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**Building Islamic Awareness in Daily Life:
The Role of Teachers in Islamic Religious Education**

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ABSTRACT

This study adopts a qualitative approach with descriptive methods through literature studies to analyze the role of Islamic Religious Education teachers in developing students' character. Islamic Religious Education Teachers not only play a role in providing knowledge, but also as mentors who help students develop the morals, ethics and religious values needed to form individuals with noble character. Instilling religious awareness in everyday life, such as getting used to worship, is the focus in forming students' character. Teachers play an important role in instilling religious principles to form moral behavior in accordance with Islamic teachings, through habits such as congregational prayer, dhikr, and memorizing murojaah. This character development also aims to create individuals who are independent, responsible and contribute to society, as well as building a civilization that is in accordance with Islamic values. Islamic Religious Education, as regulated in Government Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 55 of 2007, aims to achieve physical and spiritual balance, form a Muslim personality with morals, and guide students towards happiness in this world and the hereafter.

ABSTRAK

Studi ini mengadopsi pendekatan kualitatif dengan metode deskriptif melalui studi literatur untuk menganalisis peran guru Pendidikan Agama Islam dalam mengembangkan karakter peserta didik. Guru Pendidikan Agama Islam tidak hanya berperan dalam memberikan pengetahuan, tetapi juga sebagai pembimbing yang membantu peserta didik dalam mengembangkan moral, etika, dan nilai-nilai agama yang diperlukan untuk membentuk individu yang berakhlak mulia. Penanaman kesadaran agama di kehidupan sehari-hari, seperti membiasakan ibadah, menjadi fokus utama dalam pembentukan karakter siswa. Guru berperan penting dalam menanamkan prinsip-prinsip agama untuk membentuk perilaku moral yang sesuai dengan ajaran Islam, melalui pembiasaan seperti sholat berjamaah, dzikir, dan murojaah hafalan. Pembinaan karakter ini juga bertujuan untuk menciptakan individu yang mandiri, bertanggung jawab, dan berkontribusi pada masyarakat, serta membangun peradaban yang sesuai dengan nilai-nilai Islam. Pendidikan Agama Islam, sebagaimana diatur dalam Peraturan Pemerintah Republik Indonesia Nomor 55 Tahun 2007, bertujuan untuk mencapai keseimbangan jasmani dan rohani, membentuk kepribadian muslim yang berakhlak, serta membimbing siswa menuju kebahagiaan dunia dan akhirat.

INTRODUCTION

The word educator for many people is usually immediately understood as an activity at school, namely a meeting between teachers and students. This makes parents feel responsible for educating their children. Both directly and through education at school. Education etymologically comes from the Latin pedagogy; this word is a combination of two words pais meaning child and ago meaning I guide. So, pedagogy means I guide children. Islamic Religious

Education is one of the subjects related to the formation of students' character in schools, namely by optimizing the learning of Islamic Religious Education subjects which are considered very strategic in realizing the formation of students' character. Islamic Religious Education as a process of channeling knowledge, values, skills from one generation to the next which includes two things, namely teaching students to behave like values or morals, also teaching students to learn Islamic guidance in the form of knowledge about Islamic guidance.

Islam as a comprehensive religion covers every aspect of life, be it spiritual, social, or moral. One of the biggest challenges in modern society is how to instill Islamic awareness in everyday life, so that Islamic teachings are not only understood in theory, but also applied in real actions. From an Islamic perspective, a teacher is not only a worker but also an educator. Therefore, someone can become a teacher not only if he has met the scientific and academic qualifications, but more importantly he must have commendable morals. Thus, a teacher not only teaches knowledge, but more importantly forms the character and personality of his students with Islamic morals and teachings (Rokhmah, 2021).

Islamic education aims to educate and shape humans to have good morals, who always fear Allah SWT. So that they can get happiness in living their lives (Prabowo, et.al., 2020). Through effective and comprehensive learning, teachers play a role in guiding students to understand Islamic teachings in depth, and internalize these values in their life practices, both at home, school, and in society. The formation of this Islamic awareness is not only aimed at increasing religious knowledge, but also to foster a high sense of social responsibility in students, so that they can live according to the teachings of Islam which is *rahmatan lil 'alamin*.

METHOD

This study conducted Descriptive research using a Qualitative approach with Literature study. Literature study collects various related and relevant references. These references come from books, journals, articles, and various sources of information (Assingkily, 2021).

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Islamic Religious Education Teacher

According to Syah, a teacher is an educational staff whose main task is to teach, namely, to develop the realm of creativity, feeling, and work of students as an implementation of the ideal concept of education (Haniyyah, 2021). In Islamic educational literature, the definition of a teacher refers to the words *murabbi*, *mu'allim*, *muaddib* which have different functions. *Murabbi* comes from the word *rabba yurabbi* which means to guide, take care of, care for and educate. While *mu'allim* is a form of *isim fa'il* from *'allama-yu'allimu* which means to teach. Islamic Religious Education teachers are required to carry out activities to guide, train, and accustom students to behave and behave well.

Therefore, the role and responsibility of Islamic Religious Education (PAI) teachers are very noble. Islamic Religious Education is a conscious and planned effort in preparing students to know, understand, appreciate, and believe in, be pious, and have noble morals in practicing Islamic teachings from their main sources, the holy book of the Qur'an and al-Hadith, through guidance activities, teaching exercises, and the use of experience. An Islamic religious education teacher is an educator who is responsible for physical and spiritual development to change individual behavior in accordance with Islamic teachings in order to achieve maturity and form a Muslim personality with good character and can understand, appreciate, and practice the lessons learned in everyday life and the teachings of the religion are used as guidelines and instructions for life, so that they can achieve happiness in this world and the hereafter.

Based on the above understanding, the author argues that an Islamic religious education teacher is an educator who teaches Islamic teachings to achieve physical and spiritual balance to change individual behavior in accordance with Islamic teachings and guide students towards achieving maturity and forming a Muslim personality with morals, so that there is a balance of happiness in the world and the hereafter. The main duties of teachers according to the Republic

of Indonesia Law. No. 14 of 2005 concerning Teachers and Lecturers, article 1 paragraph 1, states that teachers are professional educators with the main task of educating, teaching, guiding, directing, training, and evaluating students in early childhood education through formal education, basic education, and secondary education (Wahdaniyah & Masnan, 2021).

The Role of Teachers in Building Islamic Awareness in Daily Life

In understanding the concept of religious awareness, it is found that religious awareness is an individual's awareness of the religion they adhere to. This includes understanding and experiencing religious teachings and involvement in religious practices. The dimensions of religious awareness include religious knowledge, experiencing religious values in everyday life, and active involvement in religious practices (Sari & Tanjung, 2023). The development of religion in children is largely determined by the education and experiences they go through, especially during the first growth period (childhood) from 0-12 years of age. A child who does not receive religious education and does not have religious experience during childhood will tend to have a negative attitude towards religion when he is an adult (Mahera, 2020). Islamic religious education teachers have an important role in helping students develop their character. In addition to providing knowledge, teachers also act as guides who help students develop the morals, ethics and religious values needed to become the expected individuals.

The role of teachers is very important not only in the classroom, but also in the school community and the wider community. The importance of instilling religious things in students is also a major focus. Instilling religious things such as building Islamic awareness in daily life by teaching students to worship consistently. The role of teachers is very significant in the world of education, especially in instilling religious principles to shape moral behavior. This is because in the learning process, teachers and students are directly involved. To help students become independent and make valuable contributions to society, teachers can guide them in finding, exploring, and reconstructing their knowledge. It is important to make habituation a necessity to shape students' character, especially in character development. The main goal is to develop noble morals, especially religious morals, while still paying attention to other important factors such as knowledge, motivation, attitudes, and behavior that are in accordance with social and religious norms. This thinking is clearly reflected in Islamic teachings that are in line with the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad SAW.

Islamic Religious Education teachers are not only teaching staff to deliver lesson materials, but Islamic Religious Education teachers are also educators. Where being an educator has an obligation and responsibility to realize the goals of Islamic education, namely developing all the potential of students to become perfect Muslims. By means such as teaching, giving examples, motivating, training, punishing, and praying, if these methods are carried out seriously and consistently, the goals of Islamic education can be achieved. The role of teachers in building Islamic awareness in daily life is very important and influential. Here are some of the main roles of teachers in this process: First, Teaching Islamic Morals and Ethics. Islamic religious education teachers play an important role in teaching good morals and Islamic ethics, such as honesty, patience, fairness, and humility. This helps students understand how their behavior can reflect Islamic values in everyday life. Second, Instilling an Understanding of Worship in Daily Life. One of the main tasks of Islamic religious education teachers is to teach about worship, especially prayer, fasting, zakat, and hajj. Through a good understanding of worship, students are taught how they can carry out religious obligations regularly in everyday life.

Third, Teaching Understanding of the Qur'an and Hadith in everyday life. Islamic religious education teachers not only teach the text of the Qur'an and Hadith, but also help students understand and apply these teachings in their lives. For example, the values of justice, compassion, and social responsibility contained in the Qur'an and Hadith. Fourth, Being a role model in the Experience of Islamic Values. Islamic religious education teachers must be good examples for students in practicing Islamic values in their lives. Students tend to imitate the behavior of their teachers, so it is important for teachers to demonstrate good morals, discipline,

and integrity. In building Islamic awareness in daily life, teachers can also provide guidance and habituation of activities such as ablution, reading dhikr, obligatory prayers in congregation, and dhuha prayers in congregation. Teachers never tire of inviting and reminding students to maintain their memorization with murojaah every day. So that through these simple things can build Islamic awareness in the daily lives of students.

Islamic Learning Strategies for Everyday Life

The learning process is a process of interaction between teachers, students, and the learning environment. In carrying out this process, choosing the right strategy is one of the most important things and must be understood by the teacher. At this point, it will be seen that the interaction process between students, teachers, and their learning environment can run optimally in the learning process carried out (Hamid, 2020). When connected to the teaching and learning process, strategy is the method chosen to convey lesson material in a particular teaching environment which includes the nature, scope, and sequence of activities in the learning process so that it can provide learning experiences to students. Learning strategies are used to achieve goals in providing learning materials at every level of education. Strategy is a holistic approach related to the implementation of ideas, planning, and execution of an activity in a time unit (Harmita, et.al., 2022).

Islamic religious learning strategies for everyday life can be carried out with a comprehensive approach, involving the appreciation and application of religious teachings in every aspect of life. Islamic religious learning is not only about studying theory or reading holy books, but also how to practice these teachings in real life. To help understand religious teachings and apply them in daily activities, teachers can implement the following activities, first reading and understanding the Qur'an and Hadith. Every day, a Muslim can take the time to read the Qur'an attentively, not just as a routine, but with the intention of seeking understanding of the life guidance contained therein. Teachers can start by asking students to read and understand the verses of the Qur'an and hadith in a straightforward and understandable manner. This approach includes more than just reading; it also speaks of the wisdom and significance that may be found in it. In addition, reading the interpretation or listening to explanations of the verses of the Qur'an will help understand the conditions and their meanings. This will help students better understand the meaning and apply Islamic teachings in everyday life. In addition, understanding the hadith of the Prophet Muhammad SAW which explains how he behaved in various situations is also important so that we can emulate his noble morals.

Second, the application of Islamic teachings in daily life. The application of Islamic teachings in daily life is about how we can practice the teachings of Islam in all our activities. One way for teachers to apply Islamic teachings in daily life is by getting used to performing the five daily prayers. Prayer is the most important obligation in Islam and is how we relate directly to Allah. In addition to prayer, interacting with others is an important part of Islamic teachings. Islam teaches us to always be kind, honest, and respectful of others. In daily life, we are taught to always maintain good relationships with family, friends, even older people, or those who need help. Third, building Positive Habits through Prayer and Dhikr. Teachers can teach daily prayers and dhikr that can help students remember Allah throughout the day. For example, implementing prayers before studying, or other daily prayers that students can practice at home or school. Thus, students not only learn religion in the context of lessons, but also make it part of their routine that brings blessings in every step of their lives.

CONCLUSION

Based on the discussion above, it can be concluded that an Islamic religious education teacher is an educator who is responsible for physical and spiritual development to change individual behavior in accordance with Islamic teachings in order to achieve maturity and form a Muslim personality with good character and can understand, appreciate, and practice the lessons learned in everyday life and the teachings of the religion are used as guidelines and

instructions for life, so that they can achieve happiness in the world and the hereafter. The role of teachers in building Islamic awareness in daily life is very important and influential, Islamic Religious Education teachers play an important role in teaching good morals and Islamic ethics, such as honesty, patience, fairness, and humility. This helps students understand how their behavior can reflect Islamic values in everyday life. And the role of Islamic Religious Education teachers is to teach about worship, especially prayer, fasting, zakat, and hajj.

Through a thorough comprehension of worship, students learn how to fulfill their religious duties on a regular basis. Teachers of Islamic Religious Education must set a good example for their students by living up to Islamic principles. Since students often emulate their teachers, it is critical that educators exhibit integrity, discipline, and good morals. Teachers, students, and the learning environment all interact during the learning process. One of the most crucial aspects of this process is selecting the appropriate approach, which the teacher must comprehend. Teachers can use Islamic activities like reading and comprehending the Qur'an and Hadith, as well as putting Islamic teachings into practice by praying five times a day and treating people well, to help students understand and apply religious teachings in their daily lives. and forming virtuous habits by remembering Allah and praying regularly.

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