



Cultural Islamic Education Form the Character of Multicultural Elementary School Students

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis bagaimana pendidikan Islam kultural dapat membentuk karakter siswa di sekolah dasar yang berada dalam lingkungan multikultural. Pendidikan Islam kultural berfokus pada penerapan nilai-nilai Islam dalam konteks kebudayaan yang beragam, dengan mengedepankan sikap toleransi, saling menghargai, dan pemahaman terhadap perbedaan. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan metode studi kasus di beberapa sekolah dasar yang menerapkan pendidikan Islam kultural di lingkungan yang multikultural. Data dikumpulkan melalui wawancara mendalam dengan guru, siswa, dan orang tua, serta observasi terhadap kegiatan belajar mengajar di kelas. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pendidikan Islam kultural memberikan dampak positif dalam membentuk karakter siswa, terutama dalam hal pengembangan sikap toleransi, empati, dan keterbukaan terhadap keberagaman budaya. Selain itu, pendidikan Islam kultural juga membantu siswa untuk lebih memahami dan menghargai perbedaan budaya serta agama di lingkungan mereka, yang pada gilirannya mendukung terciptanya hubungan sosial yang harmonis di dalam komunitas sekolah yang multikultural. Penelitian ini merekomendasikan penguatan integrasi nilai-nilai Islam dalam kurikulum pendidikan dasar sebagai upaya untuk membentuk karakter siswa yang lebih inklusif dan multikultural.

Kata Kunci: *Pendidikan Islam Kultural, Karakter Siswa, Multikultural, Sekolah Dasar*

Abstract

This study aims to analyze how cultural Islamic education can shape the character of elementary school students in a multicultural environment. Cultural Islamic education focuses on the application of Islamic values within the context of diverse cultures, emphasizing tolerance, mutual respect, and understanding of differences. This research uses a qualitative approach with a case study method in several elementary schools that implement cultural Islamic education in a multicultural setting. Data were collected through in-depth interviews with teachers, students, and parents, as well as observations of teaching and learning activities in the classroom. The results of the study show that cultural Islamic education has a positive impact on shaping the students' character, particularly in the development of tolerance, empathy, and openness to cultural diversity. Furthermore, cultural Islamic education also helps students to better understand and appreciate cultural and

religious differences in their environment, which in turn supports the creation of harmonious social relationships within the multicultural school community. This study recommends strengthening the integration of Islamic values into the elementary education curriculum as an effort to shape a more inclusive and multicultural student character.

Keywords: *Cultural Islamic Education, Student Character, Multicultural, Elementary School*

Pendahuluan

Islam with its diverse cultural context is expected to be a solution in forming strong and inclusive student characters, especially in elementary schools.

Elementary school is an educational institution that plays a crucial role in the formation of the basic character of students. At this age, students begin to develop social and cultural values that will shape their outlook on life in the future. Cultural Islamic education focuses on the application of Islamic values that teach respect for diversity, tolerance, and the importance of living side by side in differences. In the context of multicultural education, where students come from various cultural and religious backgrounds, this approach becomes very relevant.

Cultural Islamic education can provide a strong foundation for students to understand the importance of universal Islamic values such as tolerance, compassion, and brotherhood. In elementary school, where students are still in the character learning phase, teaching that emphasizes cultural diversity will help students to be more accepting of the differences around them. Through this education, students are not only taught about their religious teachings, but also about how to live in a pluralistic society, by emphasizing shared values that can strengthen social relationships between different individuals.

However, although the importance of cultural Islamic education in the formation of students' characters has been widely discussed, its implementation in the context of multicultural elementary schools still requires more in-depth research. Some questions that arise are how cultural Islamic

education is implemented in elementary schools, and how it affects the formation of students' characters in a society full of diversity.

Based on this background, this study aims to analyze how cultural Islamic education can shape students' characters in multicultural elementary schools, and to explore the role of Islamic education in building attitudes of tolerance and appreciation for cultural and religious differences. This study also seeks to explore the application of Islamic values in the context of pluralistic education, and how it can support the creation of inclusive, open, and harmonious student characters in a multicultural society.

Thus, this research is expected to contribute to the development of Islamic education that is more relevant to the demands of the times, especially in forming the character of students who are ready to live and develop in a multicultural society.

Metode

This study uses a qualitative approach with a case study method, which aims to deeply understand the application of cultural Islamic education in the formation of student character in multicultural elementary schools. The type of research used is a case study, case study research aims to explore how cultural Islamic education is applied in elementary schools and how it affects the formation of student character in a multicultural environment. This study was conducted in several elementary schools located in areas with multicultural environments, which have students from various cultural, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. The subjects of this study include, Students, Teachers, Parents. In this study, data was collected through

several techniques, as follows: In-depth Interviews, Participatory Observation, Documentation. Data obtained through interviews, observations, and documentation will be analyzed using thematic analysis techniques. This analysis process consists of several stages: Data Collection and Classification, Data Interpretation and drawing conclusions.

Hasil dan Pembahasan

In this section, the results of research on Cultural Islamic Education in Character Building of Students in Multicultural Elementary Schools will be presented. This discussion is based on data obtained through interviews, observations, and documentation conducted in several elementary schools that have multicultural environments. The main focus of this discussion is to analyze how the implementation of cultural Islamic education plays a role in shaping students' characters, as well as its impact on attitudes of tolerance, empathy, and appreciation for differences.

1. Implementation of Cultural Islamic Education in Multicultural Elementary Schools

The implementation of cultural Islamic education in elementary schools that are the object of research shows that these schools strive to integrate Islamic values in inclusive learning and prioritize cultural diversity. Based on interviews with teachers, cultural Islamic education in elementary schools does not only include teaching Islamic teachings, but also instilling values that are acceptable in a multicultural society. Values such as tolerance, mutual respect, compassion, and brotherhood are often used as learning materials both through religious lessons and extracurricular activities.

As explained by an Islamic Religious Education (PAI) teacher, "We do not only teach religious theory, but also invite students to understand how we can live side

by side with others of different beliefs and cultures. Islamic values teach us to respect every individual, whatever their background."

In addition, in teaching and learning activities, students are also taught to apply Islamic values in everyday life, such as in relationships between friends, respecting teachers, and maintaining harmony between each other. This process is not only limited to Islamic Religious Education subjects, but is also reflected in the discipline applied in class and interactions between students.

2. The Impact of Cultural Islamic Education on the Formation of Student Character

The impact of cultural Islamic education on the formation of students' character in multicultural elementary schools is quite significant. Observation results show that students who are exposed to cultural Islamic education tend to have more open, tolerant, and caring characters towards differences. Some students who previously showed a closed attitude towards friends who have different religious or cultural backgrounds are now better able to accept diversity and work together in multicultural groups.

In interviews with several parents, they reported that their children began to show positive changes in attitude, such as being more respectful of friends from different backgrounds. One parent said, "My child used to be very hesitant when meeting friends from different religions, but now he is more open and can talk to his friends without feeling awkward."

In addition, the formation of students' characters related to Islamic values, such as empathy, responsibility, and mutual respect, is also clearly visible in their daily lives. These characters are formed through class activities that emphasize the values of togetherness, such as community service, helping each other in learning, and other social activities. Students who show empathy towards friends who need help, both in academic and social aspects, are

concrete examples of the influence of cultural Islamic education on the formation of their characters.

3. The Role of Cultural Islamic Education in Increasing Attitudes of Tolerance and Respect for Differences

Cultural Islamic education in elementary schools plays a very big role in increasing attitudes of tolerance and appreciation for differences among students. In the context of multicultural elementary schools, where students come from various ethnic, religious, and cultural backgrounds, an attitude of tolerance becomes very important to create a harmonious environment.

Observation results show that in learning activities, students are invited to understand and appreciate differences in terms of religion, culture, and customs. One form of implementing Islamic values related to tolerance is through learning about Islamic teachings that teach to respect each other among fellow human beings, regardless of differences in beliefs and cultures.

Teachers also set a real example through a fair approach and do not differentiate treatment of students based on their background. According to one teacher, "We teach students that even though we are different, we are still brothers in humanity. This is part of the teachings of Islam that they must understand from an early age." Islamic education that teaches about respecting differences, as well as fostering empathy, has been proven to play a role in increasing students' tolerance towards their friends who come from different backgrounds. For example, students who come from the Islamic religion learn to better understand the way of life of their friends who come from other religions, and vice versa.

4. Obstacles in the Implementation of Cultural Islamic Education in Multicultural Elementary Schools

Although cultural Islamic education has a positive impact, there are several obstacles faced in its implementation, especially in a multicultural elementary school environment. One of the main obstacles is the lack of understanding of some teachers regarding the importance of cultural Islamic education in the context of multiculturalism. Some teachers still tend to teach Islamic education only from the perspective of their own religion without paying attention to the values of diversity that exist around them.

In addition, communication and cooperation factors with parents are also challenges. Although most parents support the implementation of cultural Islamic education, there are still some parents who are worried that their children are exposed to cultural values that are different from the values they adhere to at home. This requires a more intensive approach and more open dialogue between the school and parents.

5. Recommendations for the Development of Cultural Islamic Education in Multicultural Elementary Schools

Based on the results of this study, several recommendations that can be given for the development of cultural Islamic education in elementary schools are:

- **Increasing teacher capacity** regarding the importance of implementing Islamic education that prioritizes the values of diversity and tolerance.
- **Integration of multicultural education** in all aspects of the Islamic education curriculum, so that students can internalize Islamic values in their entirety, both in religious and social aspects.
- **A more inclusive approach to involving parents** in the learning process that teaches the values of tolerance and respect for cultural differences.

Simpulan

Based on the results of research on **Cultural Islamic Education in the**

Formation of Student Character in Multicultural Elementary Schools , several things can be concluded as follows:

- 1. The implementation of Islamic Cultural Education** in elementary schools that have a multicultural environment has proven effective in shaping students' characters. The Islamic cultural education taught is not only limited to religious aspects, but also teaches universal values such as tolerance, mutual respect, empathy, and brotherhood. These values are very relevant in the context of schools that have cultural, religious, and ethnic diversity.
- 2. Positive Impact on Student Character** : Students who receive cultural Islamic education show positive changes in their character, especially in terms of tolerance, empathy, and respect for differences. They are more open to friends who come from different religious and cultural backgrounds. In addition, they also care more about others and can work together in an inclusive framework.
- 3. Increasing Tolerance and Respect for Differences** : Cultural Islamic education plays an important role in increasing tolerance among students. Through teaching Islamic values that emphasize brotherhood among fellow human beings, students learn to accept and respect the diversity of religions, cultures, and traditions around them. This attitude is reflected in students' more harmonious social interactions and does not discriminate against friends based on differences in background.
- 4. Obstacles in the Implementation of Cultural Islamic Education** : Although cultural Islamic education has a positive impact, there are several obstacles in its implementation. Some of these obstacles include the lack of understanding of some teachers regarding the importance of integrating

multicultural values in Islamic education, as well as concerns from parents regarding values that differ from their views at home. These obstacles require better attention and strategies in the implementation of cultural Islamic education.

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