



STRATEGY OF MADRASAH PRINCIPALS IN IMPROVING STUDENTS' DISCIPLINE (Case study of Nurul Jadid Islamic Senior High School)

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Abstract:

This article discusses the strategies implemented by the principal to improve student discipline at Madrasah Aliyah Nurul Jadid (MANJ), Probolinggo Regency, East Java Province. Using a qualitative approach, this study explores various strategies based on the leadership principles of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, personal approach, socialization of rules, appreciation for disciplined students, and parental involvement. The research findings indicate that these strategies, such as attendance before learning, monitoring student attendance, and consistent application of sanctions, have succeeded in creating a strong and sustainable culture of discipline in schools. However, challenges that arise related to parental intervention require a more proactive approach, such as through open communication and discussion forums. Although there is no quantitative data to support the claim of a decrease in student violations, this provides a positive indication of the effectiveness of the strategies implemented. Therefore, ongoing efforts to improve student discipline need to be carried out through periodic evaluation and adjustment of strategies according to future needs, in order to create an educational environment that is disciplined, productive, and supports the holistic development of students.

Keywords: strategy, student discipline, school.

INTRODUCTION

Student indiscipline in Indonesia is a complex problem and requires serious attention to improve the quality of education. Several factors that cause student discipline problems include lack of supervision and effective handling by schools (Wardhani, 2018). Students' indifference to moral and ethical values, and lack of understanding of the consequences of bullying behavior that impacts discipline and creates an unsafe learning environment (Ananda & Nora, 2022). In some cases, the inability of teachers and school staff to resolve conflicts and the lack of effective supervision can result in an environment where school rules are not consistently applied, which can be detrimental to the formation of student discipline. In addition, low awareness of the importance of maintaining a safe and inclusive school environment can also trigger low student discipline (Azukaego et al., 2022).

The study of school strategies to improve student discipline is an important aspect of education that needs to be explored further. There are three main reasons why it is important to discuss this strategy: first, discipline in schools is the basis for the formation of student character and behavior. Previous research shows that positive behavior is closely related to good academic achievement. Second, discipline affects the learning climate in schools which in turn affects student motivation and participation in learning.

(Rijal, 2015) . Schools can create an environment that supports learning by addressing discipline issues. Third, student discipline also affects the image and reputation of the school. If schools can manage discipline well, this will increase public trust in the educational institution (Hamid, 2020) . Therefore, a deep understanding of discipline in schools is very important for student welfare, smooth learning, and to maintain the integrity and reputation of the school.

Based on the observation results, student discipline at MA Nurul Jadid is quite good. One proof is the existence of regular religious studies in the morning which is the idea of the head of the madrasah and cooperation with the teaching teachers every day before the lesson begins. Students who are late must face the on-duty teacher to get punishment, such as cleaning the yard or running around the field. In addition, the head of the madrasah also applies congregational prayer attendance at the mosque to strengthen the understanding of students' moral and spiritual values, which in turn supports the improvement of their discipline.

Based on the above explanation, the instillation of discipline values in students can be seen through the strategy of the madrasah principal in improving student discipline. The main goal is for the activity to take place efficiently, orderly, and regularly. This study focuses on the strategy of the madrasah principal to convey and integrate discipline values to students. This responsibility is an important part of the role of the madrasah principal in ensuring that students comply with school regulations and the learning process can run smoothly.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a qualitative approach with the aim of gaining an in-depth understanding of social and humanitarian issues. This study attempts to interpret how subjects understand the meaning of their surroundings, and how it affects their behavior (Fadli, 2021) . The data collection method used is field research, with data obtained directly from the environment of the research subjects, with the main focus on direct observation of the interactions of individuals or groups in that environment. The location of this research is Madrasah Aliyah Nurul Jadid (MANJ). The data collection technique is carried out with a combination of observation, interviews, and documentation. Interviews are designed to obtain relevant and reliable information from informants (Susanto et al., 2023) .

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the observation results, it is known that MA Nurul Jadid students come to school on time, which can be seen from the dhuha prayer and attendance activities carried out 30 minutes before learning begins. There are on-duty teachers who monitor and take attendance of students starting from the dhuha prayer until they are directed to the field to be absent. Students who do not wear neat clothes, such as not wearing shoes or wearing the wrong uniform, will be punished by the on-duty teacher. This punishment can be in the form of changing the wrong uniform, wearing shoes, or cleaning the school yard. The entire process is monitored by the principal.

The results of the interview showed that the culture of discipline at MA Nurul Jadid is very important to continue to be improved as a provision for students in their lives. The Principal as a leader also has an important role in maintaining and improving this culture of discipline, which is one of their main tasks. To help improve student discipline, the Principal forms a team consisting of teachers and students who are active in the organization. The tasks of this team include taking attendance before learning begins, taking attendance of students during congregational prayers at the mosque.

There are five strategies implemented by the Principal of MA Nurul Jadid

Madrasah in improving student discipline. First, showing a good example in accordance with the principles of leadership exemplified by the Prophet Muhammad SAW. The three main principles of the Prophet Muhammad in leadership are exemplary, individual approach, and equality. Exemplary is considered the most basic principle, where all actions begin with an example given by oneself. In this context, discipline begins with disciplining oneself through punctual attendance, dressing neatly, and actively participating in religious activities such as congregational prayer. This aims to provide an example that can be emulated by students.

Second, following the principle of individual approach in the leadership of the Prophet Muhammad SAW. Given that each student has a different background, the challenges faced also vary. This approach involves understanding student behavior to identify patterns that may require special attention, as well as analyzing the causes of student disciplinary violations so that problems can be handled appropriately. The third strategy is to socialize the rules that students must obey, as well as the sanctions given if they violate them. This socialization is not only aimed at students, but also at parents or guardians of students, so that both parties understand the consequences of violations and can work together to create an educational environment that supports student development.

Fourth, give appreciation to students who demonstrate discipline. This appreciation can be in the form of direct recognition or formal awards such as certificates or announcements of student discipline in front of the entire school. This appreciation aims to make students feel appreciated and motivated, and encourage other students to follow in their footsteps. Fifth, report student violations to parents or guardians as a means of providing information about student progress at school. The purpose of involving parents or guardians is to increase their understanding of the consequences of student actions and strengthen cooperation between schools and families in supporting student development.

While involving parents or guardians in this process has positive impacts, it also presents challenges. Challenges arise when parents or guardians disagree with the punishment given to their children, sometimes even intervening directly with the Principal. These challenges can be further complicated if the parents or guardians have important positions, such as colleagues or superiors in the school environment.

To overcome this challenge, the Principal of MA Nurul Jadid Madrasah provided a proactive solution by establishing open and transparent communication with parents or guardians of students. They also held a discussion forum involving senior teachers, parents, and students who violated to find a joint solution and prevent possible direct intervention. The Principal claimed that the strategy implemented had been successful. This claim was based on interviews with several teachers and the results of researcher observations that showed a decrease in student violations this year. Although there is no official data yet, this information is an early indication of the success of the strategy implemented.

Discussion

Improving student discipline is an important factor in creating an effective learning environment and supporting student development. Strong discipline not only helps students to carry out their daily routines regularly, but also contributes to character building and increasing their sense of responsibility. High levels of discipline have a significant positive relationship with students' academic achievement, social well-being, and their level of involvement in various school activities. By prioritizing this aspect of discipline, schools can create an environment that supports students' holistic growth and learning, which will have a positive impact in the long run. (Afifah, 2022) .

The Principal of Madrasah has a strategic role in improving student discipline through managing extracurricular activities, personality development, and implementing discipline programs. By coordinating extracurricular activities, the Principal can create a positive environment and provide productive alternatives for students. In addition, through personality development, they provide moral encouragement and guidelines for students to develop a strong attitude of discipline (Tyasmaning, 2023) .

Some of the main factors that influence and shape individual discipline include self-awareness, compliance with rules, educational tools, and punishment. Self-awareness is a fundamental basis in forming discipline, because an individual's understanding of the importance of discipline is the main driver for achieving personal success (Suwanda, 2017) . Self-awareness encourages individuals to develop self-control and independence, as well as build internal motivation to comply with applicable rules and norms.

At a practical level, compliance with rules is a concrete step in implementing regulations that govern behavior, creating a basis for consistency and order in everyday life (Gajahmanik et al., 2023) . Educational tools also play an important role in shaping discipline by fostering behavior in accordance with the values taught, providing the insight, knowledge, and skills needed to develop behavior that is in accordance with social and ethical norms (Fatoni, 2020) .

Punishment functions as a response to inappropriate behavior. Punishment has various functions, such as providing motivation to avoid violations, directing behavior, preventing repetition of violations (Meika R & Putra, 2021) , and supporting motivation to avoid undisciplined actions (Khumaidi, 2020) . Punishment not only makes individuals aware of the consequences of their actions but can also help correct unwanted behavior. Therefore, the combination of self-awareness, compliance with rules, educational tools, and punishment forms a solid foundation in developing and maintaining individual discipline.

In addition to these four factors, other factors that influence the formation of individual discipline include role models, disciplined environments, and disciplined training. The role models of superiors, principals, and teachers have a major impact on student discipline, becoming a strong driver in forming directed thought patterns and behaviors (Rafif & Dafit, 2023) . A disciplined environment is also very important, because it creates an atmosphere that supports the internalization of disciplined values in everyday life (Subianto, 2013) . Disciplined training, which involves habituation and repeated practice, is a crucial aspect in forming sustainable disciplined habits. This process is not just a routine, but also an ongoing effort to form daily disciplined habits that have a positive impact in the long term (Darnius et al., 2019) .

Thus, in addition to the four main factors, the influence of role models, disciplined environment, and disciplined training enrich and complement the process of forming individual discipline. The Principal of MA Nurul Jadid has implemented various strategies based on these factors to improve student discipline. The positive impact of implementing these strategies is seen in the increase in the level of student discipline. However, it is important to continue to evaluate so that these strategies can be improved and adjusted to future needs. Continuous evaluation will provide a basis for continuous improvement in creating a more disciplined and productive educational environment at MA Nurul Jadid. Thus, continuity of effort and improvement of strategies will be the key to achieving better goals in forming the character and discipline of students in this school environment.

CONCLUSION

In an effort to improve student discipline at MA Nurul Jadid, the Principal has

successfully implemented various strategies based on the principles of the leadership of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, a personal approach, socialization of rules, awards for disciplined students, and parental involvement. Concrete steps such as attendance before learning, monitoring student performance, and consistent application of sanctions have had a positive impact on the school environment, creating a strong and sustainable culture of discipline. However, the challenges that arise related to intervention from parents or guardians of students require a more proactive approach. The Principal faces this challenge by opening transparent communication and holding discussion forums involving teachers, parents, and students. Although claims regarding a decrease in the level of student violations have not been supported by official quantitative data, they provide a positive indication of the effectiveness of the strategies that have been implemented.

Therefore, continuous efforts to improve student discipline at MA Nurul Jadid must continue to be carried out, with periodic evaluation and adjustment of strategies according to future needs, in order to create a more disciplined, productive educational environment that supports students' holistic development. This study still requires further investigation into the strategy of the Madrasah Principal in improving student discipline. Further research is also needed to obtain more comprehensive results. The use of different research methods or variables is suggested to broaden understanding regarding strategies for improving student discipline.

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