

LAMPIRAN
TRANSKRIP WAWANCARA

Tanggal wawancara: 16 Agustus 2023

Tempat: Via email

Narasumber: Prof. Zhao Changfeng

Pendidikan Formal: Phd Professor

Pekerjaan: *Research Center for China-Indonesia People to Exchange Central
China Normal University*

Keterangan:

N: Pewawancara

Z: Narasumber

N: On behalf of our discussion that was held in the Faculty of Politics and Social Sciences at Diponegoro University in Indonesia, allow me to introduce myself. I'm Nabilah Zulfa Rahayu, an undergraduate student of International Relations who is a huge inquisitive about China's studies

Regarding my interest, I have a final thesis about China's culture and nationalism that has an influence on China's decision-making process. I emphasize the culture adopts from Confucianism value, *miànzi* as a face-work mechanism.

I would like to ask two questions regarding my final thesis topics.

N: Do you have any perspective regarding the implementation of miànzi in the Political circumstances for instance building diplomatic relations?

Z: Miànzi is a Chinese cultural concept that can be translated as "face" or "social reputation." Maintaining miànzi is about preserving one's dignity, respect, and social standing. miànzi can play a significant role in building diplomatic relations.

Respect and Courtesy: In diplomatic relations, showing respect and courtesy to counterparts is crucial. By demonstrating cultural sensitivity, you enhance their miànzi and facilitate a positive atmosphere for negotiation and cooperation.

Avoiding Public Confrontation: Open confrontations in diplomatic contexts can damage miànzi for both sides. Diplomats often use diplomatic language to address confrontations, maintaining a sense of mutual respect and avoiding loss of face on either side.

Saving Face: Offering a way for counterparts to save face is a key aspect of diplomatic negotiations. If a party makes a concession, it's often framed in a manner that preserves their miànzi. This helps create a win-win situation where both sides can claim a level of achievement.

Non-Interference in Internal Affairs: Respecting the sovereignty and internal affairs of other nations is crucial. Interfering in the domestic matters of another country can lead to loss of miànzi and strained relations.

N: Does miànzi have a correlation with Nationalism especially when China is facing a conflict with another country? And how much impact will be given by its correlations?

Z: Yes, there is a correlation between miànzi and nationalism. Nationalism involves a strong sense of loyalty and pride in one's own nation, often accompanied by a desire for national unity, strength, and superiority. Miànzi is intertwined with national pride and reputation. In times of conflict, the Chinese government and public may prioritize preserving their nation's miànzi to demonstrate their strength and maintain their dignity in the international arena.

In situations where China is facing a conflict with another country, maintaining miànzi can have a significant impact on how the Chinese government and people perceive and respond to the situation. Here's how these correlations play out:

During conflicts, the Chinese government's handling of the situation can greatly influence public opinion. If the government is seen as effectively safeguarding China's interests and miànzi, it can garner support from a nationalist population.

Conflicts can sometimes lead to a rallying effect, where citizens unite around their country's leadership in the face of external challenges. The concept of miànzi could amplify this effect, as people may feel a heightened sense of duty to protect their nation's reputation.

Conflict situations can reinforce national identity and a sense of "us versus them." Preserving miànzi becomes linked to upholding the nation's identity, values, and

historical achievements, all of which contribute to the nationalist narrative. China's international image is affected by its response to conflicts.

The way China handles these situations can either enhance or damage its reputation on the global stage, influencing perceptions of its strength, resilience, and diplomatic skills.

N: Thank you for your insights which were extraordinarily helpful. I am so grateful for your time.