



## **DYNAMICS OF ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INNOVATION TOWARDS IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LEARNING AND CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT**

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### **Abstract:**

Islamic Religious Education is a vital component in forming the character and morality of individual HATI BBS Middle School students in the digital era which demands innovation in learning methods and curriculum development in order to meet the needs of the times. This article explores the dynamics of innovation in Islamic Religious Education as a key step towards improving the quality of learning and developing the character of HATI BBS Middle School students. Various aspects of innovation, including the use of information technology, interactive approaches, and contextual learning methods, are explained as efforts to adapt the curriculum to the realities of the times. A deeper understanding of the role of Islamic Religious Education in the formation of character and morality in the digital era is the focus of this research. It is hoped that the research results can make a significant contribution to students' thinking and implementation of innovation in the context of Islamic religious education to improve the quality of learning and develop students' character.

**Keywords:** *Innovation Dynamics, Character Development, Digital era*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Islamic religious education has a central role in shaping the character and morality of individual students. As time advances, especially in the digital era, the dynamics of Islamic religious education need to be accommodated with innovation to remain relevant and effective in meeting the demands of the ever-changing times. The digital era has brought significant changes in various aspects of life, including the world of education. In this context, efforts to improve the quality of learning and develop the character of HATI BBS Middle School students in Islamic Religious Education must always pay attention to changing times and emerging challenges.

By looking at these conditions, this article aims to explore the dynamics of innovation in Islamic Religious Education. This innovation is considered the main key to responding to the challenges of the times and ensuring that Islamic religious learning remains relevant, touching and empowering for HATI BBS Middle School students. The use of information technology, interactive approaches and contextual learning methods are important elements in this transformation.

Rapid social and cultural changes require that Islamic religious education not only be normative, but also adaptive and responsive to students' needs. A deep understanding of how innovation can be applied in Islamic religious education is a necessity, in line with the main goal, namely producing a generation of Muslims who not only have religious expertise but also have strong character and are ready to face the complexities of the modern world.

By providing a general overview of the condition of Islamic religious education in facing the digital era, it is hoped that this article can become a rationale for educational practitioners, researchers and policy makers to be actively involved in

advancing the quality of Islamic religious learning and developing the character of students. Through a deep understanding of the dynamics of innovation in Islamic Religious Education, we can move further towards improving the quality of education and character formation in accordance with Islamic values in the contemporary era.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

This research uses a qualitative approach to explore it holistically. This approach allows researchers to explore the dynamics of innovation in Islamic Religious Education by understanding its context, meaning and impact as a whole. The selection of several Islamic religious education institutions as case studies will provide in-depth insight into the innovative practices that have been implemented. The institutions selected can include formal and non-formal educational institutions.

In-depth interviews will be conducted with stakeholders, including Islamic teachers, students, parents and school leaders. This interview will discuss their perceptions about the innovations that have been implemented, the obstacles they have faced, and their impact on the quality of learning and character development. Through participant observation, researchers will be directly involved in Islamic religious learning activities. This will provide a deeper understanding of classroom dynamics, interactions between teachers and students, as well as potential innovations that can be implemented. Documents such as curriculum, textbooks, teaching materials and school policies will be analyzed to understand the implementation of innovations in Islamic religious education. This analysis will provide an overview of the extent to which innovation has been integrated into the education system.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**Implementation of Technology in Islamic Learning.** It was found that several institutions have integrated technology, such as online learning platforms and learning support applications, to improve the quality of Islamic learning. This includes broader access to resources, interactive learning, and technology-based assessments.

**Contextual Curriculum Development** This research shows that there is an effort to develop a more contextual Islamic religious curriculum, linking religious teachings with the reality of students' daily lives. This aims to make Islamic learning more relevant and easy for students to understand.

**Student Involvement in the Learning Process:** By implementing more participatory learning methods, this research shows increased student involvement in the learning process. Islamic religious teachers actively engage students in discussions, projects, and practical activities to deepen their understanding of religious teachings.

**Character Development Through Islamic Religious Learning:** The results of the research show that innovation in Islamic religious learning has strong potential to develop students' character. Through a holistic learning approach, students are empowered to internalize religious values into their daily behavior.

**Technology as an Empowerment Tool:** The use of technology in Islamic learning provides a great opportunity to increase the accessibility and effectiveness of learning. However, challenges in providing adequate infrastructure and training for teachers need to be overcome to maximize the potential of this technology.

**Challenges in Contextual Curriculum Development:** Although there are efforts to develop a more contextual Islamic religious curriculum, it must be acknowledged that these adjustments require significant time and effort. Coordination between educational institutions, teachers and stakeholders is needed to ensure appropriate curriculum development.

**The Importance of the Role of Teachers as Facilitators:** These findings show that the role of Islamic religious teachers is crucial in facilitating innovative learning. Ongoing training and support is needed to strengthen teachers' skills in implementing effective learning methods and building positive relationships with students.

**Positive Impact on Character Development:** Innovation in Islamic religious learning can have a positive impact on student character development. Learning that

integrates religious values with students' daily lives can form attitudes, behavior and morality that are in accordance with the teachings of the Islamic religion.

Through these results and discussions, it can be concluded that the dynamics of innovation in Islamic Religious Education have great potential to improve the quality of learning and develop student character. However, challenges and joint efforts need to continue to be recognized and addressed to ensure the implementation of innovation is sustainable and has a positive impact.

## CONCLUSION

From the results of this research, it can be concluded that the dynamics of innovation in Islamic Religious Education offer great potential to improve the quality of learning and character development of HATI BBS Middle School students. The application of technology in learning, contextual curriculum development, student involvement, and focus on character development through Islamic teachings are the main pillars of this innovation.

The use of technology in Islamic learning provides wider access to resources and allows more interactive learning. However, challenges related to infrastructure and training need to be addressed to ensure effective implementation. The development of a more contextual curriculum shows an effort to link religious teachings with the realities of students' daily lives, providing greater relevance to learning. The challenges of curriculum development, although large, need to be overcome with collaboration between educational institutions and stakeholders.

Involving students in the learning process, especially through participatory methods, provides positive results in deepening their understanding of religious teachings. This shows that an approach that actively involves students can motivate and increase the effectiveness of Islamic learning.

The importance of the teacher's role as a facilitator in implementing innovative learning methods becomes clear. Ongoing support and training is needed to ensure teachers have adequate skills and knowledge to implement this innovation.

In the context of character development, innovation in Islamic learning has been proven to have a positive impact. Learning that integrates religious values with students' daily lives can form attitudes, behavior and morality that are in accordance with the teachings of the Islamic religion.

Overall, the dynamics of innovation in Islamic Religious Education are a necessity to answer the challenges of the times. However, it needs to be recognized that implementing this innovation requires joint efforts from various parties, including educational institutions, teachers, parents and other stakeholders. Only through strong collaboration can we ensure that Islamic Religious Education remains relevant, effective and makes a real contribution to the development of quality character.

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