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## Self Meaning and Communication Experience Blind Athletes Branch of the Sport of Chess at the Riau National Paralympic Committee

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**Abstract** - Being an athlete with a disability is not easy because as we know from some people with disabilities still get unfair treatment. The Paralympic Committee, which is the parent sports organization for people with disabilities in Indonesia, fosters all sports activities for the achievements of people with disabilities. The purpose of this study was to determine the communication experience of blind athletes in chess at the Riau National Paralympic Committee. The research method used is qualitative descriptive. The data collection techniques used were observation, interviews and documentation. The researcher uses Alfred Schutz's phenomenological theory with indicators of causal motives, goal motives, meanings and communication experiences. The results of this study show that the formation of self-meaning of blind athletes through the learning process, the efforts they make to be able to motivate themselves to a higher level, their confidence to remain outstanding chess athletes.

**Key words** Self-meaning, Communication Experience, Blind Athlete, National Paralympic Committee

### I. PRELIMINARY

Experience is a process of learning and developing behavioral potential from both formal and non-formal education or can be interpreted as a step that leads a person to a higher pattern of behavior. Learning also includes appropriate changes in behavior resulting from experience, understanding and practice. Communication experience can occur because of communication activities, every event experienced will be an experience for someone. The experience obtained contains a certain information or message. The information will be processed into knowledge, thus the various events experienced can increase one's knowledge. [1].

Every human being is given shortcomings and advantages in life, but each individual also has his own unpredictable way of life. Some are born with physical perfection, some are born with physical limitations. Behind the limitations they have can be a differentiator between humans from one another. The World Health Organization (WHO) provides 3 definitions of disability, namely: impairment, disability, and handicap. Impairment is commonly referred to as a condition of abnormality or loss of structure, psychological functioning, and anatomical. While disability is an inability or a limitation that results in impairment to carry out activities that would be considered normal for humans. The handicap is a condition that can be detrimental to individuals due to impairment, disability, preventing them from fulfilling normal roles (in the context of age, gender, and cultural factors) for the person concerned. [2]

Disability contained in Law Number 8 of 2016 concerning persons with disabilities Chapter 1 Article 1 states that "Disability is any person who experiences physical, intellectual, mental or sensory limitations for a long time who in interacting with the environment may experience obstacles and difficulties to participate fully and effectively with other citizens based on equal rights".[3]

Blind is a term used to refer to individuals who have visual impairments. Individuals who have visual impairments (visually impaired) are individuals who have visual impairments so they need special services in education and in everyday life. Blind people have characteristics, namely: having suspicion of others, feelings of irritability, verbalism, feelings of inferiority, adatan, like to fantasize, think critically and also courageous. A blind person in general also has the same potential as other individuals, it's just that his ability is replaced with another vinansial, so it also needs special services to meet his needs. One of the special services that blind individuals can provide is talent coaching programs and creativity that suits their special needs.[4]

Chess is one of the sports in the institution. Sports management for people with disabilities has its own agency in order to manage and nurture athletes with disabilities to be able to excel. Coaching and also support for athletes with disabilities, it will be able to foster confidence, independence and self-esteem. The role of this agency is related to the existence of a coaching place for athletes with disabilities called the National Paralympic Committee (NPC) which is the parent organization of sports for people with disabilities in Indonesia. Based on data, 85 athletes with disabilities in the Riau National Paralympic Committee are concerned

Tabel 1  
National Paralympic Athlete Committee Riau

No	Athletes with Disabilities	Sum
1.	Man	51 People
2.	Woman	34 People
3.	Tuna Daksa	65 People
4.	Tuna Netra	10 People
5.	Tuna Grahita	10 People

Data sources: NPC Riau, 2023

High achievement motivation is everyone's right and property, including those with disabilities. At this time, prestigious events such as the International Asian Games are also held in order to accommodate the talents of athletes with special needs. These athletes come from all over Asia. They will compete and will show that they have talent like other athletes. This shows that currently disabled athletes are being sought to optimize their abilities and skills [5]

Being an athlete with a disability is not easy because as we know from some people with disabilities still get unfair treatment such as discrimination. This is very influential on their social life, so some people with disabilities prefer to withdraw from the environment. In this regard, individuals with disabilities feel that their existence as human beings is disturbed and tend to compare themselves with other groups of society. These views directed at people with disabilities can affect self-concept, self-esteem and motivation.

The meaning of life can not only be found when someone is happy, but we can also find when someone is suffering. Suffering also not only makes a person weak, but suffering will make the individual stronger in the face of unpleasant situations. When faced with such a situation, individuals will tend to feel negative feelings, anger, sadness and shake.

After the individual goes through a period of contemplation and is able to understand himself, the individual will realize there is an important value in life that we can learn from and will lead the individual to find the meaning of his life and change his attitude to be bolder and more optimistic about living life. Entering the stage of self-acceptance, all individuals must be dynamic. Individuals who have positive self-meaning are much more functional than individuals who have negative self-meaning. This can happen because of the impact of positive self-concept so that it can produce more effective interpersonal, intellectual and environmental mastery abilities. Based on the overall explanation of this background, researchers are interested in knowing "Self-Meaning and Communication Experience of Athletes with Disabilities in Chess at the Riau National Paralympic Committee".

## II. RELATED RESEARCH

### Self-concept

Stuart and Sudden in Heidemans, self-concept is the ideas, thoughts, beliefs and stances inherent in the individual that influence the individual in relating to others. Burn says that self-concept is a picture of what we think, other people's opinions about ourselves and what we want to look like, self-concept is a combination of various aspects, namely self-image, affective intensity, self-evaluation and tendency to respond. Hurlock says that self-concept is a mental picture a person has of himself that includes both physical and psychological images. Risnawati said that self-concept is not only a descriptive image, but also an individual's assessment of himself. [6]

### Communication experience

Experience is a process of learning and developing behavioral potential from both formal and non-formal education or can be interpreted as a step that leads a person to a higher pattern of behavior. Learning also includes appropriate changes in behavior resulting from experience, understanding and practice. Communication experience can occur because of communication activities, every event experienced will be an experience for someone. The experience obtained contains a certain information or message. The information will be processed into knowledge. Thus the various events obtained add to one's knowledge. [1]

The experience of communication in general is an event that includes elements of communication such as messages and other elements. His experience is with a number of people who have a lot of information and will make him more aware. [7]

#### Athletes with disabilities

Athletes with disabilities (people with disabilities) are athletes who have physical and mental disabilities. Epistemologically, people with disabilities are those who have deficiencies in the form and function of bones, joints, muscles and joint and muscle cooperation. [2] Article 4 paragraph 2 defines that: The variety of persons with disabilities as referred to in paragraph (1) can also be experienced single, multiple, or multi for a long period of time that has been determined by medical personnel in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations. The explanatory section of article 4 paragraph 1 of Law No. 8 of 2016 further explains the definition and variety of persons with disabilities, namely that what is meant by:

- a) People with Physical Disabilities are one of the disorders of movement function, including amputation, paralysis or stiffness, cerebral palsy (CP), due to stroke, due to leprosy and small people.
- b) People with intellectual disabilities are impaired thinking functions or intelligence levels below average, namely slow learning, visual disabilities and Down syndrome.
- c) People with mental disabilities are impaired functions of thought, emotions and behavior, among others: psychosocial such as schizophrenia, bipolar, depression, anxiety and personality disorders; developmental disabilities that affect social interaction skills such as autism and hyperactivity.
- d) People with sensory disabilities are disorders of one of the functions of the five senses, including visual disabilities, deaf disabilities or speech disabilities.

People with disabilities are people who have physical, mental, intellectual or sensory disabilities for a long period of time, when faced with all obstacles, this situation can make it difficult for individuals to participate and effectively participate in society on the basis of equal rights. [8]

#### The sport of chess

The game of chess is one of the non-physical sports that is competed regularly in the olimpage performance, this game is played by playing the mind by two players, in the game two players are required to think extra and have foresight every step to be taken. [9]

Chess is a game where two players compete using two teams and equal abilities in a game that is limited and does not benefit either side. This game is a game played by white soldiers and black soldiers and which is controlled by each player. Each player from each side will play only 16 chess pieces. Chess players are war players whose ideas are more important and stronger than luck and brute force.

#### Phenomenological Theories Alfred Schutz

Phenomenology etymologically comes from the word "phenomenon" which means visible, and logos which means science. So that thermologically, phenomenology is called science that is oriented to get an explanation of visible reality. Phenomenology can relate scientific knowledge to everyday experience, and from the activities from which that experience and knowledge derive. Then in other words base social action on experience, meaning and consciousness. [10]

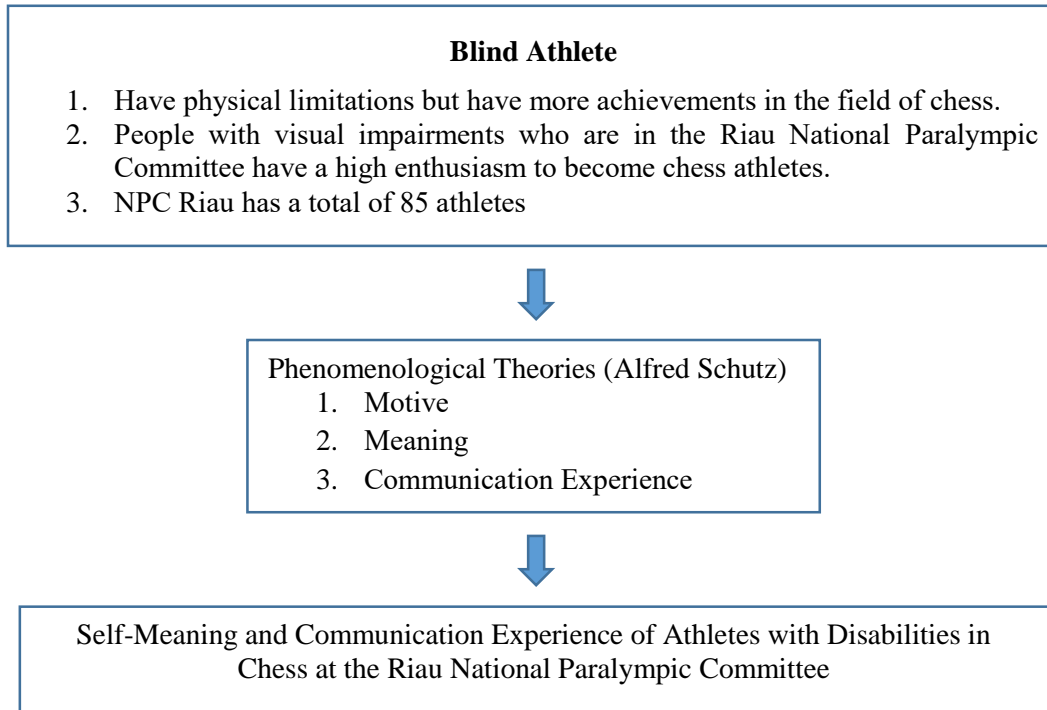
According to Alfred Schutz, the process of meaning begins with the process of sensing, a process of experience that continues simultaneously. Meaning arises when it is connected to previous experiences and through the process of interaction with others. Therefore, there is an individual meaning and there is also a collective meaning about a phenomenon. According to Schutz, human actions always have meaning, according to Weber, meaning is synonymous with the motive of action, but meaning is nothing actual in life [11]

Alfred Schutz was the first to try to explain how phenomenology could be applied to develop insight into the social world. Schutz focuses on the way people perceive the consciousness of others. The perspective used by Schutz to understand consciousness is with the concept of intersubjective. Intersubjective is the life world or how important the world is in everyday life. Man has the ability and can do anything related to himself and others. Since every

human being has certain desires, they try to pursue in order to achieve a decided orientation. According to Schutz, there needs to be a concept in order to describe a person's actions, Schutz called it the concept of motive.

### Frame of mind

Chart I  
Frame of Thought



Source: Researcher's processed data, 2023

### III. RESEARCH METHODS

In this study, researchers determine the steps taken, first is the researcher determines to use a qualitative research approach. Where research (*Research*) is basically a scientific way to obtain data with a specific purpose and use. [12]. Qualitative research is research that researchers can use to condition natural objects, (as opposed to experiments) key instruments, data collection techniques can be done in combination, data analysis is inductive, emphasizes meaning and reasoning. [13]

The next step is to determine the research motede, namely a descriptive approach, where data are collected using survey techniques, case studies, comparative studies, time and motion studies, behavioral analysis, and operational studies. Descriptive data is research that reveals the facts of an event, object, activity, process and activity in the present and long term that may still exist in the memory of the responder. [14]

The type of research carried out is a type of field research (*field research*), where researchers see directly and meet informants, and discuss to obtain data needed in research. So that researchers can also find out how self-meaning and communication experiences of athletes with disabilities in chess branches at the *Riau National Paralympic Committee*.

The object in this study is the self-meaning and communication experience of blind athletes in chess at the National Paralympic Committee Riau , *while the subject is* blind athletes in chess at the National Paralympic Committee Riau. This research was carried out to obtain information about the data that the author needs. The place of research that the author conducted was in Pekanbaru City, precisely at the *Riau National Paralympic Committee* institution . The National Paralympic Committee of Riau province is located at Jalan Pinang Merah, East Tengkerang, Kec. Tenayan Raya, Pekanbaru City Riau 28131.

The data collection techniques used are observation techniques, interview techniques, and documentation, while this research data analysis technique uses the stages of data reduction, data presentation,

and conclusion testing. The informant selection technique in this study is through *purposive sampling*, and the following researcher informant data are as follows:

Tabel. 2  
Research Informants

No	Informant	Department	Gender	Age
1.	Rudi Setianto	Chess Athlete	Man	24 Years old
2.	Alda Syarifah	Chess Athlete	Woman	24 Years old
3.	Nur Azizatul Munawaroh	Chess Athlete	Woman	20 Years old

Source: Processed Data Researchers, 2023

#### IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The National Paralympic Committee (NPC) of Riau province is an organizational unit at the provincial level, especially Pekanbaru. The National Paralympic Committee of Riau Province has duties and obligations, including the following:

- a. Encourage and foster all Indonesian National Paralympic Committees in Riau Province, in order to improve the quality of professional organizational management that is dignified, orderly administrative and accountable.
- b. Forming and also fostering disabled athletes into a sports team in Riau Province to be able to represent the province in participating in a disability sports match or tournament in championship events at the Regional and National levels.
- c. It organizes competitions, friendlies as well as the Provincial Paralympic Week. [15]

Chess training activities at the Riau National Paralympic Committee are always accompanied by coaches to see how the development of the chess athletes' games. Based on the results of interviews conducted by researchers at the Riau National Paralympic Committee, research results were obtained related to the meaning and communication experience of athletes with disabilities in chess at the Riau National Paralympic Committee. This research was conducted by the author through interviews with three informants who were chess athletes and the questions the author asked at the time of the interview came from Alfred Schutz's phenomenological indicators consisting of three indicators, namely; motives, meanings and experiences of communication, so that finally it can be answered how self-meaning and experience of communication of athletes with disabilities in chess at the Riau National Paralympic Committee.

##### Motive

A motive is an internal state that gives power, that activates, moves or channels behavior toward goals. [16] Shutz introduced two terms of motive. The first motive is the "cause" (because of motive) motive". Then the second motive is the "goal" motive (in order to motive).

Based on the results of an interview with Nur Azizatul Munawaroh as an athlete at the Riau National Paralympic Committee related to the cause or (because of motive), namely what is behind becoming a chess athlete at the Riau National Paralympic Committee:

"Because my talent there, and my potential there, started with dabbling, then an interest arose which then became a hobby". (Nur Azizatul Munawaroh, interview, May 12, 2023).

It can be concluded that hobbies related to the cause of motive owned by chess athletes in the Riau National Paralympic Committee are profitable hobbies, where from the hobby of playing chess they can change their mindset to continue to be enthusiastic about training so that they become athletes, while the motive is the goal In order to motive is a motive that is made a foothold by a person to do something aimed at achieving results. The following is the result of an interview with Rudi Setianto as a chess athlete at the Riau National Paralympic Committee about motivation In order to motive:

"My motivation is to make my parents proud, previously I had participated in training at PEPARNAS Bandung, and also had training in Papua and then now I am here NPC (Rudi Setianto, interview, May 12, 2023).

The results of the interview can be concluded that the Riau National Paralympic Committee is a stepping stone in supporting their talents and abilities in achieving goals.

### Meaning

Meaning is part and parcel of semantics and will always be attached to what we always say. Meaning can also be interpreted as a relationship between language and the outside world that is mutually agreed upon by language users so that they can be mutually understood.

The following is the result of the researcher's interview with Alda Syarifah as a chess athlete at the Riau National Paralympic Committee about how to interpret yourself when becoming a chess athlete at the National Paralympic Committee:

"How to interpret yourself by being grateful, but must remain diligent and practice in order to achieve the target. While in Papua yesterday Senpat failed to enter the final, failed to reach the top 3 ". (Alda Syarifah, interview, May 12, 2023).

The results of the interview can be concluded that the way an athlete interprets himself is by being grateful, because of the Riau National Paralympic Committee that manages and also fosters athletes with disabilities to remain enthusiastic in pursuing what they have dreamed of.

### Communication Experience

At this stage is an experience of the results of communication interactions between athletes and those around them to create a meaning and interpret that meaning using symbols. The experience of communication in general is an event that includes communication elements such as messages and other communication elements. His experience with a number of individuals who have a lot of information will make him more aware. The experience of communication is a result of interaction between communicators and communicants who then create a meaning and interpret that meaning using symbols. At this stage, researchers want to know how the athlete's communication experience when becoming a chess athlete at the National Paralympic Committee.

The following is the result of the researcher's interview with Rudi Setianto as a chess athlete at the Riau National Paralympic Committee when the researcher asked questions related to how the athlete's communication experience when he became a chess athlete at the National Paralympic Committee:

"The communication that happened here was smooth, good". (Rudi Setianto, interview, May 12, 2023).

A similar answer was also obtained by researchers from Alda Syarifah as a chess athlete of the Riau National Paralympic Committee when researchers asked questions related to how the athlete's communication experience when becoming a chess athlete at the National Paralympic Committee:

"The experience of communication with the manager or trainer Alhamdulillah is good, outside of NPC still communicates with them and is also good, even like family". (Alda Syarifah, interview May 19, 2023).

Based on the results of the interview, the experience of communication between fellow athletes, communication with coaches, communication with administrators both formally and informally does not only occur on the field but also occurs outside sports activities, and their experiences show a very good and positive meaning within the Riau National Paralympic Committee.

## V. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study, it can be concluded that the self-meaning passed by disabled athletes is formed based on being themselves, before and after becoming chess athletes, individuals no longer look down on themselves because from the beginning they have interpreted themselves to get to this stage, this is self-formation with the learning process, through the efforts they make to be able to motivate higher, His confidence to remain an outstanding chess athlete and also accompanied by a positive mindset built by the athletes, as well as the

communication experience of these athletes can add enthusiasm to continue to excel in every competition. This experience also received attention from the management, adding to friendship and familiarity. Athletes certainly also want to be even better, namely by adding knowledge and input from coaches or coaches to keep diligently training to play chess, so that the achievements that have been achieved will not go down.

As for advice to the Riau National Paralympic Committee (NPC), especially coaches, communication patterns between coaches and athletes that have been running well are expected to be maintained and certainly can be further improved, while advice to athletes with disabilities, it is also hoped that they can maintain the communication patterns that have been created, the limitations that athletes have are not a barrier for athletes to build good communication for gain achievements.

Then suggestions for scientific development, the results of this research can be used as a reference for further research. The findings obtained from the results of this study and the theories that are the basis of this study can be used as supporting data for further research, and the last advice to the general public, with the results of this study is expected to motivate and also open the eyes of the public so as not to underestimate the eyes of disabled athletes. Even with their limitations, they can also excel like normal humans

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