

# Critics Towards the Culture of Drinking Beer in "Hanyu Jiaocheng" Textbook Used in Indonesia

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**Abstract**—This research is a criticism of the contents of "Hanyu Jiaocheng" the textbook used in learning Mandarin in Indonesia. Along with the rise of Mandarin Fever in the world, also in Indonesia, learning foreign languages including Mandarin is increasingly becoming the top choice for Indonesian people. Since the number of those interested in learning Mandarin is very large, and because of the lack of availability of teaching materials in Indonesia, led some educational institutions to use textbooks from China. The book entitled "Hanyu Jiaocheng" became one of the most widely used books in Indonesia. This book is a choice of learning resources because it is a complete book for 4 competencies. The weakness of this book according to the author, because it comes from outside Indonesia, there is a discrepancy with Indonesian culture. The author takes one example of the discrepancy, that is the culture of drinking beer or alcoholic beverages. In Indonesia, drinking alcoholic beverages is something that is not worth talking about in public, especially in teaching and learning processes. But this study shows the word beer itself is mentioned very frequently in "Hanyu Jiaocheng". The author provides suggestions that can be used to anticipate when they find the words "drink beer" in the textbook. This method is expected to reduce the taboo level in teaching and learning process, so that there are no misunderstandings and cultural gaps.

**Keywords**—Critics, Culture of Drinking Beer, Hanyu Jiaocheng Textbook

## I. INTRODUCTION

Along with the rise of Mandarin Fever in the world, Mandarin is one of the main choices for Indonesian people in learning foreign languages. Quite a lot of Mandarin devotees, not only from Chinese descent, but also from non-Chinese people, are interested to study it. In the learning process, it certainly cannot escape the role of textbooks. Textbooks can provide information to students about the material being taught.

Due to the lack of availability of teaching materials in Indonesia, many schools / institutions use textbooks from China. The most widely used textbook is a serial of books entitled "Hanyu Jiaocheng". This serial textbook is a complete book with 4 basic Mandarin competencies, namely listening, speaking, reading and writing. This Hanyu Jiaocheng book consists of 6 books in one package. Because these books are from outside Indonesia, of course there will be cultural differences in the contents of these books. One of the cultural differences in these books is the culture of drinking *Píjiú* or what is called beer.

In Chinese culture, drinking beer is common from the lower to upper social status. The history of beer itself is longer than the history of tea. The word (*jiú*: beer) itself was discovered during the Shang Dynasty. There are 3 categories of alcoholic beverages, namely group A; with 1-5% ethanol (beer), class B; 5% - 20% ethanol content (wine), class C, ethanol levels 20% - 45% (Whiskey, Vodca, TKW, Manson House, Johny Walker, Kamput). In Indonesian culture, drinking beer is something that is still very taboo to talk about, especially in teaching and learning activities, due to many adverse effects. Nearly 4% of all deaths worldwide are associated with alcohol consumption, which is also associated with many serious social problems, such as illness and injury (Mastroianni et al, 2014).

Drinking beer is something that cannot be separated from Chinese culture. For example when starting Spring Festival, people together drink beer on the first day of the year. They believe, drinking beer will bring luck. Besides, when the Lantern Festival began in the Tang Dynasty, Chinese people gather together to eat, and of course drink beer. In the current era, drinking beer becomes something that is done daily - getting together with people closest to you, business relatives, with the aim of communicating, as well as establishing closer relationships.

Learning a foreign language, certainly cannot be separated from the culture of the language being learned. By learning the language, we can get to know the mind, culture, habits of the local community. There is a close relationship between the culture of China and beer, therefore the teacher must have a special strategy to maintain Chinese culture in teaching Mandarin in Indonesia. This research provides advice on how to deal with or anticipate when the word beer appears in Mandarin learning, without losing Chinese culture, but is acceptable to students. So the cultural difference between Chinese and Indonesia will be accepted in teaching and learning process.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

### A. *Hanyu Jiaocheng*

Since 1999, Hanyu Jiaocheng's textbook has been well received by various agencies both in China and outside China, such as in Indonesia (Zhang Longjian, 2004:2). The author took as an example Solo, where Hanyu Jiaocheng was used in two educational institutions, Universitas Sebelas Maret, and Sekolah Bina Widya Solo. At Universitas Sebelas Maret, these books were used since the beginning of 2004 until now. In Sekolah Bina Widya Solo, the junior high school uses this textbook since 2015, and the high school since its opening in 2016.

Yang Qizhou, as the author of the book Hanyu Jiaocheng, has since applied the basic competencies of Mandarin, and used this basic competence as a characteristic of this textbook. In addition to basic competencies, it is also equipped with competency in listening, speaking, describing images, and other competencies. These textbooks are based on pronunciation, grammar, vocabulary, handscript and other learning support. Through the learning process, students are expected to be able to hone Mandarin skills, and guide students to be able to use basic Mandarin skills in daily life (Cheng Yuru, 2017:115 - 116).

Judging from the vocabulary, sentences and readings, this Hanyu Jiaocheng textbook is a textbook that uses everyday vocabulary. Stories written in textbooks take from everyday stories. Like exchanging money, going to the canteen, telling family members, etc. So that the vocabulary used is a daily vocabulary. For example, reading about going to the canteen, the vocabulary is such as milk, egg soup, even beer appears in vocabulary and reading section.

### B. *Culture of Drinking Beer*

In China, the culture of drinking beer is a culture that has been very long. It started from the Song Dynasty and Tang Dynasty. This culture is a culture that has been passed down from generation to generation, to gather with the closest people, to respect guests, to celebrate certain holidays and other events. Another factor is China's climate classified as a four-season country. In winter, it does require drinks for heating the body, one of which is beer.

In today's society, drinking beer is indeed a very common habit in China. Many people find beer in restaurants. From small restaurants, to large restaurants, beer are very easy to find. The level of drinking beer is also varied. From those who drink for leisure, drink a little, until getting drunk. Drinking together with close associates will be very happy, and familiarity is very visible from how they communicate. In addition to the culture of drinking beer, there is also a culture of drinking tea. From these two cultures, there will be a slight difference from how they enjoy it. Culture of drinking tea is formal, while drinking beer is non-formal, to dilute the atmosphere, so that closeness and intimacy are increasingly felt.

While the culture of drinking beer in Indonesia itself is a taboo, not many people drink beer in Indonesia, only certain communities or tribes. There are several reasons why Indonesian people drink beer, including traditions, environment and individual factors .

Drinking beer can have a positive and negative effect. The positive effect is that it can increase stamina, strength and provide strength. While the negative effects can cause hangovers, liver disease, weakness, dizziness, headaches, bloated stomach, frequent urination, drowsiness, even death (Janah, Riskiyani and Rahman, 2014: 11).

### C. *Relations Between Culture and Language*

The role of books occupies a very vital role in learning. In addition to explaining the contents of the material, textbooks are also used to preach the culture of the nation. Because of that, the quality of textbooks affects the quality of learning outcomes. In learning a foreign language, you will certainly learn the culture of the nation. Indonesia is one of the countries that has its own culture which is very numerous. To study foreign culture, there is no need to go to the country which has the origin of the culture. Students can understand a culture from textbooks which are used in their class.

The relationship between language and culture is made meaningful in language learning as "the person who learns language without learning culture risks becoming a fluent fool" (Bennett, Bennett & Allen, 2003, p. 237). When foreign language learners learn a foreign language, they will also learn the culture of the country. Thus, differences in the culture of the nation itself and foreign culture certainly cannot be avoided. As good citizens, we still have to maintain Indonesian indigenous culture. However, we cannot take our eye off the ball, not to learn foreign culture. For this reason, special ways are needed, so that teachers can convey information correctly about the language and its culture in the current era.

## III. METHOD

This study used quantitative method. The researcher collected the word jiu "酒" (*jiǔ*) in a package of Hanyu Jiaocheng books. After collecting the data, the researcher calculated the intensity of the appearance of the word "beer" in Hanyu Jiaocheng textbooks. The researcher used six Hanyu Jiaocheng textbooks. After that the researcher analyzed the word "酒" (*jiǔ*). The word "jiǔ" in Hanyu Jiaocheng book can appear as a word or a sentence. After collecting all the data, the researcher used descriptive qualitative methods to describe the meaning of the word beer. From the many intensity of the word beer appears, as well as from the sentence form can be concluded, that this sentence can be an invitation sentence, to tell others the habit of drinking beer.

#### IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

##### A. The Word Jiǔ

In the Hanyu Jiaocheng book, the researcher found many words 酒 (*jiǔ*). After the researcher finished the counting process, the word 酒 (*jiǔ*) appears 60 times. With details, there are 11 as words and 49 in sentences.

The word is the smallest part of a sentence, and can stand alone. The word 酒 (*jiǔ*) has the meaning of alcoholic drinks or beer. This word appears very often, both in vocabulary lists, *han* script writing exercises, and in other practices questions. In the list of vocabulary, *jiǔ* and *píjiǔ* is interpreted as beer.

From the 11 words, the word which has the meaning of beer is 8 words. These words appear in new vocabulary, for example in the Hanyu Jiaocheng 1A book, page 58. In the vocabulary, the meanings of 酒 (*jiǔ*) and 啤酒 (*píjiǔ*) are expressed. In addition to the vocabulary, in Mandarin writing exercises, students are also taught to write the word 酒 (*jiǔ*), as in the Hanyu Jiaocheng 1A book. In substitution exercises, the word *jiǔ* is also found. As in Hanyu Jiaocheng book 1A pages 118 and 119. On page 118, the book reveals that the item is not beer. Whereas, on page 119, the students are trained to describe the items purchased, for example buying beer. The other model questions from the substitution exercises are used to train the students to make optional sentences. If the word beer appears again, the students can make choice sentences between drinking water or beer. Questions like this can be found at Hanyu Jiaocheng 1A page 132.

The Hanyu Jiaocheng book is considered as a complete book since it contains a vocabulary list at the end of the book. In the vocabulary list on page 154, Hanyu Jiaocheng 1A, the word *jiu* is also found.

In addition to *jiǔ* or *píjiǔ*, the word 倒酒 also appears (*dàojiǔ*: pouring beer). This word does not appear in the vocabulary list, but it appears in the exercise of Hanyu Jiaocheng 2A, page 155. In chapter 10 on Hanyu Jiaocheng 2A, the word "pouring beer" does not appear in the vocabulary list. However, only the word 倒 (*píjiǔ*: pouring) is appeared. However, with the development of vocabulary content, the author gave practice questions about pouring beer, water, tea and coffee. The word pouring beer is found once in the Jiaocheng's book.

Besides 啤酒 (*píjiǔ*), 酒 (*jiǔ*) and 倒酒 (*dàojiǔ*), there is 敬酒 (*jìngjiǔ*) which means to propose a toast. The word appears twice in the vocabulary list of the Hanyu Jiaocheng 2B book. One of them appears in the vocabulary list of chapter 20 which is on page 143 and another appears in the vocabulary list on page 164.

##### B. Sentences Containing the Word Jiǔ

Sentence is a series of words that can express a complete meaning. In Hanyu Jiaocheng book, there are 49 sentences which contain the word beer. As in the following quote:

"不喝，我喝啤酒" I don't drink chicken soup, I drink beer. (Hanyu Jiaocheng 1A: 57).

In the quote above, the sentence is clear that the person refuses to drink chicken soup, but he/she wants to drink beer. To find out the types of sentences, the author group them into five (5) types of sentences:

###### 1) Declarative Sentences

The most common sentence which informs something related to drink beer is easily found in the Hanyu Jiaocheng textbook. These are the examples of declarative sentences:

- a) 我买啤酒。 I buy beer. (Hanyu Jiaocheng 1A : 119)
- b) 我从来不喝啤酒。 I never drink beer. (Hanyu Jiaocheng 1B : 219)
- c) 桌子上摆着很多酒和菜。 There is much food and beer on the table. (Hanyu Jiaocheng 2A : 150)
- d) 我连啤酒也不能喝。 I can't drink beer. (Hanyu Jiaocheng 2B : 149)
- e) 他已经喝了很多酒。 He already drinks a lot of beer. (Hanyu Jiaocheng 3A : 93).

###### 2) Interrogative Sentences

Sentences which ask about drinking beer are often found in the book. These following sentences are the examples of the interrogative sentences:

- a) 你买酒不买? Do you buy beer? (Hanyu Jiaocheng 1A: 119)
- b) 你常喝啤酒吗? Do you often drink beer? (Hanyu Jiaocheng 1B: 12)
- c) "喜酒"是什么啤酒? "*xǐjiǔ*" what kind of beer? (Hanyu Jiaocheng 2A: 151)

d) 要是不会喝酒怎么办呢? What if I can't drink beer? (Hanyu Jiaocheng 2B: 141)

e) 除了陪她喝酒以外我还能做什么呢? What should I do beside accompanied him? (Hanyu Jiaocheng 3A: 93)

### 3) *Invocation Sentences*

In the textbooks, there are also sentences which inviting friends to drink beer together. There is a quote from the Hanyu Jiaocheng book:

“喝杯酒吧” Let's drink a glass of beer. (Hanyu Jiaocheng 3A: 48)

### 4) *Request Sentences*

Students are also trained to ask something, especially when buying beer. The author found two examples of request sentences.

a) 我要啤酒。 I want beer. (Hanyu Jiaocheng 1B: 77)

b) 来两瓶啤酒。 Give me two bottles of beer. (Hanyu Jiaocheng 3A: 152)

### 5) *Proverb*

Besides learning about drinking beer, Hanyu Jiaocheng book is also equipped with proverbs. From the proverbs or ancient poems, there is a proverb about “不饮随它酒价高” The proverb describes something precious. (Hanyu Jiaocheng 3A: 73)

## C. *Methods to Teach Drinking Culture*

Experts agree that language learning cannot be separated from culture. Chinese culture has a long-standing culture of drinking beer, while in Indonesia drinking beer is considered as something that is still taboo among the public, especially in the classroom. In the Hanyu Jiaocheng textbooks, there are a lot of jiu or beer words. It makes the Mandarin language teachers found the difficulties in introducing the culture itself. Therefore, the author provides the following suggestions to face the cultural differences from those two countries:

### 1) *Introducing the Culture of Drinking Beer in China*

Essentially, learning a language cannot be separated from studying the culture of the nation. There are a lot of Indonesian students who are studying Mandarin and want to learn Chinese culture. They have a desire to study in China to find out the culture itself.

The teachers must be able to select what culture should be taught to the students since there are so many cultures in China. The appearance of the beer words in the Hanyu Jiaocheng textbook, such as the declaration sentences, the invitation to drink beer, the offer to drink beer, and the other forms of sentences, may affect the personality and social interaction of the students. It will be better if the teachers introduce the students about the culture of drinking beer in China, the origin of the culture, the reason why the Chinese people still drinking beer until now, and the differences between Indonesia and China in terms of drinking beer.

By the explanation from the teachers related to the culture of drinking beer in China, students will be able to know the reason why the culture is still exist until now. The teachers are also expected to explain to the students, even though they studying about Chinese culture, they would not imitate the habits of drinking beer in their daily life.

### 2) *Inform the Students About the Effects of Drinking Beer.*

There are many useful activities that can be done in daily life such as physical exercises, read a book, sightseeing, etc. However, there are activities which have negative impacts in daily life such as smoking and drinking beer.

In studying the culture of drinking beer, besides introducing the culture of drinking beer in China, it is better to tell the students the effects of drinking beer. Janah, Riskiyani and Rahman (2014 : 11) said that the negative impacts of drinking beer are drunkenness, liver disease, weakness, dizziness, headaches, bloated stomach, frequent urination, drowsiness, and even death.

Our bodies are entrusted by God. Instead of doing things that can damage our bodies, it is better to stay away from cultures or habits which have negative impacts for us. The students have known about harmful effects of drinking beer. Therefore, the students are expected to not imitate the habits of drinking beer. Not only the beer, the students should avoid something that can damage their body, so they can take the lessons well.

### 3) *Make Word Change Game.*

The existence of cultural differences in the Hanyu Jiaocheng book is indeed unavoidable. One of the factors is that the book is a published book from China, which is adapted to the existing Chinese culture. Some of the contents in the Hanyu Jiaocheng book are not in accordance with the conditions in Indonesia.

As a Mandarin teacher who uses Hanyu Jiaocheng textbook, it is impossible to delete the words beer one by one, then re-write them in textbooks using other words such as milk, tea, coffee, and other drinks.

In explaining the words and sentences containing the word beer, the teacher can directly modify it. For example, after reading one sentence: “他喝了一瓶啤酒”， He drinks a bottle of beer. The teacher can explain, he is reading a bottle of beer in reading. If he drinks one bottle of Cola? Then if you drink a bottle of mineral water how to express it using Mandarin?

There are many variations of drinks that can be used by the students so they not frequently used the word beer. They could imagine drinking other drinks, such as coke, mineral water, tea, etc

## V. CONCLUSION

World developments nowadays are increasingly fast. It requires us to learn foreign languages and cultures. In a learning process, the cultural differences between foreign and national cultures are unavoidable. One of the cultural differences is the culture of drinking beer in China written in the Hanyu Jiaocheng textbooks. In this research, there are plentiful sentences which describe the habits of drinking beer such as inviting and offering someone to drink beer are frequently found in the textbooks. Due to the occasion, the students are feared that they will imitate the habits of drinking beer in their daily life. Along with the development of Mandarin language education and the increasing number of Mandarin language enthusiasts in Indonesia, the Mandarin teachers are expected to have right methods in teaching the cultural differences to the students.

For the Mandarin language teachers, it will be better if the textbooks are used as teaching resources. The teachers can filter the material that cannot be used in Indonesian context. The teachers should inform the differences between two cultures and its positive and negative impacts as well. The creativity is required for the teacher in responding to the cultural difference.

With the formation of positive synergy between the teachers and students in responding to the foreign culture, both parties are expected to remain themselves as people who have a noble character.

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## APPENDIX

No	Chinese	English	Page
1	不喝，我喝啤酒。	I don't drink chicken soup, I drink beer.	1A : 57
2	什么啤酒？	What kind of beer?	1A : 60
3	这些不是啤酒。	This is not beer.	1A : 118
4	我买啤酒。	I buy beer	1A : 119
5	你买酒不买？	Do you buy beer?	1A : 119
6	你喝不喝啤酒？	Do you drink beer or not?	1A : 120
7	那些是啤酒。	That's beer.	1A : 133
8	你常喝啤酒吗？	Do you often drink beer?	1B: 12
9	我要啤酒。	I want beer.	1B: 77
10	你怎么不喝啤酒？	Why don't you drink beer?	1B : 121
11	我不喜欢啤酒。	I don't like beer.	1B : 121
12	他喝酒了，不能开车。	He drinks beer, can't drive.	1B : 125
13	他喝酒喝得很好。	He drinks a lot of beer.	1B : 134
14	喝啤酒。	Drink beer.	1B : 140
15	他昨天酒喝得不太多。	He yesterday did not drink too much beer	1B : 141
16	喝了一瓶啤酒。	Drink a bottle of beer.	1B : 161
17	一瓶啤酒。	A bottle of beer.	1B : 170
18	喝酒了。	Just drank beer.	1B : 170
19	我从来不喝啤酒。	I never drink beer.	1B : 219
20	他喝一杯。练就红了。	Once he drank beer, his face immediately turned red.	2A : 102
21	桌子上摆着很多酒和菜。	There is much food and beer on the table.	2A : 150
22	新郎忙着给客人倒喜酒。	The groom is busy pouring beer for the invited guests.	2A : 150
23	“喜酒”是什么啤酒？	What kind of beer is "Xijiu"?	2A: 151
24	结婚时喝的酒中国人叫喜酒。	Beer taken on a wedding day is called xijiu.	2A: 150
25	有几个人得到了一壶酒。	There are some people who get a pot of beer.	2A:150
26	他们都谁想喝一壶酒。	Whoever there are, everyone want to drink a pot of beer.	2A:150
27	可是这壶酒只够一个人喝。	But one pot of beer is enough for only one person.	2A:150
28	这壶酒就给谁喝？	To whom is this pot of beer given?	2B : 91
29	就左手拿起酒壶。	The left hand holds a pot of beer.	2B : 91
30	就把酒壶拿了过去。	Bring this pot of beer over there	2B : 91
31	说完就把酒喝。	After you finish talking, immediately drink beer.	2B : 91
32	喝酒的时候，大家都要先给他敬酒。	When ask to make a toast, you cannot refuse it.	2B : 141
33	给你敬酒的时候，一定要干杯。	When ask to make a toast, you cannot refuse it.	2B : 141
34	把杯子里的酒一口喝光。	One glass of beer is consumed immediately.	2B : 141
35	要是不会喝酒怎么办呢？	What if I can't drink beer?	2B: 141
36	他们会说“感情有，茶当酒”。	They will say, we're happy for you, this tea replaces beer.	2B : 141
37	你能喝白酒吗？	Can you drink white wine?	2B : 149
38	我连啤酒也不能喝。	I can't drink beer.	2B : 149
39	他能把五瓶酒喝完。	He is able to drink 5 bottles of beer until	2B : 158

		they run out.	
40	他能喝五瓶酒。	He is able to drink 5 bottles of beer.	2B : 158
41	喝杯酒吧。	Let's drink a glass of beer.	3A: 48
42	准备了满满一桌的酒菜让我吃了个够。	Having prepared a table full of dishes and beer, will make me eat until satisfied.	3A : 53
43	不饮随它酒价高。	The proverb describes something precious.	3A: 73
44	他说一次能喝十瓶啤酒，你信不信？	He said he can drink 10 bottles of beer all at once. Do you believe that ?	3A : 88
45	他已经喝了很多酒。	He already drinks a lot of beer.	3A : 93
46	除了陪她喝酒以外我还能做什么呢？	What should I do beside accompanied him?	3A: 93
47	喝了杯京凉啤酒。	Drink a bottle of cold beer	3A : 139
48	来两瓶啤酒。	Give me two bottles of beer.	3A: 152
49	他喝了很多酒，不能让他再开车了。	When drinking a lot of beer, he is not allowed to drive.	3A : 169