

## **ABSTRAK**

Perjuangan bangsa Indonesia meraih kemerdekaan merupakan rangkaian peristiwa yang sangat panjang. Bermula dari adanya kesadaran akan rasa terjajah di negeri sendiri, hingga muncul rasa nasionalisme yang menjadi tonggak penggerak lahirnya pergerakan kebangsaan untuk mencapai kemerdekaan. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui latar belakang kehidupan Gerungan Saul Samuel Jacob Ratulangi (Sam Ratulangi), serta kiprahnya dalam memperjuangkan kemerdekaan Indonesia pada tahun 1924–1949. Fokus penelitian ini diarahkan pada tiga aspek utama, yaitu latar belakang kehidupan Sam Ratulangi, peran dan kontribusinya dalam perjuangan kemerdekaan Indonesia pada masa kolonial Belanda hingga tahun 1945, serta perjuangannya setelah proklamasi kemerdekaan hingga akhir hayatnya tahun 1949. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode historis, dengan tahapan pemilihan topik, heuristik, kritik sumber, interpretasi, dan historiografi. Hasil penelitian ini adalah Sam Ratulangi merupakan tokoh nasionalis dari Minahasa yang memiliki peran penting dalam memperjuangkan kemerdekaan Indonesia melalui jalur pendidikan, organisasi, politik, dan diplomasi. Kiprahnya tidak hanya terbatas di daerah asalnya, tetapi juga menjangkau wilayah nasional, terutama ketika menjabat sebagai Gubernur Sulawesi pasca-proklamasi. Ia berhasil menyebarkan semangat nasionalisme dan mempertahankan kemerdekaan di wilayah Indonesia Timur, bahkan saat diasingkan oleh Belanda ke Serui. Sam Ratulangi dikenal sebagai Pahlawan dalam Tiga Zaman karena konsistensinya dalam memperjuangkan kemerdekaan sejak masa kolonial, pendudukan Jepang, hingga awal kemerdekaan Indonesia.

**Kata Kunci: Sam Ratulangi, Kemerdekaan, Nasionalisme, Minahasa.**

## **ABSTRACT**

*The struggle of the Indonesian people to achieve independence was a very long series of events. Starting from the awareness of the feeling of being colonized in their own country, until the emergence of a sense of nationalism which became the driving force behind the birth of the national movement to achieve independence. This study aims to determine the background of the life of Gerungan Saul Samuel Jacob Ratulangi (Sam Ratulangi), as well as his role in fighting for Indonesian independence in 1924-1949. The focus of this study is directed at three main aspects, namely the background of Sam Ratulangi's life, his role and contribution in the struggle for Indonesian independence during the Dutch colonial period until 1945, and his struggle after the proclamation of independence until the end of his life in 1949. The method used in this study is the historical method, with the stages of topic selection, heuristics, source criticism, interpretation, and historiography. The results of this study are that Sam Ratulangi was a nationalist figure from Minahasa who had an important role in fighting for Indonesian independence through education, organization, politics, and diplomacy. His role was not only limited to his home region, but also reached the national territory, especially when he served as Governor of Sulawesi after the proclamation. He succeeded in spreading the spirit of nationalism and maintaining independence in the Eastern Indonesian region, even when exiled by the Dutch to Serui. Sam Ratulangi is known as a Hero in Three Eras because of his consistency in fighting for independence since the colonial era, the Japanese occupation, until the beginning of Indonesian independence.*

**Keywords:** *Sam Ratulangi, Independence, Nationalism, Minahasa*