

ABSTRAK

Diaspora India telah didukung penuh oleh pemerintahnya untuk mempromosikan budaya-budaya India secara global demi memperkuat hubungan India dengan banyak negara. Salah satunya diaspora India di Amerika Serikat yang mana merupakan kelompok yang paling sukses dibanding migran-migran lainnya. Kesuksesan diaspora India di AS dapat memberikan kemudahan bagi India untuk mempromosikan budaya demi memperkuat citra positif dan kepercayaan antara kedua negara. Upaya untuk memperkuat citra tersebut melalui diplomasi publik yang dilakukan diaspora India melalui organisasi diaspora yang terbentuk di AS. Salah satu organisasi diaspora India terbesar dan teraktif di AS adalah Federation of Indian Associations (FIA). Sejak 1970 berdiri, FIA menjadi organisasi diaspora India yang mengimplementasikan diplomasi publik India di AS melalui beragam kegiatan, terutama penyelenggaraan acara-acara kebudayaan untuk menciptakan apresiasi dan dapat diterimanya budaya India di kalangan masyarakat AS.

Berdasarkan penelitian, FIA mampu menciptakan apresiasi dan rekognisi pemerintah AS. Sehingga, memperkuat kepercayaan antar kedua belah pihak dan turut meningkatkan citra positif India. Kepercayaan dan citra positif ini juga memperkuat hubungan AS dan India dengan melakukan kerja sama di berbagai aspek. FIA dalam upayanya mengimplementasikan diplomasi publik India di AS, terbukti mampu secara aktif mempengaruhi citra positif, hubungan baik, hingga kebijakan luar negeri kedua negara. Pengaruh dan tindakan FIA tersebut lebih detil dibahas dalam penelitian ini dengan menggunakan konsep diaspora pada mobilisasinya dalam hubungan internasional. Selain itu, berdasarkan pada implementasinya, FIA berperan sebagai agen komunikasi yang gencar menginovasikan budaya-budaya India agar dapat diterima dan diapresiasi.

Kata Kunci: Diaspora, India, Amerika Serikat, Federation of Indian Associations (FIA), Diplomasi Publik, Citra Positif.

ABSTRACT

The Indian diaspora has been fully supported by its government to promote Indian culture globally in order to strengthen India's relations with many countries. One of them is the Indian diaspora in the United States which is the most successful group compared to other migrants. The success of the Indian diaspora in the US can make it easier for India to promote its culture to strengthen the positive image and trust between the two countries. Efforts to strengthen this image through public diplomacy carried out by the Indian diaspora through diaspora organizations formed in the US. One of the largest and most active Indian diaspora organizations in the US is the Federation of Indian Associations (FIA). Since 1970, FIA has become an Indian diaspora organization that implements Indian public diplomacy in the US through various activities, especially organizing cultural events to create appreciation and acceptance of Indian culture among the US community.

Based on research, FIA is able to create appreciation and recognition of the US government. Thus, strengthening trust between the two parties and helping to improve India's positive image. This trust and positive image also strengthens the relationship between the US and India by cooperating in various aspects. FIA in its efforts to implement Indian public diplomacy in the US, has proven to be able to actively influence the positive image, good relations, and foreign policies of the two countries. The influence and actions of the FIA are discussed in more detail in this research using the concept of diaspora in its mobilization in international relations. In addition, based on its implementation, FIA acts as a communication agent that aggressively innovates Indian cultures to be accepted and appreciated.

Keywords: *Diaspora, India, United States, Federation of Indian Associations (FIA), Public Diplomacy, Positive Image.*