CHAPTER III

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTIVITIES

3.1 Background of Asian-African Reading Club (AARC)

Asian African Reading Club (AAR) was established in 24th August, 2009, at Museum of Asian African Conference. It was inaugurated by head of museum Isman Pasha. It was inspired from discussing among Mr. Isman Pasha, Mr. Deni Rachman, and Mrs. Nunun Nurhayati to persuade the public to know and understand the importance of Bandung spirit in 1955 and in the present. In its application to promote the Bandung spirit, AARC holds the book discussion which entitled "Bandung Connection" by Dr. H. Roeslan Abdulgani. There are 18 chapters which explain about the implementation of Asian African Conference from zero to a success.

It is so important to the public especially the youth to know and understand how important the substantial of Bandung spirit and the implementation of Asian African Conference for the human life in over the world, especially in Asian African. Because of that, the societies are expected to appreciate and continue the fight our fighter before, because the colonialism and imperialism come in modern ways, in the form of economic, intellectual, and actual physical control by a small but alien community within a nation, like Soekarno's speech in Asian African Conference:

"And, I beg of you, do not think of colonialism only in the classic form which we of Indonesian, and our brothers in different part of Asia Africa, knew. Colonialism has also its modern dress, in the form of economic control, intellectual control, actual physical control by a small but alien community within a nation…. Where, whenever, and however it appears, colonialism is an evil thing and one which must be eradicated from the earth"

3.2 The Schedule of Asian-African Reading Club (AARC)

AARC is held on Wednesday at 17.00 p.m. – 20.00 p.m. There are two sessions in implementing the club, the first is read the book and the second is discuss it.

3.3 The Activities of Asian African Club (AARC)

Before reading the book one by one in loudly voice, the members are given time to read it by themselves. It intends to give the time for them to skim and preview, so they can find specific fact or topic in that book. Wiener Bazerman said that;

> *"Rapid reading for fact is called skimming. When you skim a paragraph or a page, you are searching quickly among sentences for the answer to some questions you have".*

Here is how to skim:

- Make sure that you know what information you are looking for. Ask yourself a question
- Move your eyes quickly from line to line and from sentence to sentence.
- When you think you have found what you are looking for, stop.

- Read slowly the part of the line or sentence that tells you what you want to know.
- Think about the question you are trying to answer.
- Does the information you have found answer the question? If not, quickly read passage again to look for the information you need.

Previewing is a step to take in order to read for information come before you actually begin reading (Wiener Bazerman). Here is how to preview a reading selection:

- Look at the title.
- Look for subtitles essays.
- Look at the pictures, charts, or drawings.
- Look at the first sentence of each paragraph.
- Look at the first paragraph carefully.
- Look at the questions that come after the reading.
- Look at for the key words in different print.
- Look for a summary.

After the members are doing it, they start to read the book one by one in loudly voice. At 18.30 p.m. they get a coffee break and do the pray before continuing to

discussion. At 19.00 p.m. they start to discuss the book deeply. The discussion is usually lead by one speaker who uses power point to show their subject which relates with the topic read before. The speaker changes every week with the different topic and slide show. At 20.00 p.m. the club is closed by taking a picture before.

When the writer attended the club, the book which was discussed is "The Bandung Connection" book. The book talks about the implementation of Asian-African Conference in 1955. There were conflicts and tragedy during the conference gone, and how the people came together in Bandung with their spirit to destroy the colonialism and imperialism in the world. How Indonesia had a big role to arrange the conference, how the conference united the people from many countries without looking at the religion, language, ethnic, culture, and another differences.

> *"Ah, sisters and brothers let this Conference be a success! In spite of diversity that exists among its participants, let this Conference be a great success!*
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> *Yes there is diversity among us. Who denies it? Small and great nations are represented here, with people professing almost every religion under the sun, - Budhism, Islam, Christianity, Confucianism, Hindhuism, Jainism, Sikhism, Zoroasthrianism, Shintoism, and other.*
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> *Almost every political faith we encounter here – Democracy, Monarchism, Theocracy, with innumerable variants. And practically every economic doctrine has its representative in this hall Marhaenism, Socialism, Capitalism, Communism, in all their manifold variations and combination". (Soekarno's speech)*

So, what is the relation between the theory of reading with the club and the book? As the writer said that the "Bandung Connection" book is talking about the implementation from the zero to a success. With that theory they can learn more how

the importance of the conference is! Many words which have deep meaning can be gotten to up their spirit to face the life in the world, to appreciate the fight before, and to continue the fight itself.

AARC has a role in promoting the Bandung sprit by making discussion and using the theory in practicing the club. As Andika Budiman, one of AARC member said that *"after I joint with this club I could know about the history of Asian-African Conference, and I want to know more about history not only the conference but also another Indonesia history. Beside that, the book is so interested to read and make me spirit to face the problem that I have. About the practice of the club, I think it is efficient for us to skim and preview before reading together and discussing, so we can know what the main topic that we will discuss and it make us more understand with the conference".*

Beside reading, AARC has another activity like make an adventure to the historical place like Napak Tilas Konperensi Asia-Afrika with the theme *"The Reflection of 1955 The Asian-African Conference and Beyond"* which was held in 13th July, 2011 from Bandung, Bogor, to Jakarta. It is purposed to get more the precious meaning of the conference.

3.4 The Members of Asian-African Reading Club (ARRC)

Everybody can follow this club without paying and the rule which is binding. They can go and come as like as they want. There are members in any ages, gender,

and profession like man and woman, boy and girl, young man and old man, university student, student, guide, teacher, librarian, poet, and so on.

3.5 The Objective of Asian-African Reading Club (AARC)

The purpose in making this club is to make the group which is studying of history by having spirit and KAA value.

3.6 The Organization Structure of Asian-African Reading Club (AARC)

