Improvement of Quranic Reading Skills and Islamic Insight among Children and Adolescents in Tarai Bangun Village: a Participatory Action Research Approach

Suhendri¹, Syazwan Afandi², Surya Sagala³, Wirayudha Hawari⁴, Rizky Kurniawan Daulay⁵, Sopian Sinaga⁶, Ahmad Zaky⁷
¹⁵Sekolah Tinggi Agama Islam As-Sunnah Deli Serdang, Indonesia
suhendria@gmail.com

Abstract
This paper discusses the implementation of the Integrated Real Work Lecture (KKN-T) program in Tarai Bangun Village, Tambang Sub-district, Kampar Regency, with the background of selecting a theme focusing on the need for religious and Islamic education in the village. The chosen theme for the KKN-T program is "Improving Quranic Reading Skills and Islamic Understanding for Children and Adolescents in Tarai Bangun Village, Tambang Sub-district, Kampar Regency" because the village has an urgent need to enhance religious knowledge and Islamic life, especially among the younger generation. In implementing this program, the participants follow a well-structured method of planning and executing activities. The activities involve intensive Quranic teaching, dawn sermons (kultum subuh), sermons before tarawih prayers (kultum before tarawih), and the imparting of Islamic values to the local community. During the implementation, data is collected through observation, interviews, and Quranic reading skill assessments, allowing for the collection and analysis of scientific findings. The scientific findings indicate that the KKN-T activities have had a significant and positive impact on improving Quranic reading skills among the children of Tarai Bangun Village. The data shows a tangible increase in the understanding of religion and Islamic awareness among children and adolescents. Furthermore, the program has successfully nurtured a sense of care and affection for Islam among them. The conclusion drawn from this research is that KKN-T can serve as an effective model for promoting religious and Islamic education and enhancing Quranic reading skills for children and adolescents in similar villages.

Keywords: KKN-T; Quran Reading; Islamic Insights

Article Info
Article History:
Received: 05-06-2022 Accepted: 12-25-2023 Publish: 12-29-2023
doi: 10.51590/jpm_assunnah.v3i4.677
Introduction

The ability to read the Quran and understand Islam are two valuable assets that can bring significant benefits to individuals. The ability to read the Quran and understand Islam can serve as the fundamental basis for shaping one’s moral values. The Quran is the primary source of teachings in Islam, containing guidelines for ethics and values that form the foundation for righteous actions. By comprehending and practicing the teachings of the Quran, individuals can develop strong characters and good morals. Furthermore, understanding Islam also aids in shaping one’s Islamic identity.

Understanding Islam doesn’t just influence an individual’s behavior, but also helps shape their religious identity. With a deep understanding of Islamic teachings, one can feel closer to their beliefs and religious values. This assists them in feeling more confident and proud of their Islamic identity, consequently impacting how they interact with society and the world around them.

Furthermore, the ability to read the Quran and understand Islam plays a crucial role in integrating religious principles into daily life. Applying these principles in everyday life is an integral part of religious practice. It assists individuals in integrating religious values into their decisions, actions, and daily behaviors. Consequently, individuals can lead lives that align with their religious teachings, making religion their primary guide in navigating various situations in their lives.

Several related studies on this theme were found by the author, including a study titled 'Sorogan Method in Enhancing Quranic Reading Skills in Children,' which examines the use of the Sorogan method to improve Quranic reading abilities among children. The common ground between this study and previous research lies in their shared focus on enhancing Quranic reading skills in children. However, the difference lies in the research's focal point, where this study represents a broader overview concerning the efforts to enhance Quranic reading abilities among adolescent children in the Tarai village, coupled with research on elevating their Islamic insights.

Tarai Village is situated in the Tambang District, Kampar Regency, Riau Province. This village spans an area of approximately 21 square kilometers and is home to around 4,543 residents. In the field of education, Tarai village hosts several primary and secondary schools. The local government has also initiated a scholarship program for academically outstanding yet economically disadvantaged students. The local authorities are continually striving to enhance both access to and the quality of education in Tarai village. One approach involves constructing improved schools and elevating the standard of education provided to students.

The religious composition in Tarai village is quite diverse, although the majority of its inhabitants adhere to Islam. Several mosques within Tarai village serve as places of worship for Muslims, and the residents frequently engage actively in religious activities. They participate in religious gatherings at mosques, attend study circles (pengajian), and organize religious events, such as commemorations of significant Islamic occasions.

In terms of religious education, there are several religious educational institutions in Tarai village, such as Madrasah Diniyah (Islamic primary school) and Pondok Pesantren (Islamic boarding school). Here, students have the opportunity to study Islamic teachings and understand the religious values embraced by the community in Tarai village.

Religious activities hold a significant presence in the daily lives of the villagers in Tarai. One prime example is the regular congregation for prayers at the mosque for each prayer time. Moreover, the

2 Asep Rudi Nurjaman, Pendidikan Agama Islam (Bumi Aksara, 2020).
5 Pengamatan dan wawancara dengan aparat desa Tarai Kampar, “Kecamatan Tambang Dalam Angka.”
villagers frequently organize regular study sessions to learn from the Quran and Hadith, as well as commemorate significant Islamic festivities such as Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha.

According to data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) of Riau Province in 2021, the population of Tarai Village reached approximately 4,543 individuals, with the majority adhering to Islam. As a predominantly Muslim village, practicing Islamic teachings stands as one of the fundamental needs for the residents of Tarai Village. The Quran, the holy book of Islam, serves as the primary source of Islamic teachings. Therefore, the residents of Tarai Village must understand and read the Quran proficiently.

Unfortunately, many children and teenagers in Tarai Village struggle to read the Quran fluently and correctly. This is evident in the limited number of children and teenagers participating in religious study sessions or Quranic learning activities within the village. A significant portion of these youngsters lack interest in learning to read the Quran or fail to recognize its significance. The insufficient provision of adequate learning and training for these youngsters is apparent. There is a lack of adequate facilities for Quranic learning within Tarai Village, including a shortage of teachers capable of effectively imparting Quranic reading skills.

Hence, this community service program is designed to provide proper and effective training and education for children and teenagers in Tarai Village, aiming to enable them to read the Quran accurately and fluently. This program seeks to enhance Quranic literacy in Tarai Village, allowing children and teenagers to comprehend and read the Quran proficiently. This community service program yields several significant benefits for the children and teenagers of Tarai Village. Firstly, it focuses on enhancing their proficiency in accurately and fluently reading the Quran. This improvement not only aids in their literacy but also deepens their connection with Islamic teachings. Secondly, the program works toward fostering a greater understanding of the importance of Quranic reading among the youth in Tarai Village. It seeks to instill a sense of reverence and appreciation for the Quranic teachings within this demographic. Lastly, by setting a positive example and actively engaging the children and teenagers in Quranic studies, the program aims to motivate them to become more involved and enthusiastic learners of the Quran, encouraging their active participation and continued dedication to religious education.

The benefits of community service programs for education in higher education institutions include several crucial aspects. Firstly, these programs are instrumental in institutional development and enhancing educational quality. Secondly, they enable students to identify and provide solutions to various societal issues, forming the basis for analyzing and addressing community phenomena. Thirdly, they serve as a training ground for future graduates, preparing them to actively engage within communities and apply their knowledge. Lastly, these programs contribute to the advancement of science and technology (IPTEK), fostering an environment where innovation and technological development thrive.

This program lasted for 15 days and involved 4 students from STAI As-Sunnah and 1 supervising lecturer. The implementation of this program aims to create a positive impact and bring about changes in improving Quranic literacy in Tarai Village. Additionally, this initiative seeks to serve as a model for other villages facing similar challenges in Quranic literacy.

Throughout its execution, the community service program will engage in various activities, including Quranic reading sessions, effective Quran teaching workshops, motivational and self-development activities, as well as providing adequate learning materials and resources. Moreover, it will involve parents and the local community to offer greater support and motivation for children and teenagers in learning to read the Quran.

The aim of this Community Service activity conducted by the author and the team is to enhance Quranic literacy in Tarai Village and generate positive impacts on the religious and social development of the entire community. The method employed in executing this community service program is the Participatory Action Research (PAR) Approach, which aims at learning to address

---

practical community issues and needs, as well as producing knowledge. This approach promotes active community involvement in designing, implementing, and evaluating community service programs, focusing on learning, problem-solving, and the development of beneficial knowledge for the community.

**Result and Discussion**

The Quran is the sacred book for Muslims, serving as the primary guidance in their daily lives. Understanding the meanings and messages embedded within the Quran necessitates proficient and accurate Quranic reading skills alongside adequate Islamic insights. Improving Quranic reading abilities and Islamic knowledge is of utmost importance for every Muslim to enhance the quality of worship and deepen their understanding of the Islamic faith.

To improve Quranic reading abilities, one must study Tajweed accurately. Tajweed is the knowledge that teaches the correct and proper way of reciting the Quran, ensuring there are no errors while reading. Learning Tajweed can be done by studying Tajweed books or through private lessons from a skilled Quranic recitation teacher. Additionally, utilizing technology by downloading Quran reading applications equipped with Tajweed features can also be beneficial.

In addition to the ability to read the Quran, having adequate Islamic insights is also highly important. A strong understanding of Islam helps individuals grasp its teachings more profoundly and comprehensively. There are several ways to enhance Islamic insights:

Firstly, delving into Islamic literature such as Hadith books, Quranic exegesis (Tafsir), and other Islamic texts. Secondly, engaging in Islamic studies, whether conducted online or offline. Thirdly, having discussions with individuals possessing extensive knowledge of Islam. Fourthly, increasing engagement in religious practices like prayers, fasting, and giving alms (zakat). Lastly, fostering good relationships with the surrounding community members who hold a deep understanding of Islam.

By enhancing Quranic reading skills and Islamic insights, an individual will find it easier to comprehend the messages within the Quran and practice Islamic teachings more effectively. In daily life, one can approach problem-solving in alignment with Islamic teachings, thereby strengthening their faith and devotion to Allah SWT.

The Community Service activity conducted by students from the As-Sunnah Islamic School of Higher Education, Deli Serdang, placed in Tarai Village, Tambang District, Kampar Regency, involves 4 students and 1 Field Supervisor Lecturer. The following are the details of the participants in this Community Service Program (KKN-T):

---


Before students embark on fieldwork for the Integrated Real Work Lecture (KKN-T) program, several stages need to be completed. One crucial stage is planning and conceptualizing activities. This stage aims to ensure that the KKN-T activities run smoothly and are directed towards the intended objectives.

### Conclusion

### Reference

---