The previously “resistant to human” cognitive abilities are no longer as exclusive as we may think they are. The threat of job losses does not result merely from the rise of infotech; it results from the confluence of skills with biotech. At the same time, however, these technologies also create new jobs and new business opportunities. The challenge with such new opportunities lies in their great demand for higher levels of technological literacy.

With technological literacy, an educated person can not only safeguard one’s future employment or future business, but also be adequately equipped to care for those whose livelihoods are displaced by technologies.

Humility

The third and final quality is humility. If you remember one and only one thing I said today, please remember this. Humility!

As part of the experiential learning of the TELADAN Program, conducted within the ITA (Budi Utomo Foundation) projects, the said projects require giving service. To give service to others, one must have humility. Humility is, to me, a fundamental requirement of being educated. The word “education” or “educated” comes from the Latin word “educare”. “Educare” means to lead out, to draw out and to bring forth. Our education father, in Indonesia, Ki Hadjar Dewantara taught us to set an example, to mentor or guide and to encourage (“Ing Ngarso Sun Tulodho, Ing Madyo Mangun Karso, Tut Wuri Handayani”).

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Unfortunately, we often view “education” as a status or standard formation required for a certain position or profession. In its deeper meaning, being educated is not only a result or indication that you have graduated from a certain university or a certain program. It is more about what we do with what we have, with what we benefited from our education.

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Humility does not mean no self-confidence. It does not mean downplaying or undervaluing people, nor should it be labelled as unacceptable, and engage with the willingness to learn as much as we can.

Mother Teresa said, “If you are humble, nothing will touch you, neither praise nor disgrace, because you know what you are.”

Dear Scholars, the opposite of humility is pride. We must know that pride is the source of all sins.

As part of the experiential learning of the TELADAN Program, conducted within the ITA (Budi Utomo Foundation) projects, the said projects require giving service. To give service to others, one must have humility. Humility is, to me, a fundamental requirement of being educated. The word “education” or “educated” comes from the Latin word “educare”. “Educare” means to lead out, to draw out and to bring forth. Our education father, in Indonesia, Ki Hadjar Dewantara taught us to set an example, to mentor or guide and to encourage (“Ing Ngarso Sun Tulodho, Ing Madyo Mangun Karso, Tut Wuri Handayani”).

Unfortunately, we often view “education” as a status or standard formation required for a certain position or profession. In its deeper meaning, being educated is not only a result or indication that you have graduated from a certain university or a certain program. It is more about what we do with what we have, with what we benefited from our educational journey to bring out the best out of others, to provide service to others, and to build communities around where we live and work. In this deeper meaning, educated people must give service to others. And here is the basic thing: the service requires humility.

A person who can give service is a person who is humble.

Humility does not mean no self-confidence. It does not mean downplaying or undervaluing oneself, humility does not mean we cannot day we are graduated from a certain university, neither is it about us coming from certain regions or whichever context ascribed to us that have come to define who we are. However, when we don’t acknowledge who we are and what we have, it is not humility. This is egotism.

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Dear Tanoto Scholars,

Integrity is the English language.

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In today's world, knowing and mastering English as a foreign language, for our students, is an entry ticket to the global race for becoming successful. Many say correctly. English is important, as we need to safeguard our own language. This is not a zero sum game. While I do agree on the importance of safeguarding our own language, I also believe that it is essential to have a wide range of languages to communicate and negotiate.

I would like to leave you with a thought that I quote from Aristotle, "It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it." That is, we must take the thoughts of others as points of departure and critically evaluate them.

We need to use critical thinking to examine, and use evidence to support our arguments. In today's world, where misinformation and fake news spread rapidly, it is crucial to develop critical thinking skills.

An educated person builds one's position based on the evidence presented and the subsequent analysis of it.

Integrity is the English language.

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