

STRENGTHENING THE MORAL BELIEFS STUDENTS OF ISLAMIC BASIC EDUCATION IN THE ERA OF DIGITALIZATION

Masbur*

* Universitas Islam Negeri Ar-Raniry, Banda Aceh

masbur@ar-raniry.ac.id

Received 10 January 2024; Received in revised form 28 February 2024; Accepted 13 April 2024

Abstract

It's an era of evolution where people easily access information through digital networks. This digital era makes it easier and faster to search for knowledge, information and communication in education. Apart from having a positive impact, this digital era also has negative impacts; including making human's individual creatures. Strengthening these moral beliefs makes people more religious and moral in living their lives. Many people have ignored moral beliefs, even though the issue of moral beliefs cannot be taken lightly, because beliefs are the foundation of life for Muslims and morals are the realization of faith itself. This study is an effort to motivate or empower teenagers and optimize their abilities in facing the era of digitalization. This research is to find out how to strengthen the beliefs and morals of Islamic teenagers in the digital era. The research results were obtained from a literature study regarding moral education in the digital era. The research results were obtained by providing various guidance and knowledge about Islamic teachings correctly and guided by the *Qur'an* and *hadith*. Moral belief education can also make people who can withstand the test of responding to the current developments in the digital world.

Keywords: Strengthening; Moral beliefs; Era of Digitalization

Abstrak

Era evolusi dimana masyarakat dengan mudah mengakses informasi melalui jaringan digital. Era digital ini semakin memudahkan dan mempercepat pencarian ilmu pengetahuan, informasi dan komunikasi dalam dunia pendidikan. Selain membawa dampak positif, era digital ini juga membawa dampak negatif; termasuk menjadikan manusia sebagai makhluk individu. Penguatan keyakinan moral tersebut menjadikan masyarakat semakin religius dan bermoral dalam menjalani kehidupannya. Banyak orang yang mengabaikan keyakinan akhlak, padahal persoalan akhlak tidak bisa dianggap enteng, karena akidah adalah landasan hidup umat Islam dan akhlak merupakan perwujudan dari keimanan itu sendiri. Kajian ini merupakan upaya untuk memotivasi atau memberdayakan remaja serta mengoptimalkan kemampuannya dalam menghadapi era digitalisasi. Penelitian ini untuk mengetahui bagaimana penguatan akidah dan akhlak remaja Islam di era digital. Hasil penelitian diperoleh dari studi literatur mengenai pendidikan moral di era digital. Hasil penelitian diperoleh dengan memberikan berbagai bimbingan dan pengetahuan tentang ajaran Islam secara benar dan berpedoman pada Al-Qur'an dan hadis. Pendidikan keyakinan moral juga dapat

menjadikan manusia mampu bertahan dalam ujian menyikapi perkembangan dunia digital saat ini.

Kata Kunci: Penguatan; Keyakinan moral; Era Digitalisasi

INTRODUCTION

Education is a conscious and planned effort carried out by a person in an educational institution and continues throughout his life to provide provisions for living life. Education is something that is very important for everyone to obtain without exception. Through good and correct education, you will also have a good life. According to the Islamic view, education is mental, moral and physical training to produce people who instill Islam in their lives (Subhan, 2013). Meanwhile, in Islamic education there is a field of study of moral belief education which aims to shape students' behavior through training, guidance, direction and so on. *Aqidah Akhlak* education is Islamic education that studies faith and morals. *Aqidah* means belief and morals are behavior. Therefore, this moral education discusses belief systems and actions that are in accordance with Islamic law. With this aim, moral education must accompany the growth of students in every aspect and direct all these aspects towards achieving a life based on Islamic values. (Fitri Fatimatuzahroh, 2019). Considering the importance of education in terms of outcomes and this, it would be best if education in terms of outcomes were taught to students in a good way, right, and attractive way, so that the students could understand it well later.

Seeing the rapid development of technology today, an era has been born which is widely known as the digital era, which is a condition where every individual can easily access everything they want online. Various information in this era can be accessed without any space and time constraints. Every individual who was born as a digital native is more inclined, search and obtain information via the internet so that people begin to form who have a tendency to dig up information via the internet. This digitalization allows humans to make every element of life in society easier, including in the field of education.

There is this digital world that allows everyone to get information, knowledge, and science faster than before. There are many impacts of this digital age, but of all these impacts that we should be thankful for are that technological advances are moving fast. Even though it's not considered that there's a negative impact like humans being too busy with themselves, surfing in the virtual world and ignoring others in the real world because they're too sweet with their own world. A man born has been favored by various kinds of information technology. Finally, this digital technology becomes a lifestyle of all its activities and is equal to the needs of native human trees in the sense that they cannot escape digital tools (Alfinnas, 2018).

Islamic education in this digital era aims to create Muslims who are able to live their lives in accordance with Islamic values. Likewise, moral education aims to create a generation of Muslims who have strong beliefs and good morals. With moral education, it will be very influential in this digital era. Moral belief education that teaches about Islamic faith and morals will certainly make humans in this digital era able to be wiser in using this digital technology. Because by teaching faith and morals, someone who will understand how

to respond to the digital era. The opportunities they have compared to previous technology make it easier to gain knowledge about faith and morals. Apart from that, in the world of education, the existence of this digital era can be used as a means of learning and developing moral education.

With the existence of digital technology, it will give rise to creative ideas regarding ways of teaching moral beliefs that are fun for students so that students can understand well the nature of moral belief education and in the future are expected to be able to practice and implement them in their lives and respond to current developments. Moral belief education in this digital era is very important to teach to the current generation to answer the challenges of the times that continue to develop. With this moral education, it can lead the educated young generation to have good morals in following and taking advantage of current developments. Moreover, in the digital era, moral education cannot only be obtained from official institutions, such as schools. We can get moral education easily via the internet which is ready at any time to provide various information regarding faith and morals.

However, seeing the advances of technology and the development of the digital era has an impact on the world of education. This is in line with the research carried out by Iche Euis Hariering (2020), the role of parents and the environment in shaping children in the digital age, with the research of the role of parents in educating children is to monitor, control, increase the values of Islamic teachings and certainly limit children to using gadgets. The environment also plays a role in this to create a good environment and provide facilities to support children play.

Another research conducted by Nur Ahmad Yasin (2018), regarding parental responsibilities in the digital era, the results of this research show that the very rapid development of digital technology can have a big impact, both positive and negative. so parents must be selective in caring for, nurturing, educating and protecting children in the current digital era. They are also required to understand ICT.

In the world of education, especially moral education, it must be able to show progress from the era before the digital era because in this era knowledge can be easily obtained instantly. Therefore, to respond to changes in this era, moral education must continue to develop its educational aspects, both of systems, teaching and learning methods. In this digital era, moral education continues to explore its ability to remain present in every development of the times and continues to prove its existence in responding to the challenges of the times at all times.

METHODS

This research is a literature study, that is, a thorough and intense review of relevant library data. The sources of library data in question are books, scientific articles and journals. These data sources become discussions and conclusions in the research. This research use descriptive qualitative approach. Data collection was carried out qualitatively and was described or explained descriptively. Data processing to produce information through several processes including the process of searching for data, the process of collecting data, the process of processing/analyzing data, and the process of concluding data.

The data collection technique used in this research is literacy. Library techniques are ways of collecting data with all kinds of material that are available in libraries such as books,

newspapers, magazines, scripts, documentation and so on that relevant to research on literacy and the digital era. According to Sugiyono (2012), a literature study related to theoretical research and other references related to values, cultures and norms that evolve in the social situation investigated, besides a literature study very important in carrying out research, this is because research will not be excluded from scientific literature. As for data analysis, the author uses the Inductive method, which is to think on the basis of real facts, then tested and produced a comprehensive problem solution (Hasan, 2011; Nasution, 2017).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Result

a. Moral Beliefs Education

Islamic education creates an Islamic young generation that continues to adhere firmly to the religion of Allah SWT. Islamic education has many goals for the survival of this world and the hereafter. These goals include forming noble morals, preparing for life in this world and the hereafter, fostering enthusiasm to continue studying science, especially Islamic science, and knowing other Islamic sciences. Moral belief education is education that studies faith and morals by being guided by the sources of Islamic teachings. *Aqidah* is something related to belief and faith. Faith is taken from the word "*aqd*" which means "binding". This belief is a bond that is embedded in a person that is difficult to remove. Beliefs are believed and held firmly by a person. A person who has faith is called a person of faith.

Beliefs are difficult to change because a belief arises naturally from personal will and without pressure from anyone or any party, so it must be justified in order for someone to make it a religion. Beliefs that a person has without any doubt and can be relied upon in a person's life and will later grow noble morals in a person. A person who has strong beliefs will certainly have an influence on how he lives his life because everything he goes through in life adheres to strong beliefs. Moral belief education is an essential learning considering that nowadays there are many phenomena related to belief and morals. Therefore, to make future generations have good faith and morals, moral education is needed. With moral education, we learn about human morals so that we can survive in the progress of the times.

b. Digital Era

The rapid development of information and communication technology is causing changes in all sectors, including the education sector. The digital era is a time where everything can be done easily through internet-based digital technology. Some of the advantages of technology in the digital era are that technology is easy to work, fast, effective, efficient, easy to transfer data and information to electronic media. In this digital era, digital technology is needed to live everyday life. All age categories use digital technology. Now, digital technology is not something foreign to society. Almost all people take advantage of digital technology. In the 21st century, this has become fundamental, especially for education. Students now understand and continue to learn digital technology. This triggers students' skills in learning. They can gain knowledge easily and quickly. Apart from that, for teaching staff, digital technology makes it easier for them to find teaching materials.

Likewise with teaching staff and all educational fields. They can easily provide new developments in the world of education through digital technology. Educational technology is a current educational need, as evidenced by the Ministry of Education and Culture advancing

a new curriculum and online system as well as developing education towards a Creative Indonesia 2021. However, apart from the advantages offered by the digital era, it cannot be denied that there are still disadvantages. Apart from the positive impacts outlined above, there are also negative impacts from digital technology. The negative impacts of the digital era include; E-learning, which has the potential to divert the function of a teacher, is even worse. Besides that, there is the potential for the birth of individualism because the learning system can take place alone.

Frequent access to the internet is feared that using technology can access negative information and Cyber Crime. Conditions like this can have an impact on education. Because of the many negative things, it is necessary to supervise and equip students so they can understand and differentiate between good and bad. Moral belief education as part of Islamic education is not the only determining factor in the formation of a child's character and personality. However, it contributes to providing motivation for children to practice religious values (*tawhid*) and *akhlakul karimah* in everyday life.

Looking at the various thoughts that have been presented, moral education in this digital era has various negative and positive impacts. As has been explained, this moral education is able to control and guide a person to have faith and morals according to Islamic teachings. Various negative impacts resulting from this digital era can be minimized by education in moral beliefs. The existence of this digital era influences human behavior. Indirectly, human behavior will change if they continue to interact with digital technology. Like social behavior. They will follow the interactions they see in the digital world. It's even worse if the society they see is not a good one. Therefore, it is important to instill moral beliefs from an early age so that children get used to good beliefs and morals so that they do not easily fall into bad ones. Excessive use of digital technology such as the internet can lead to addiction. A person who is addicted will find it difficult to get rid of the addiction. Therefore, before getting addicted, it is better to avoid it.

By cultivating good faith and morals, good actions will also be created. This addiction is caused by getting used to the pleasures of digital facilities. Therefore, we must be able to protect ourselves from bad things that might happen. Instant thinking arises because we feel spoiled by the sophistication of digital technology where we don't have to struggle to find sources of information. In this digital era, almost all available sources are on the internet. This of course results in us getting used to easy things and being lazy about doing more challenging things. We are too absorbed by technology. In moral education, an important role is being able to teach good ethics in dealing with change and being wise in facing change. Indirectly, this certainly makes a person lazy to do much because there is an instant way that doesn't require a lot of energy to get it.

There's a crime through the digital world like cyber crime is also something that can be avoided when everyone has a noble and noble outcome. There will be no evil when all have good behavior and habits. In addition, the digital age makes the individual too individual because he feels that everything can be done on his own. It's very bad because then we're going to lack communication in the real world and cause us to ignore others because we feel we don't need it. In addition, because many digital technologies that can all be accessed through digital media result in children having less visually impaired mental and moral effects. Therefore, education in moral beliefs is very important to improve the morals of the

nation's children who may be too free and open with the sophistication of this era and technology. From all the explanations above, moral education plays a very important role in this digital era.

Seeing, the expansion of this digital era. The world of education can make good use of this digital era. Moral belief education must make good use of it to improve the teaching of moral belief. Apart from that, with the development of digital technology, we are aiming to improve the quality of learning moral beliefs by updating systems using digital systems which may attract more student interest so that the use of the digital world can lead to positive things. Apart from quality, we can also improve teaching strategies that are more creative and innovative, such as by implementing strategies to synchronize with the internet or other strategies that are more encouraging and advance students. Management improvements can also be improved by utilizing available technology.

Learning access can also be extended with digital technology. Learning is not only achieved through the face and feedback of teachers alone, but can be accessed at anytime and anywhere through digital networks or the Internet. With this digital media, it must be able to be used by education that is well known for the survival of the present and future life of the earth in order to continue to grow the individuals who are born and born in love so that they can properly incorporate and correct whatever happens in the future. With all the improvements and advances in education, the human being will be responsible and wise in doing its digital work, so that he will be able to minimize the consequences of age change.

2. Discussion

Technology actually has great benefits, especially for the education world. Religious things based on the education world like literacy-literacy search are very precisely used in the education world as an addition to science and learning, which can benefit from the use of modern digital technology. As for the digital era of today, educated participants can explore the Internet in order to facilitate and speed up the acquisition of new knowledge, but this must be accompanied by educators or parents in order not to happen things that are then misused in access to information via the Internet.

Various information is loaded and accessed easily and quickly through web data search sites. (Sanusi, 2018). Adjustment and behavior are a very important part of building quality of life and human civilization. That mankind may have a balance between religion and religion, and a balance between reciting the signs of Allah in the Book and the signs of Allah in the worlds. Religion at least, consists of five dimensions: the ritual, mystical, ideological, intellectual, and social dimensions. Overall, according to Edward Mortimer in *Islam and Power*, Islam is more pressing the social dimension than the ritual dimension. So Islam's role in "building societies" is very important (Edward, 1971).

Moral belief education as part of Islamic education is not the only determining factor in the formation of a child's character and personality. However, it contributes to motivating children to practice religious values (*tauhid*) and *akhlakul karimah* in everyday life. Discussion of beliefs and morals is fundamental for the creation of students who are fully competent and based on faith. (Ahmad Rifa'I, 2020). As well as internalizing noble human values such as the value of hard work, the value of unity, the value of tolerance, moral values and other human values found in society (Jannah, 2020).

The educational process can be obtained through formal and non-formal and formal education, such as in the community and family (Syafe'i, 2015). Islamic education is an activity carried out in a planned and systematic manner to develop the potential of students based on the principles of the Islamic religion (Al-Qur'an and Hadith) with the aim of achieving balance in the human personality or changes in the temperament/character of oneself and the surrounding community (AlSyaibany , 1979). Islamic education creates an Islamic young generation that continues to adhere firmly to the religion of Allah SWT. In Islamic education there is moral aqidah education which has an important role in implementing good faith and morals (Robiatul Awwaliyah, 2018). In education, creeds are studied and make our faith stronger (M. Hidayat Ginanjar, 2017).

Morals are a person's behavior. The words akhlaq or khuluq linguistically mean character, mannerisms, or something that has become a habit. According to Mujam al-Wasith, Ibrahim Anis, morals are traits that reside within the mind and are the source of actions, good or bad. In the book *Dairatul Ma'arif* (Nurhayati, 2014), morals are defined as the qualities of an educated human being. In Islam, morals have a high position and are reflected in the urgency of Islamic education, namely the formation of noble morals and Islamic teachings that prioritize al-karimah morals which are in accordance with Islam. . From various explanations about the meaning of morals, it is clear that morals are very important to teach. Morals are embedded in the human soul, but morals can change depending on the person himself. If humans want to change their morals for the better, of course this is very good. In accordance with the provisions Islam, a good human being is a person who has good morals. These good morals can be learned with education. Although education is not the only tool to make humans have good morals, with education a person will unconsciously have morals in accordance with his education.

Faith as a fundamental basis for moral education functions as a direction in determining attitudes and behavior. In other words, faith is the foundation for morals. Because it is important to teach these beliefs and morals, this is why moral education is held. Moral belief education is education that discusses lessons related to a person's beliefs and morals. (Ardi Sahrul Arizal, 2019) From all the explanations above, moral education plays a very important role in this digital era. Moral belief education instills ways of behaving and adhering to our convictions so that we do not easily get carried away by the negative currents of this digital era (Maulidiyah, 2018). Islamic education and the development of the digital era in fostering noble morals, especially for the nation's next generation, must be balanced, in the sense that Islamic education must be able to follow the flow of technological progress today so that it is not left behind by other education, in which case Islamic education is expected to be able to adapt. with current developments so that in the future the Islamic generations produced can be superior, competent and qualified in their respective fields, both in the field of general science and in the field of religious knowledge, even though technological developments continue to develop, there is an increase in developing the morals of the Islamic generation in the digital era continues to be improved so that the nation's generations are not eroded by the negative impacts of developments in the digital era.

CONCLUSION

The rapid development of information and communication technology is causing changes in all sectors, including the education sector. The digital era is an era where everything can be obtained through digital technology. In this digital era, we are able to make good use of the positive impacts and avoid as far as possible the negative impacts they cause. To avoid these negative impacts, it is necessary to provide and develop education. Education makes everyone educated and becomes an educated person so that they are able to differentiate between good and bad and are able to respond to current developments, therefore education about faith and morals is needed.

The advancement of information and communication technology in the digital era today certainly brings positive and negative impacts that can be seen from all walks of life. The positive impact explains that with the development of the global era with its orbit digital instruments certainly function as tools that can provide anything, can also simplify and speed up desires in many aspects of life, both positive and negative. The facts show that digital instruments play a direct role in every aspect of life. Present in various offers for convenience and the benefit of strengthening norms and values, so that the goals of normative learning and the transformation of other values are anchored in the planned goals. For example, a stronger understanding of norms, religious and social values can lead individuals to guidance, the straight path, both in theological, humanities and universal aspects by utilizing digital instruments which are increasingly easy to obtain.

Meanwhile, the negative impact is that digital can also be misused in any form which for the sake of certain interests can degrade and ignore the various distribution of norms and values, and various measures of decency in communities and society, the nation so that it will give birth to the deconstruction of life and various attitudes, counter-productive actions, for example, children will be addicted to games, lack of socialization due to being preoccupied with the entertainment they have, then impacts that often occur due to internet use, for example cyber bullying, mass brawls, rampant corruption, thuggery, sexual harassment, abuse, drugs, and other forms of actions that can harm both oneself and social life.

Thus, based on the explanation of the two impacts above, of course the extent of development in the current digital era refers to preventive conditions, namely in the form of religious guidance carried out by educators for today's young Islamic generation which coexists with digital life in fostering noble morals and developing individual piety. and social issues for the young Islamic generation and everyone in general which can start with education and moral cultivation.

REFERENCES

- Ahmad, Rifa'I, R. H. 2020. "Peran Pembelajaran Akidah Akhlak Dalam Pengembangan Nilai-nilai Akhlak Siswa di MIN 13 Hulu Sungai Utara". *Bada'a: Jurnal Ilmiah Pendidikan Dasar, Vol 1 No. 2*.
- Alfinnas, S. 2018. "Arah Baru Pendidikan Islam di Era Digital". *Fikrotuna, vol 7 no 1* (<http://ejournal.kopertais4.or.id/madura/index.php/fikrotuna/issue/view/744>), 804-817.
- Ardi, Sahrul Arizal, A. R. 2019. "Pendidikan Akidah Akhlak dengan Metode Brain Based Learning". *Belajea: Jurnal Pendidikan Islam, Vol 4 No.1*.
- Fitri, Fatimatzahroh, L. N. 2019. "Upaya Meningkatkan Hasil Belajar Peserta Didik". *Jurnal Penelitian Pendidikan Islam, Vol. 7, No. 1*
- Iche, Euis Hariering. 2020. "Peran Orang Tua dan Lingkungan dalam Pendidikan Akhlak Anak di Era Digital". Skripsi Universitas Islam Indonesia, Yogyakarta.
- Jamun, Y. M. 2018. "Dampak Teknologi Terhadap Pendidikan". *Jurnal Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan Missio, Vol 10 No. 1*.
- Masbur, M. 2022. "A Spiritual Pedagogic Approach to Learning (Analytical Study of Approach Model)". *Jurnal Ilmiah Peuradeun, 10(2)*.
- Mortimer, Edward. 1971. *Mortimer Islam dan Kekuasaan*. Bandung: Mizan.
- Nur, Ahmad Yasin. 2018. "Tanggung Jawab Orang Tua Kepada Anak di Era Digital Perspektif Hukum Keluarga Islam di Indonesia". Skripsi UIN Sunan Ampel, Surabaya.
- Rahmah, S., Walidin, W., & Masbur, M. 2023. "Pembelajaran Agama Islam pada Sekolah Dasar Suka Maju Kota Subulussalam (Strategi Pembentukan Akhlakul Karimah)". *Tadabbur: Jurnal Peradaban Islam, 5(1)*.
- Rajab, A., Idris, S., & Masbur, M. 2023. "Etika Guru dalam Meningkatkan Mutu Pendidik: Studi Komparatif Az-Zarnuji dan Hasyim Asyari". *ARJIS (Abdurrauf Journal of Islamic Studies), 2(2)*.
- Sugiyono. 2012. *Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif Kualitatif dan R&D*. Alfabeta.