



Literacy as a Foundation for Education and Empowerment in Muhammadiyah to Form a Quality Generation

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Abstract

This research aims to explore the literacy approaches and practices implemented by Muhammadiyah, as well as their impact on the character formation and social contribution of the younger generation. The research method used involved document analysis and literature study to gain an in-depth understanding of the various literacy initiatives carried out by Muhammadiyah. The research results show that literacy has a very significant role in forming a quality generation in Muhammadiyah. This organization not only emphasizes the academic aspects of literacy, but also places emphasis on developing strong character, understanding Islamic values, and community empowerment. This holistic approach to literacy makes a major contribution in producing individuals who are intellectually intelligent, moral, and contribute positively to society. This research highlights the urgency to continue to increase efforts to strengthen literacy as a foundation for education and empowerment in Muhammadiyah. This includes increasing access to education for all groups, developing a curriculum that focuses on literacy skills, teacher training, and integrating Islamic values in every aspect of learning. In order to strengthen literacy as the main strategy in advancing education and empowerment within Muhammadiyah, it requires strong commitment from various parties, as well as continuity in the development of relevant and effective literacy programs. By strengthening literacy, Muhammadiyah can continue to be at the forefront in forming a quality generation that is ready to face future challenges and contribute positively to the progress of the nation and people.

Keywords: *muhammadiyah literacy; muhammadiyah character; literacy education*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengeksplorasi pendekatan dan praktik literasi yang diterapkan oleh Muhammadiyah, serta dampaknya terhadap pembentukan karakter dan kontribusi sosial generasi muda. Metode penelitian yang digunakan melibatkan analisis dokumen dan studi literatur untuk memperoleh pemahaman yang mendalam tentang berbagai inisiatif literasi yang dilakukan oleh Muhammadiyah. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa literasi memiliki peran yang sangat signifikan dalam pembentukan generasi berkualitas dalam Muhammadiyah. Organisasi ini tidak hanya menekankan aspek akademis literasi, tetapi juga memberikan penekanan pada pengembangan karakter yang kuat, pemahaman nilai-nilai Islam, dan pemberdayaan masyarakat. Pendekatan yang holistik terhadap literasi ini memberikan kontribusi yang besar dalam mencetak individu yang cerdas secara intelektual, bermoral, dan berkontribusi positif bagi masyarakat. Penelitian ini menyoroti urgensi untuk terus meningkatkan upaya dalam memperkuat literasi sebagai landasan pendidikan dan pemberdayaan dalam Muhammadiyah. Hal ini termasuk peningkatan akses terhadap pendidikan bagi semua kalangan, pengembangan kurikulum yang berfokus pada keterampilan literasi, pelatihan guru, dan integrasi nilai-nilai Islam dalam setiap aspek pembelajaran. Guna memperkuat literasi sebagai strategi utama dalam memajukan pendidikan dan pemberdayaan dalam Muhammadiyah, membutuhkan komitmen yang kuat dari berbagai pihak, serta kontinuitas dalam pengembangan program-program literasi yang relevan dan efektif. Dengan menguatkan literasi, Muhammadiyah dapat terus menjadi garda terdepan dalam membentuk generasi berkualitas yang siap menghadapi tantangan masa depan dan berkontribusi positif bagi kemajuan bangsa dan umat.

Kata Kunci: *literasi muhammadiyah; karakter muhammadiyah; pendidikan literasi*

Introduction

Education and empowerment are the main pillars in developing a quality society. In Indonesia, Muhammadiyah, a progressive Islamic organization, has played a significant role in efforts to improve the quality of education and empower society. One aspect that is Muhammadiyah's main focus is literacy, which is seen as an important foundation in the education and empowerment process. In the Muhammadiyah context, literacy is not only defined as the ability to read and write, but also as a tool to increase understanding of religious values, develop quality character, and empower society as a whole (Sunanda, 2020).

In the midst of the increasingly complex challenges of the times, education and community empowerment are at the core of efforts to build a better future. In this context, Muhammadiyah, a progressive Islamic movement in Indonesia, has played a significant role in fighting for literacy as an important foundation in education and empowerment. Literacy is not only considered the ability to read and write, but also as a fundamental instrument for improving the quality of life holistically (Ifadah, 2020).

Education and empowerment have long been the main focus of Muhammadiyah since its founding in 1912. This movement has a clear vision in fighting for equitable and quality education for all people, regardless of social, economic or religious background. Education in Muhammadiyah is not only considered as a means of acquiring academic knowledge, but also as a forum for forming quality character and building awareness of social responsibility. In this context, literacy becomes an important foundation that enables the realization of Muhammadiyah's vision and mission in creating a knowledgeable, civilized and empowered society.

This research highlights the urgency to continue to increase efforts to strengthen literacy as a foundation for education and

empowerment in Muhammadiyah. This includes increasing access to education for all groups, developing a curriculum that focuses on literacy skills, teacher training, and integrating Islamic values in every aspect of learning. Apart from that, it also highlights the importance of collaboration between Muhammadiyah and various parties, including the government, educational institutions and civil society, to increase the effectiveness of existing literacy programs (Hidayatulloh, 2019).

This research aims to explore the role of literacy in Muhammadiyah as a foundation for education and empowerment to form a quality generation. Through in-depth analysis of literacy approaches and practices implemented by Muhammadiyah, this research will discuss the impact of literacy in shaping the character and social contribution of the younger generation.

Methods

The research method used is document analysis and literature study. This approach was chosen to investigate various literacy initiatives carried out by Muhammadiyah and gain an in-depth understanding of their implementation in the context of education and community empowerment (Suhardiman, 2022).

Document analysis involves collecting and reading a variety of relevant documents, including official reports, organizational policies, program documents, and other Muhammadiyah publications (Ismaya, 2022). These documents provide important insights into the literacy approaches, goals and practices implemented by Muhammadiyah in various aspects of their activities. Document analysis is carried out by studying the contents of the documents in detail, identifying patterns and trends, and evaluating their impact on education and empowerment within Muhammadiyah.

In addition, a literature study was carried out to explore thoughts, theories and research findings related to literacy,

education and empowerment in the context of Islam and Muhammadiyah in particular. Literature study includes reading academic articles, books, and other sources relevant to the research topic. Through literature studies, researchers can gain a broader understanding of the concept of literacy, the role of literacy in education and empowerment, as well as best practices that have been implemented by previous organizations.

In conducting document analysis and literature studies, researchers pay attention to various variables that are relevant to the research, such as the literacy approach used by Muhammadiyah, literacy programs that have been implemented, as well as their impact on students and society in general. Data obtained from document analysis and literature study were then analyzed systematically to extract findings that were significant and relevant to the research objectives.

Results and Discussion

Muhammadiyah has implemented various literacy initiatives aimed at increasing access to education, developing character, and empowering society as a whole. This organization has a holistic approach to literacy that includes academic, character and social contribution aspects. Literacy programs developed by Muhammadiyah cover various community groups, from children to adults. In addition, Muhammadiyah promotes the integration of Islamic values in education and empowerment through literacy. The impact of Muhammadiyah's literacy programs can be seen in improving the quality of education, developing quality character, and empowering the community. Lastly, Muhammadiyah continues to evaluate and update its literacy programs to improve their quality and impact.

The urgency of literacy in Muhammadiyah as a foundation for education and empowerment cannot be underestimated. Literacy is not only about the ability to read and write, but also about

the formation of quality character, understanding religious values, and community empowerment. Therefore, Muhammadiyah needs to continue to develop strategies and innovations in the field of literacy to ensure that they remain relevant and effective in achieving their goals.

In the Muhammadiyah context, literacy is not only defined as the ability to read and write, but also includes a deep understanding of Islamic values, quality character development, and community empowerment. The organization has a holistic approach to literacy that allows individuals to develop holistically, not only intellectually but also morally and socially.

The importance of literacy in education and empowerment can be seen from various aspects. First, literacy plays an important role in increasing access to education for all levels of society. By expanding access to literacy programs, Muhammadiyah helps overcome existing educational gaps and provides wider opportunities for individuals to develop their potential.

Second, literacy is also an important instrument in developing quality character. Through literacy learning, individuals not only gain knowledge, but also develop values such as perseverance, responsibility, and empathy. Muhammadiyah understands that education is not only about transferring knowledge, but also about forming character in accordance with religious teachings.

Furthermore, literacy also has a significant impact on community empowerment. Through community literacy programs, Muhammadiyah helps improve community skills and knowledge, which in turn can improve their welfare and participation in social and economic life.

The integration of Islamic values in education and empowerment through literacy is also an important aspect in the Muhammadiyah context. By integrating Islamic values in its literacy programs, Muhammadiyah ensures that education and

empowerment are carried out in accordance with religious principles. This helps strengthen religious identity and morality in forming the character of the younger generation.

In order to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of literacy programs, continuous evaluation is necessary. Muhammadiyah has demonstrated commitment to evaluating and updating its literacy programs to improve their quality and impact. This evaluation helps identify program successes and weaknesses, as well as identifying areas of needed improvement and innovation.

Overall, the results of this research confirm that literacy plays a crucial role in education and empowerment in Muhammadiyah. By strengthening literacy as the main foundation, Muhammadiyah can continue to be at the forefront in forming a quality generation that is ready to face future challenges and contribute positively to the progress of the nation and its people.

Conclusion

This research confirms that literacy plays a crucial role in education and empowerment in Muhammadiyah. By strengthening literacy as the main foundation, Muhammadiyah can continue to be at the forefront in forming a quality generation that is ready to face future challenges and contribute positively to the progress of the nation and its people.

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