

## **BASIC EDUCATION AS THE FOUNDATION FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT: PREPARING QUALITY HUMAN RESOURCES WITH CHARACTER FOR THE FUTURE OF THE COUNTRY; LITERATURE REVIEW METHOD**

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### **Abstract**

Basic education is the main foundation in preparing quality human resources that will determine the sustainability of national development. At this level, children are not only equipped with basic skills such as reading, writing, and arithmetic, but also instilled with moral, social, and national values as the basis for character building. This study uses a literature review method by examining various references in the form of books, scientific journals, and relevant policy documents to analyse the role of basic education in preparing quality human resources with character. The results of the study show that basic education contributes greatly to improving literacy, numeracy, emotional intelligence, and social skills, which are important indicators of human resource quality. On the other hand, basic education also serves to build national character by instilling the values of discipline, responsibility, mutual cooperation, tolerance, and integrity, which are essential for maintaining national unity. Therefore, strengthening basic education in terms of access, curriculum, teaching staff, and learning environment is a strategic investment to realise the vision of Indonesia Emas 2045 with a generation that is competent, has noble character, and is globally competitive.

**Keywords:** basic education, national development, human resources, quality, character, literature review.

### **Introduction**

Education is a fundamental aspect of national development. Since ancient times, the quality of human resources has always been a determining factor in whether a country is able to compete and survive in the rapidly changing world. Education is not only a process of knowledge transfer, but also the formation of character, values, and culture that will be passed on to the next generation (Judijanto & Aslan, 2025); (Purike & Aslan, 2025). In the Indonesian context, national development cannot be separated from the quality of human resources. Therefore, primary education, as the foundation of the entire national education system, has a very strategic position. It is at this stage that students are introduced to basic reading, writing, and arithmetic skills, as well as various moral and ethical values that will prepare them for their future lives (Sagala, 2024).