacca, Java, and Bali to report after the war had begun. In contrast to her, Abe Tomoji was a reporter who joined the first group of soldiers who landed on Java on 28 February 1942. This essay, published in *Djawa Baroe*, contains his experiences of the landing.

4. Conclusions

Several things can be concluded from the above description, including:

1. *Djawa Baroe's* publication period was relatively short, but it was able to capture the changes in society during the Japanese occupation.
2. The articles published in *Djawa Baroe* were very varied, making it possible to study them from various aspects
3. *Djawa Baroe* is not a specialized literary magazine, but in terms of quantity, the amount of literary content published is very large and varied.
4. There are works by both Indonesian and Japanese writers in *Djawa Baroe*. This is very interesting and should be researched further.

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