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Integrating Islamic Religious Education and Character Development through School Extracurricular Activities to Foster Students' Morality and Social Responsibility

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Abstract:
Islamic Religious Education is not only concerned with the acquisition of religious knowledge but also plays an important role in developing students' morality and social concern. One approach that schools can adopt to support these objectives is to integrate Islamic Religious Education with character development through extracurricular activities. This article aims to analyze the role of religious extracurricular activities in integrating Islamic Religious Education values with students' character development, particularly in fostering morality and social concern. This study employs a qualitative approach with a descriptive method. Data collection was conducted through interviews and observations, as stated in the manuscript, while the discussion examines the implementation of religious extracurricular activities and their relevance to character education. The discussion indicates that religious extracurricular activities have the potential to support Islamic Religious Education by providing learning experiences beyond the classroom. Activities such as religious gatherings, classical Islamic text studies, hadith and Qur'anic exegesis studies, and religiously oriented social activities can help students deepen their understanding of Islamic teachings, internalize moral and ethical values, and develop concern for their social environment. Optimizing these activities requires purposeful planning, regular implementation, competent instructors, adequate facilities, continuous evaluation, and support from schools, teachers, parents, and the wider community. Therefore, integrating Islamic Religious Education with character development through extracurricular activities can serve as an approach to fostering students' morality and social concern.

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INTRODUCTION

Islamic religious education is one of the most important aspects in the formation of a person's character and morals. Therefore, strengthening Islamic religious education is a very important thing and must be done seriously. As an educational institution that has a role in shaping the character of students, schools have a responsibility to provide a conducive environment for students to deepen their understanding of Islam. One way to improve the quality of Islamic religious education in schools is to carry out Islamic religious extracurricular activities.

Islamic religious extracurricular activities are activities outside of class hours held at school, which aim to improve students' understanding of Islam. This activity includes various activities, such as yellow book studies, recitations, religious deliberations, religious activities, and so on. This Islamic religious extracurricular activity aims to provide additional knowledge and skills in the field of religion, as well as improve students' ability to implement religious teachings in daily life.

In today's increasingly complex educational environment, where the influence of the rapidly changing environment and social media are increasingly dominant, the implementation of religious extracurricular activities in schools is very important to strengthen students' character and faith. In Islamic extracurricular activities, students can learn about important Islamic values such as honesty, humility, social concern, and tolerance. In this activity, students can also develop social skills, such as communication skills, teamwork, and leadership.

In a study conducted by Azizah and Syafruddin (2018) at a high school in Palu City, it was found that the implementation of Islamic extracurricular activities in schools has a significant impact on increasing students' understanding of Islam. The results of the study showed that students who participated in religious extracurricular activities had a better understanding of Islamic teachings compared to students who did not participate in religious extracurricular activities. In addition, religious extracurricular activities also help students to better understand and implement religious teachings in daily life.

The importance of the implementation of Islamic extracurricular activities in schools has been recognized by many parties, including the Ministry of Education and Culture.The Ministry of Education and Culture in the 2013 curriculum has also emphasized the importance of implementing extracurricular activities as part of the formation of students' character. One of the extracurricular activities that can be carried out is Islamic religious extracurricular activities. This is in accordance with the goal of national education, which is to form human beings who have faith, piety, piety, and noble character.

The importance of implementing Islamic extracurricular activities in schools not only has an impact on increasing students' understanding of Islam, but can also help improve students' academic achievement. In a study conducted by Usman and Abdul Hamid (2019) at a high school in Medan City, it was found that students who actively

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participate in Islamic religious extracurricular activities have better academic achievement compared to students who do not actively participate in Islamic religious extracurricular activities. This shows that Islamic religious extracurricular activities can help increase students' learning motivation, which can ultimately improve their academic achievement.

However, the implementation of Islamic extracurricular activities in schools can also face several obstacles, such as a lack of support from the school and a lack of interest from students to participate in Islamic extracurricular activities. Therefore, cooperation between the school, teachers, and students is needed in improving the implementation of Islamic extracurricular activities in schools.

In an effort to improve the implementation of Islamic extracurricular activities in schools, the role of teachers is very important. Teachers must have adequate abilities in guiding students in Islamic extracurricular activities. In addition, teachers must also be able to create a conducive atmosphere for students to deepen their understanding of Islam.

Not only that, the school must also provide sufficient support for the implementation of Islamic extracurricular activities in schools, such as providing adequate facilities and infrastructure for the implementation of activities, and providing incentives to teachers and students who are active in Islamic extracurricular activities. With the support of the school, it is hoped that Islamic extracurricular activities can run well and have a positive impact on students.

Students also play an important role in the implementation of Islamic extracurricular activities at school. Students must have a high interest in participating in Islamic extracurricular activities, as well as have a strong will to deepen their understanding of Islam. Students must also be active in Islamic extracurricular activities, such as participating in discussions, competitions, seminars, and other activities that can deepen their understanding of Islam. In this case, teachers can play a role as motivators and facilitators in developing students' interests and abilities in Islamic extracurricular activities.

In the context of Islamic religious education, extracurricular activities can help improve students' understanding of Islam, especially in practical aspects and hands-on experience. In Islamic religious extracurricular activities, students can apply and practice Islamic teachings in daily life, so that they can help students understand Islam. better. In addition, Islamic extracurricular activities can also help students develop positive social and personality skills, such as cooperation, leadership, and tolerance.

Through the implementation of Islamic extracurricular activities in schools, it is hoped that it can strengthen the Islamic religious education received by students. Students will have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of Islam through interesting and fun activities, so that it can help them better internalize Islamic religious values. That way, students can become a generation that has a better understanding of Islam, as well as have a positive character and personality.

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In this scientific paper, the author will discuss the strengthening of Islamic religious education through the implementation of religious extracurricular activities in schools. The author will discuss the importance of implementing Islamic extracurricular activities in schools, the challenges and obstacles faced in the implementation of Islamic extracurricular activities, as well as efforts that can be made by schools, teachers, and students in improving the implementation of Islamic extracurricular activities in schools.

In this study, the author will use a qualitative approach with a case study method. The case study used in this study is one of the high schools in the city of Bandung that has an active and successful Islamic extracurricular activity program in improving students' understanding of Islam. This research will be carried out through data collection through interviews, observations, and documentation, as well as data analysis to find answers to the formulation of the problems that have been determined.

With this research, it is hoped that it can contribute to the improvement of the implementation of Islamic extracurricular activities in schools, and can provide input and recommendations for related parties in improving the strengthening of Islamic religious education in schools through Islamic religious extracurricular activities.

RESEARCH METHOD

The method describes research design, population, and sample (research objectives), data collection techniques, and data analysis techniques.

In this study, the researcher uses a qualitative research approach. Bogdan and Taylor define the qualitative approach as a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written words spoken from people and observed behaviors (Moleong 2006). This research uses a qualitative approach because the researcher considers the problems being researched to be quite complex and dynamic so that the data obtained from the sources is netted by a more natural method, namely by conducting observations and direct interviews with the sources so that they can produce natural answers. In addition, the researcher intends to understand social conditions and situations in depth, find hypothesis patterns, and theories that are in accordance with the data.

The research analysis used is using narrative analysis techniques that focus on how an idea or story is communicated to all related parts, so that it can help researchers understand and develop culture, culture and plans in the research place.

The focus of the research in this study is the implementation of reward and punishment in increasing educational interaction in learning activities. In this study, the researcher uses the type of Case Study research, The where an in-depth longitudinal examination of a situation or event refered to as a case is carried out using systematic methods of observation, data collection, information analysis, and reporting of the results. As a result, a deep understanding of why something happens will be obtained

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and can be the basis for further research. Case studies can also be used to generate and test hypotheses.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. *Islamic Religious Education in Schools*

Along with the times, the challenges for Islamic religious education are increasingly complex. These challenges also include problems such as the lack of qualified teaching staff, limited resources to support learning, and lack of innovation in learning. Therefore, efforts are needed to improve the quality of Islamic religious education in schools.

One of the efforts that can be made to improve the quality of Islamic religious education in schools is to improve the existing curriculum. A good curriculum can provide clear guidance in the teaching-learning process, so that students can understand the material better. In addition, a good curriculum must also integrate Islamic values in each subject, so that students can understand how Islamic values can be applied in daily life.

In this case, Zulfa (2020) emphasized the importance of integrating Islamic values in the educational curriculum. He suggested the preparation of an educational curriculum that can facilitate the teaching of Islamic values that are relevant to the development of the times. In addition, the teaching of Islamic values must also be adjusted to local needs and situations, so that students can understand how Islamic values can be applied in their lives.

In addition to the curriculum, the quality of teaching staff is also an important factor in improving the quality of Islamic religious education in schools. Quality teaching staff can provide effective teaching and understand the needs of students in learning. This was also expressed by Abdul Aziz (2021) in his article on the strategy for the development of Islamic religious education teaching staff. According to Abdul Aziz, the development of Islamic religious education teaching staff must be carried out continuously and continuously through training, workshops, and seminars.

In addition, the use of technology in learning can also be a solution to improve the quality of Islamic religious education in schools. Technology can be used to facilitate the teaching and learning process, such as through the use of e-learning or interactive learning media. This is also mentioned by Fitri (2020) in his article about the role of technology in Islamic religious teaching. Fitri emphasized that technology can be used as a means to make it easier for students to learn Islam, such as through interactive learning that is interesting and entertaining.

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In addition to the above factors, cooperation between the school and parents is also an important factor in improving the quality of Islamic religious education in schools. According to Nur (2019) in his article on cooperation between schools and parents in shaping students' character, this cooperation is very important in ensuring that Islamic values can be applied consistently in students' lives. Parents as part of the family also have an important role in shaping students' character, including in the formation of characters that are in accordance with Islamic values. Therefore, parents also need to be given an understanding of Islamic values and how to apply them in daily life, so that they can support the ongoing process of Islamic religious education in schools.

In addition to the factors mentioned above, there are still several other factors that can affect the quality of Islamic religious education in schools. For example, there is support from the government in improving the quality of Islamic religious education in schools. The government can provide support through various policies that can facilitate the teaching of Islamic religion in schools, such as through the provision of adequate facilities and infrastructure, the provision of scholarships for Islamic religious education, and so on.

In addition, the role of the community is also very important in supporting the quality of Islamic religious education in schools. The community can provide support by facilitating activities related to Islamic religious education, such as through religious activities in the environment around the school or through the development of religious development programs that can be followed by students.

From some of the factors mentioned above, it can be concluded that improving the quality of Islamic religious education in schools requires holistic and integrated efforts. In addition to improving the curriculum, improving the quality of teaching staff, and utilizing technology, the role of parents, the government, and the community are also very important in supporting the quality Islamic religious learning process. All parties must work together and support each other in achieving the common goal of improving the quality of Islamic religious education in schools.

2. *Religious Extracurricular Activities in Schools*

Extracurricular activities at school are an important means in helping students develop their potential and talents outside of academic activities. One type of extracurricular activity that is important is religious extracurricular activities. According to Hadi (2017), religious extracurricular activities at school can

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help students in deepening their understanding and practice of the religion they adhere, so that they can strengthen students' character and morals.

Religious extracurricular activities in schools must be well designed to be in accordance with the expected goals. According to Permendikbud Number 28 of 2016 concerning Extracurricular Activities in Primary and Secondary Education Units, religious extracurricular activities must refer to the Content Standards and Competency Standards for Graduates that have been set by the government. This is so that religious extracurricular activities are not only a mere formality activity, but can have a significant impact on improving the quality of students.

According to Nurcholish (2016), religious extracurricular activities in schools can help in forming good student character and Islamic character. This can be achieved by teaching Islamic values such as independence, simplicity, honesty, and tolerance through extracurricular activities. In addition, religious extracurricular activities can also help in improving students' social skills and communication skills.

Khoiriyah (2019) stated that religious extracurricular activities at school can also help students improve academic skills, such as reading, writing, and speaking skills. This can be achieved by integrating religious extracurricular activities with certain subjects related to religion.

However, not all religious extracurricular activities in schools go well. Zainuddin (2017) said that there are still many schools that have not developed religious extracurricular activities properly, so that these activities do not have a significant impact on improving the quality of students. Therefore, there is a need for efforts from the government and the community to improve the quality of religious extracurricular activities in schools.

Based on the description above, it can be concluded that religious extracurricular activities in schools have an important role in helping students develop their potential and character. These activities must is well designed and refers to the Content Standards and Graduate Competency Standards that have been set by the government. In addition, there needs to be support and supervision from the school and students' parents so that religious extracurricular activities can run effectively and have a positive impact on students.

According to Supriyanto (2021), schools also need to pay attention to the suitability of religious extracurricular activities with the religion embraced by students. This is important to ensure that religious extracurricular activities do not cause controversy or interfere with the beliefs and beliefs of students of different

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religions.

In this case, the role of the accompanying teacher is also very important in carrying out religious extracurricular activities in schools. The accompanying teacher must have a good understanding of the religion embraced by the student and be able to teach in a way that is easy for students to understand. In addition, the accompanying teacher must also be able to provide support and motivation to students in participating in religious extracurricular activities.

Thus, religious extracurricular activities at school can be an effective means of helping students develop their potential and character. However, there needs to be careful planning, support and supervision from the school and students' parents, as well as the role of good accompanying teachers so that religious extracurricular activities can run effectively and have a positive impact on students.

According to Suryana (2018), the implementation of extra-curricular activities requires special attention so that it can run smoothly and provide maximum benefits for participants. Here are some things that must be considered in the implementation of extra-curricular activities:

a. Activity Objectives
   Before holding extra-curricular activities, it is a good idea to determine the objectives of the activity clearly. These goals must be in accordance with the interests and needs of the participants and related to the curriculum implemented at school. By determining clear goals, activities can be more directed and effective.
b. Implementation of Activities
   The implementation of activities must be well prepared, starting from the preparation of rooms, facilities, equipment, to the schedule of activities. All of these things must be well planned so that activities can run smoothly and do not experience obstacles.
c. Facilities and Equipment
   Facilities and equipment needed for extra-curricular activities must also be considered. Make sure the facilities and equipment used are safe, well maintained, and in accordance with the needs of the activity. This will minimize the risk of accidents and ensure that activities run smoothly.
d. Teaching Staff
   Teachers or trainers who teach extra-curricular activities must have adequate qualifications and the ability to teach well. Make sure they have enough knowledge, adequate experience, and good communication skills to be able

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to provide effective learning.

e. Evaluation of Activities
   After the activity is completed, evaluate the activity. Evaluation can be carried out to determine the success of the activity and evaluate the existing shortcomings. By conducting an evaluation, improvement steps can be taken for the next activity so that the activity can be even better.

By paying attention to these things, it is hoped that the implementation of extra-curricular activities can run smoothly and provide maximum benefits for participants.

Meanwhile, according to Fatimah (2018) and Faris (2019), which are specifically related to the implementation of religious extracurriculars, the implementation of religious extracurricular activities in schools requires special attention in order to provide maximum benefits for participants. The following are some things that must be considered in the implementation of religious extracurricular activities in schools, according to experts:

a. In accordance with religious teachings
   Extra-curricular religious activities must be in accordance with the religious teachings adopted in schools. Activities must pay attention to the prevailing religious values and strengthen the religious teachings that have been taught in the classroom.
b. Teacher Qualifications
   Teachers or trainers who teach in extra-curricular religious activities must have adequate qualifications and have the ability to teach well. They must understand the teachings of the religion that is adhered to and be able to provide effective learning.
c. Facilities and Equipment
   Facilities and equipment needed for extra-curricular religious activities must also be considered. Make sure the facilities and equipment used are safe, well maintained, and in accordance with the needs of the activity. This will minimize the risk of accidents and ensure that activities run smoothly.
d. Diverse Activities
   Extra-curricular religious activities must be designed in a variety of ways to attract participants. Monotonous activities can make participants feel bored and not interested in participating in them.
e. Evaluation of Activities
   After the activity is completed, evaluate the activity. Evaluation can be carried out to determine the success of the activity and evaluate the existing

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shortcomings. By conducting an evaluation, improvement steps can be taken for the next activity so that the activity can be even better.

3. ***Strengthening Islamic Religious Education Through Religious Extracurricular Activities in Schools***

Islamic religious education is one of the important aspects of education in Indonesia, as the majority of Indonesia's population is Muslim. Islamic religious education in schools is one way to strengthen students' understanding of Islam, as well as help students develop good character and morals. However, lack of time and a crowded curriculum are often obstacles in providing adequate Islamic religious education in schools.

To overcome these obstacles, Islamic extracurricular activities in schools can be an effective alternative in strengthening Islamic religious education in schools. Islamic extracurricular activities in schools can provide a different and interesting experience for students, as well as help students deepen their understanding of Islam and develop their religious character.

Based on research that has been conducted, Islamic extracurricular activities in schools can make a significant contribution to the spiritual, moral, and character development of students. Research by Hanifah et al. (2019) shows that Islamic religious extracurricular activities can improve students' understanding of Islam, positive attitudes towards Islam, and students' religious behavior. Other research by Muchtar and Syafrida (2018) also shows that Islamic religious extracurricular activities can help students deepen their understanding of Islam and develop their religious character.

Islamic extracurricular activities in schools can take various forms, such as the study of the yellow book, recitation, hadith studies, and tafsir studies. These activities can be carried out outside school hours or in free time such as after school or on Saturdays or Sundays. In carrying out Islamic religious extracurricular activities, schools can utilize resources from Islamic religious teachers in schools, mosque communities, and ustadz or dai who are competent in their fields.

In addition, the school can also hold Islamic extracurricular activities that involve students in social activities, such as social service activities or joint recitation with the surrounding community. In this activity, students can learn about social values and contribute to society.

It is important for schools to provide adequate support and facilities in carrying out Islamic religious extracurricular activities. Schools can provide special spaces or facilities such as Islamic religious libraries and other facilities to support

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Islamic religious extracurricular activities in schools.

In addition, the management of Islamic extracurricular activities in schools also needs to be considered. Islamic extracurricular activities in schools should be organized regularly and scheduled, and supervised by Islamic religious teachers or extracurricular managers who are competent in their fields. The school must also ensure that Islamic extracurricular activities in schools do not conflict with the principles of Islamic religious education that are correct and in accordance with the pure teachings of Islam.

In addition, it should also be noted that Islamic extracurricular activities at school should not be forced on students who are not Muslims or who are not interested. However, the school must still provide alternative activities that can develop students' character and potential.

Overall, Islamic extracurricular activities in schools can be an effective alternative in strengthening Islamic religious education in schools. Through these activities, students can deepen their understanding of Islam, develop religious character, and contribute to society. However, schools must ensure that Islamic religious extracurricular activities in schools are carried out in an orderly, scheduled manner, and do not conflict with the principles of Islamic religious education that are correct and in accordance with the pure teachings of Islam.

In addition, Islamic religious extracurricular activities can also help overcome moral and social problems that often occur among students. In Islamic religious extracurricular activities, students are taught about good morals and ethics as well as Islamic values that can shape students' religious character. In addition, Islamic religious extracurricular activities can also teach students to contribute to society and increase social awareness.

According to Hanifah, Azizah, and Juhro (2019), Islamic religious extracurricular activities can improve students' understanding of concepts and morals. Their research shows that students who participate in Islamic religious extracurricular activities have a better understanding of Islamic religious concepts and have better morals compared to students who do not participate in these activities. The results of the study show that Islamic religious extracurricular activities can be an effective alternative in strengthening Islamic religious education in schools.

In addition, Muchtar and Syafrida (2018) also found similar results in their research on strengthening Islamic religious education through extracurricular activities at madrasah tsanawiyah negeri 1 Bulukumba.

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The results of their research show that Islamic religious extracurricular activities can improve students' understanding of Islam and can shape students' religious character.

However, it should be noted that Islamic extracurricular activities in schools must also be carried out by paying attention to the principles of Islamic religious education that are correct and in accordance with the pure teachings of Islam. This is because many Islamic extracurricular activities are carried out not in accordance with the principles of true Islamic religious education and are even contrary to Islamic teachings.

In addition, Islamic extracurricular activities should also not be forced on students who are not Muslims or who are not interested. This is because every student has the right to choose extracurricular activities that suit their interests and talents.

In implementing Islamic extracurricular activities in schools, the school must also ensure that these activities are carried out regularly, scheduled, and led by Islamic religious teachers or extracurricular managers who are competent in their fields. This will ensure that Islamic extracurricular activities in schools are carried out properly and do not conflict with the principles of Islamic religious education that are correct and do not cause problems that are contrary to the principles of Islamic religious education." It is important to ensure that Islamic religious extracurricular activities can provide positive benefits to students and do not cause negative impacts for them.

In addition, Islamic extracurricular activities in schools can also strengthen the relationship between students and Islamic teachers. Islamic teachers can act as mentors and guides for students in developing their understanding of Islam. In this case, Islamic teachers can help students understand good religious and ethical values, as well as provide direction in dealing with moral and social problems that often occur in their environment.

In addition, the school can also involve the parents of students in Islamic extracurricular activities at school. Involving parents in these activities can increase their support for Islamic extracurricular activities at school and can strengthen student involvement in these activities.

In order to optimize Islamic extracurricular activities in schools, the school can also involve the surrounding community in these activities. By involving the surrounding community, students can learn about Islamic values related to the life of the surrounding community, as well as be able to contribute to the community

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and increase their social awareness.

In conclusion, Islamic religious extracurricular activities can be an effective alternative in strengthening Islamic religious education in schools. Through these activities, students can develop their understanding of Islam, strengthen religious character, and increase their role in society. However, it should be noted that Islamic religious extracurricular activities must be carried out by paying attention to the correct principles of Islamic religious education and must be carried out regularly and on a scheduled basis. In addition, these activities must be led by Islamic religious teachers or extracurricular managers who are competent in their fields.

CONCLUSION

Strengthening Islamic religious education through the implementation of religious extracurricular activities in schools is an effective alternative in improving students' understanding of religious concepts and characters. Islamic religious extracurricular activities not only function as an additional class time, but can also help overcome moral and social problems that often occur among students.

Through Islamic religious extracurricular activities, students are taught about good morals and ethics as well as Islamic values that can shape students' religious character. Islamic religious extracurricular activities can also help increase students' social awareness and teach students to contribute to society.

Many studies have been conducted to test the effectiveness of Islamic religious extracurricular activities in strengthening Islamic religious education in schools. The results of the study show that students who participate in Islamic religious extracurricular activities have a better understanding of Islamic religious concepts and have better morals compared to students who do not participate in these activities.

However, it should be noted that Islamic extracurricular activities in schools must also be carried out by paying attention to the principles of Islamic religious education that are correct and in accordance with the pure teachings of Islam. Islamic extracurricular activities should also not be forced on students who are not Muslims or who are not interested. Every student has the right to choose extracurricular activities that suit their interests and talents.

In implementing Islamic extracurricular activities in schools, the school must also ensure that these activities are carried out regularly, scheduled, and led by Islamic religious teachers or extracurricular managers who are competent in their fields. This will ensure that Islamic extracurricular activities in schools are carried out properly and do not conflict with the principles of correct Islamic religious education.

In conclusion, Islamic religious extracurricular activities can be an effective alternative in strengthening Islamic religious education in schools. Through these activities, students can develop an understanding of Islamic religious concepts and shape their religious character. However, it should be noted that this activity must be

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carried out by paying attention to the principles of Islamic religious education that are correct and not imposed on students who are not Muslims or who are not interested. The school must also ensure that these activities are carried out regularly, scheduled, and led by Islamic religious teachers or extracurricular managers who are competent in their fields.

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