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The Role of Tadarus Al-Qur'an in Shaping Student Character: Qualitative Study at MI Al Wathoniyah Cirebon

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Abstract— This research aims to examine the influence of the habit of reciting the Al-Qur'an before studying on the character formation of students at MI Al Wathoniyah Cirebon City using a qualitative approach with a case study method. Data was obtained through interviews, observation and documentation involving grade 4 and 5 students, teachers and school principals. The results show that Al-Qur'an tadarus has a significant impact on character formation, such as discipline, responsibility, personal piety, a conducive learning atmosphere, and harmonious social relationships. The habit of arriving early for tadarus increases discipline, while active involvement in these activities develops student responsibility. The moral values of the Koran are internalized, honing personal piety and positive behavior such as patience, respect and gratitude. Tadarus also creates a calmer learning atmosphere, prepares students to receive lessons well, and strengthens social relationships through togetherness, creating a harmonious school environment. However, there are challenges such as lack of motivation in certain students and time constraints for implementation. In conclusion, the habit of tadarus Al-Qur'an contributes positively to the formation of student character, is relevant as a superior educational program based on Islamic values, and can be a reference for other educational institutions in building student character holistically.

Keywords— *Tadarus Al-Qur'an; Character Formation; Discipline; Islamic Education.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Character education is an important aspect of the national education system mandated by the National Education System Law. The aim is to create students who are not only intellectually intelligent but also have superior personalities, noble character and integrity (Desyandri, 2019). One method that is relevant to the context of education based on Islamic values is the implementation of Al-Qur'an tadarus activities before starting the learning process. This habit not only aims to strengthen students' religious dimensions, but also becomes part of their holistic character formation.

MI Al Wathoniyah Cirebon City has implemented the Al-Qur'an tadarus program regularly every morning before teaching and learning activities begin. This habit has become a tradition that is preserved as an effort to support the school's vision of forming a generation that is religious and has strong character. Tadarus Al-Qur'an involves students actively reading and understanding the contents of the Al-Qur'an in a solemn and disciplined atmosphere. However, it is important to understand the extent to which these activities have a direct impact on the formation of student character, especially in terms of discipline, responsibility and personal piety.

Based on initial observations, there are several interesting phenomena that can be seen. First, students who regularly participate in tadarus show more positive behavior, such as

being more disciplined in coming to class on time, being more responsible in completing assignments, and being friendlier towards their friends. Second, this activity also seems to create a calmer and more conducive learning atmosphere. However, there are also challenges in implementation, such as a lack of involvement of some students due to low motivation or technical obstacles, for example a busy schedule.

Several previous studies have shown that religious activities, such as *tadarus* Al-Qur'an, have a positive influence on the formation of students' character. According to (Pramestuty, 2023), activities based on religious values can shape students' personalities for the better through the internalization of noble values such as discipline, patience and sincerity. However, empirical research on the specific influence of Al-Qur'an *tadarus* on student character formation is still limited, especially in basic education environments such as MI. Therefore, this research aims to explore more deeply the impact of Al-Qur'an *tadarus* on the character formation of students at MI Al Wathoniyah, Cirebon City.

Thus, it is hoped that this research will not only provide a theoretical contribution to the literature on character education based on Islamic values, but also offer practical recommendations for other educational institutions in adopting similar programs. It is hoped that the findings from this research can become a reference for developing a curriculum that focuses on building student character through a religious approach.

II. METHOD

This research uses a qualitative approach with a case study method to explore the impact of Al-Qur'an *tadarus* activities on student character formation at MI Al Wathoniyah, Cirebon City. The research location was carried out at MI Al Wathoniyah, with research subjects including grade 4 and 5 students who were active in *tadarus* activities, teachers and school principals. The selection of students was carried out purposively based on their involvement in the program, thereby providing relevant and in-depth information.

Data collection techniques include three main methods: interviews, observation, and documentation. In-depth interviews were conducted with students, teachers and school principals to obtain their views regarding the implementation of Al-Qur'an *tadarus* and its impact. Observations are carried out directly to record student involvement in the activity as well as relevant changes in behavior. Documentation was obtained from school documents, such as activity schedules and *tadarus* implementation reports, to support data obtained from interviews and observations.

Research ethics was also an important concern in conducting this study. The researcher ensured that there was official permission from the school, maintained the confidentiality of informants' identities, and ensured that respondent participation was voluntary in accordance with research ethical principles (Sidiq et al., 2019). With this approach, research is designed to understand how Al-Qur'an *tadarus* activities can contribute to the formation of student character in the school environment.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This research aims to explore the impact of Al-Qur'an *tadarus* activities on the formation of student character at MI Al Wathoniyah, Cirebon City. Based on the results of observations, interviews and documentation, several main findings were found that reflect the influence of this activity on aspects of students' character, namely discipline, responsibility, personal piety, learning atmosphere and students' social relationships.

The Al-Qur'an *tadarus* activity carried out every morning encourages students to come to school on time. Teachers and school principals note that since this program was implemented, student tardiness rates have decreased significantly (Khusnah et al., 2022). Students who are used to following *tadarus* are also more disciplined in carrying out their daily activities at school, such as adhering to the lesson schedule and completing assignments on time. In an interview, one of the students stated, "I feel like I have to come early so I can join *Tadarus* with my friends, and this makes me more enthusiastic about going to school.

The implementation of *tadarus* involves students actively, both as participants and as readers of verses from the Koran. This responsibility provides an opportunity for students to learn to lead and carry out tasks well. The teacher revealed that the students appointed to lead the *tadarus* showed an increase in their responsibilities, not only in religious activities but also in other school tasks. This habit forms the character of students who are more responsible for their obligations.

Tadarus Al-Qur'an becomes a means of forming students' personal piety. This activity not only helps students improve their ability to read the Qur'an, but also deepens their understanding of Islamic values (Tyas, 2020). One of the students revealed that reading the Koran in the morning made them feel calmer and ready to face the day. Teachers also noted an increase in students' positive behavior, such as praying more often, being more patient, and being more respectful of friends and teachers.

Tadarus activities create a more conducive learning atmosphere. According to the school principal, reading the Koran before starting learning has a calming effect, both for students and teachers. This helps students focus more when the lesson starts. Observations show that students who take part in *tadarus* tend to be easier to direct and more mentally prepared to receive the lesson material.

Tadarus is carried out together, thereby strengthening social relations between students. This activity creates a sense of togetherness and cooperation among students, especially when they take turns reading the Koran and supporting each other in improving their reading. The teacher stated that the students became more familiar and there were fewer conflicts between them since this activity was carried out regularly.

The results of this research are in line with theoretical studies which state that activities based on religious values, such as *tadarus* Al-Qur'an, have a significant influence in shaping students' character. As stated by (Nuha et al., 2020), religion-based education can instill moral and ethical values that support the development of positive character in students.

Apart from that, these findings are also relevant to previous research which states that religious activities are able to create a learning atmosphere that supports students' academic and social development.

However, this research also revealed several challenges. Some students are less motivated to take part in tadarus, especially students who are not yet fluent in reading the Koran. The teacher states that they need to give.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

This research shows that the habit of reciting the Koran before studying has a significant role in shaping the character of students at MI Al Wathoniyah, Cirebon City. The main research findings reveal that this activity has a positive impact on several important aspects, namely discipline, responsibility, personal piety, learning atmosphere, and students' social relationships.

Student discipline has improved significantly, as can be seen from the decrease in the rate of students being late in coming to school. This habit encourages students to start the day with structured activities, thus forming a pattern of disciplined behavior that not only applies in tadarus activities, but also in their learning activities and daily life.

Students' responsibilities also develop through their active involvement in leading and participating in tadarus activities. Students appointed to lead demonstrate the ability to take responsibility well, and this indirectly strengthens their independent attitude. This habit helps students understand the importance of commitment to assigned tasks and obligations.

Students' personal piety is seen to increase through this activity. Reading the Koran in the morning not only trains Al-Qur'an reading and writing skills, but also instills deep moral and spiritual values. Students become calmer, more patient and respectful of others, both peers and teachers. This reflects that Al-Qur'an tadarus not only has an impact on the religious aspect, but also strengthens students' overall morals.

This activity also creates a more conducive learning atmosphere. Reading the Qur'an before starting lessons helps students and teachers achieve a calm mental state, so that learning can take place more focused and effective. Students who take tadarus tend to be more emotionally prepared to receive lesson material and show increased concentration in learning.

In addition, students' social relations become more harmonious. Tadarus activities carried out together strengthen the sense of togetherness and mutual support between students. This helps reduce conflict among students and creates a more inclusive and welcoming school environment.

However, this research also revealed several challenges, such as a lack of motivation for some students who were not yet fluent in reading the Al-Qur'an and implementation time constraints that required adjustments to their parents' schedules. Therefore, schools need to develop strategies to overcome these challenges, such as providing intensive Al-Qur'an reading training for students who need it and improving communication with parents.

Based on these findings, Al-Qur'an tadarus activities are worthy of being recommended as one of the superior programs in shaping student character in Islamic-based elementary schools. Apart from having a positive impact on students, this activity also supports the school's efforts to create a young generation who are religious, have character, and are ready to face future challenges with strong moral values.

This research also provides theoretical and practical contributions in the field of religious-based character education. It is hoped that these findings can become a reference for other schools in designing character formation programs that are relevant to Islamic values. On the other hand, this research still has limitations, so further research is needed to further explore the long-term impact of the habit of reciting the Al-Qur'an on student character development in various educational contexts.

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