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# THE ROLE OF ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN IMPLEMENTING ISLAMIC MORAL VALUES IN THE ERA OF DIGITALIZATION IN THE ENVIRONMENT OF MADRASAH TSANAWIYAH

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#### **Abstract:**

This research aims to examine the role of Islamic Religious Education (PAI) in improving Islamic moral values in the era of digitalization, especially in the environment of Madrasah Tsanawiyah Nurul Jadid. With the rapid development of digital technology, new challenges have emerged for educators, including PAI teachers, in delivering material that is relevant to the times. This research uses a qualitative descriptive approach, with data collection techniques through observation, interviews, and documentation. The results of the study show that digitalization has a positive impact on PAI learning, especially through wider and faster access to information. This allows students to more easily acquire religious knowledge that is relevant to the context of the times. However, on the other hand, digitalization also poses challenges in the form of the spread of negative content that can affect student morals and behavior. In this case, PAI plays an important role in guiding students to use technology wisely, by instilling strong Islamic moral values, and providing a proper understanding of the limitations in using technology. Through PAI learning based on Islamic values, students are expected to develop a positive and responsible attitude in utilizing technology in this digital era. This research makes an important contribution in understanding the strategic role of PAI in shaping the character of superior students in the midst of technological advances

**Keywords:** Islamic Religious Education, Islamic Moral Values, Digitalization, Technology, Character

## INTRODUCTION

The development of information and communication technology (ICT) in the era of digitalization affects various sectors of life, including education. Technology provides ease of accessing information quickly and widely, but it also poses challenges, especially related to moral degradation among students. Islamic Religious Education (PAI) in schools plays an important role in instilling Islamic moral values that can be a fortress in facing the negative impact of digital progress (Fikri, 2019). This research aims to explore the role of PAI in overcoming challenges arising from the digital era and the efforts made by Madrasah Tsanawiyah Nurul Jadid in maintaining students' Islamic morals.

The rapid development of ICT has had a great impact on various fields, especially in the world of education. The era of digitalization has made it easier to access information globally, which has changed the way education is delivered and implemented. Education is no longer limited to traditional methods, but also utilizes digital technology to enrich the learning process. However, this convenience also brings

challenges in maintaining moral values, especially Islamic moral values.

Islamic Religious Education (PAI) has a central role in maintaining students' morals and character in the midst of digitalization. PAI not only teaches religious principles, but also shapes students' character so that they have morals in accordance with Islamic teachings. The main challenge for Islamic religious educators is how to integrate technology in the teaching of PAI without ignoring the moral principles that they want to apply to students.

At Madrasah Tsanawiyah Nurul Jadid, digitalization has a direct impact on both the learning process and student social interaction. The use of mobile phones, the internet, and social media has become a part of students' daily lives. This requires educators, especially PAI teachers, to adapt so that learning remains relevant and effective in instilling Islamic moral values. This study aims to analyze the role of PAI in increasing Islamic moral values in the digital era at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Nurul Jadid. In addition, this study also explores the obstacles faced by educators in integrating technology in learning and how they maintain student morale in the midst of the rapid flow of digital information. This research is expected to contribute to the development of a more adaptive PAI learning method in the digital era.

#### RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a qualitative descriptive method with a field approach. Data was collected through interviews with Islamic Religious Education (PAI) teachers, school principals, and students at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Nurul Jadid. In addition, observations were made to assess the implementation of PAI learning in the classroom, especially in the use of digital technology as a learning aid. Documentation techniques are also used as support to reinforce the data obtained from interviews and observations

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this digital era, educators are faced with the obligation to utilize technology in the learning process, including in the teaching of Islamic Religious Education.

At Madrasah Tsanawiyah Nurul Jadid, the use of technology such as projectors, educational applications, and e-learning platforms has been implemented as part of the teaching methods by PAI teachers. This technology is used to make learning more engaging and interactive, which in turn helps students understand the material being taught more easily. For example, teachers use animated videos to explain stories in the Qur'an that were previously difficult to understand with only oral explanations. Additionally, interactive quiz apps are used to allow students to gauge their understanding of the material in a more fun way. Teachers also use social media platforms to spread the message of Islamic morals and teachings, providing opportunities for students to access them anytime and anywhere. While technology provides many benefits, Islamic Religious Education (PAI) teachers also face major challenges in ensuring that students use technology in the right way. Supervision of the content that students access is very important to prevent them from being exposed to inappropriate information or even damaging their morale. Therefore, PAI teachers at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Nurul Jadid not only play the role of teachers, but also as guides who direct students to be able to use technology wisely, in accordance with Islamic teachings.

Islamic religious education in this school places a strong emphasis on building students' character, especially in facing moral challenges in the digital era. Values such as honesty, responsibility, discipline, and tolerance are taught intensively in every PAI lesson. This learning process is not only in the form of theory, but also through hands-on practice. Programs such as congregational prayers, social activities, and spiritual guidance are carried out regularly to ensure that students not only understand moral concepts, but also practice them in daily life.

PAI teachers have an important role as role models in showing the behavior of a Muslim, both in the school environment and in the digital world. In the digital era, teaching the ethics of using the internet is a very important aspect. Students at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Nurul Jadid are taught to use technology wisely, maintain

privacy, and avoid spreading misinformation or hoaxes. With the increasing access to negative content, PAI teachers play a role in teaching digital ethics that are in line with Islamic teachings.

One of the major challenges students face is the difficulty in filtering the information they receive from the internet. Many of them do not have sufficient digital literacy skills to distinguish between correct and false information. Therefore, PAI teachers try to provide students with an understanding of the importance of verifying information before believing or disseminating it. The teacher also gave examples of how to use technology for useful things, such as learning about religion through a trusted online platform.

Another effort is to improve students' digital literacy, so that they can use the internet wisely and intelligently. PAI teachers also encourage students to use the internet as a means to deepen religious knowledge and Islamic morals. Success in Islamic religious education that shapes students' character is inseparable from the role of parents and society. At Madrasah Tsanawiyah Nurul Jadid, collaboration between schools and parents is highly considered. Parents are encouraged to be more active in supervising their children's use of technology at home. The school also held lectures and discussions to discuss the best way to educate children in the digital era. With good cooperation between schools and parents, it is hoped that students can grow into individuals who have strong Islamic morals even though they are in the flow of digitalization.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Islamic Religious Education at Madrasah Tsanawiyah Nurul Jadid has a very important role in shaping students' character and morals, especially in the midst of the rapid development of digitalization. The use of technology in PAI learning has proven to be able to enrich teaching methods and expand students' access to Islamic resources. However, the biggest challenge faced is the ease of access to negative content through the internet. Therefore, PAI teachers play a vital role in providing guidance on digital ethics and morals, so that students can use technology wisely without forgetting Islamic values. Fundamental values such as honesty, responsibility, discipline, and tolerance continue to be used as the basis for PAI learning, which serves as a strong moral foundation for students.

As a step to improve, Islamic Religious Education (PAI) teachers need to continue to improve digital literacy, both for themselves and for students, so that they can use technology wisely and effectively in the learning process. Cooperation between teachers, schools, and parents is very important to supervise and guide the use of technology by students, so that they can avoid the negative impact of the digital world. In addition, the development of interactive learning media that prioritizes Islamic values and increased supervision of digital content accessed by students also needs to be encouraged. This effort will help students to better understand and internalize Islamic moral values in this digital era.

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