Transformation of Religious Fundamentals for Students in Religious Studies at Balai Pengajian Guru Sekumpul, Pidie Regency

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ABSTRACT

INTRODUCTION
Pidie Regency, situated in the province of Aceh, stands as one of the regions in Indonesia with a predominantly Muslim population. As a result, religious education plays an exceptionally vital role in this area. It is within this context that BP Guru Sekumpul emerges as a pivotal institution dedicated to educating "santri" – young students pursuing Islamic studies – with the aim of cultivating a profound understanding of Islamic teachings. Beyond academic pursuits, instilling a solid grasp of the fundamentals of religion holds paramount significance within the framework of the Community Engagement activities conducted at Balai Pengajian Guru Sekumpul.

In this region of Aceh, where Islamic traditions and values run deep, BP Guru Sekumpul has emerged as a beacon of religious education. The institution's commitment goes beyond merely imparting academic knowledge; it aspires to nurture a generation of "santri" who possess a profound and unwavering comprehension of Islamic principles. Through its dedicated efforts in community engagement, BP Guru Sekumpul strives to fortify the foundation of religious
understanding among the youth of Pidie Regency, Aceh, thereby contributing significantly to the preservation and enrichment of Islamic culture and faith in this culturally rich Indonesian province.

Within the diverse tapestry of Indonesia, Kabupaten Pidie, located in Aceh, stands as a testament to the nation’s religious diversity. With the majority of its population adhering to Islam, the importance of religious education cannot be overstated. BP Guru Sekumpul, as an educational institution, has taken upon itself the profound responsibility of shaping young minds into staunch advocates of Islamic teachings. While academic pursuits are a fundamental aspect of their mission, the institution’s central focus during Community Engagement activities at Balai Pengajian Guru Sekumpul remains on nurturing a deep and meaningful understanding of the core tenets of religion.

METHOD

The methods employed in community engagement activities for teaching Quranic recitation and other religious knowledge, as well as skills to children at Balai Pengajian Guru Sekumpul, can involve a variety of approaches to ensure their understanding and skill development. Here are several methods that can be utilized:

a. Group Learning: Dividing children into small groups for Quranic recitation and religious studies. This allows them to interact, assist each other, and motivate one another in the learning process.
b. Visual Approach: Utilizing visual materials such as pictures, diagrams, or multimedia to help children better understand the contents of the Quran. This can aid them in memorizing and comprehending religious teachings more effectively.
c. Active Engagement: Involving children in active roles during learning, such as participating in dramas or singing Islamic nasheeds. These activities help them engage directly in understanding religious teachings.
d. Use of Technology: Leveraging modern technology such as applications or interactive software specifically designed to assist children in learning the Quran and religious knowledge. Technology can make learning more engaging and interactive.
e. Experienced Instructors: Ensuring that instructors have sufficient knowledge and experience in teaching children about the Quran and religious knowledge. They should be able to communicate effectively with children.
f. Integration of Skills: Besides Quranic recitation and religious studies, integrating the development of other skills such as public speaking, writing, or social skills. This helps children apply religious teachings in their daily lives.
g. Assignments and Responsibilities: Assigning tasks or responsibilities to children within the context of Quranic instruction and religious knowledge. For example, having them teach their peers or deliver presentations on specific topics. This helps them feel more involved and responsible.
h. Positive Reinforcement: Providing positive reinforcement such as praise and recognition to children when they achieve milestones in Quranic recitation and religious knowledge. This can boost their motivation to continue learning.
i. Experiments and Field Practice: Organizing field trips or relevant experiments related to religious teachings to enhance children’s understanding.
j. Regular Evaluation: Conducting periodic evaluations to measure children’s progress in understanding the Quran and religious knowledge. This helps identify areas where they may need further assistance.

Diverse and integrated approaches in community engagement activities will assist children in developing a deeper understanding of religion and valuable skills for their daily lives.

![Image](image.jpg)

**Figure 1.** The Teaching Process at Balai Pengajian Guru Sekumpul.

### RESULT AND DISCUSSION

#### Community Service Activities

The community service activities I conducted at BP Guru Sekumpul in Pidie Regency consist of:

1. Quran Teaching

   One of the primary activities at BP Guru Sekumpul is Quranic instruction. The students are taught how to read, memorize, and comprehend the meaning of the Quran. Additionally, they are instructed in Tajweed, the science related to reciting the Quran correctly. This teaching activity is conducted by experienced ustadz (male Islamic scholars) and ustadzah (female Islamic scholars).

   The Quran is a sacred book that contains various important guidelines for human life. It encompasses teachings on law, faith, ethics, social interactions, and many other aspects of life. Overall, the Quran conveys the following main messages:

   If you have any more text to translate or need further assistance, please feel free to ask.

   a. Tawheed and Belief in the Unseen: The Quran discusses belief in the one Almighty God and the aspects of His existence that are unseen.

   b. Worship: The Quran teaches various acts of worship carried out to nourish the values and spirituality within one’s heart and soul.

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c. Promises and Threats: The Quran includes promises of rewards for those who do good and threats or punishments for those who engage in wrongful behavior. This includes promises of happiness in this world and the hereafter, as well as the threat of suffering in both realms. The threat also includes the concept of hellfire in the afterlife.

d. The Path to Happiness in This World and the Hereafter: The Quran provides guidance on how one can attain Allah's approval and achieve happiness in both this world and the hereafter.

e. Narratives and Stories: The Quran also contains narratives and histories of nations, prominent figures, as well as the Prophets and Messengers of Allah who came before.

These messages in the Quran provide comprehensive guidance on righteous living, morality, and human relationships with God and fellow human beings.

2. Hadith and Jurisprudence Studies

In addition to the Quran, students also study Hadith (sayings and actions of Prophet Muhammad) and Fiqh (Islamic jurisprudence). They understand the sayings of Prophet Muhammad and the principles of Islamic jurisprudence to learn how to apply Islamic teachings in their daily lives. The Hadith book used is "Kitab Matan Arba'in Nawawiyah," while the Fiqh book is "Matan Ghayah Wa Taqrib."

3. Routine Religious Activities

This religious institution also organizes routine religious activities such as congregational prayers, remembrance of God (dhikr), and Quranic recitation (tadarusan). These activities aim to cultivate strong worship habits among the students and help them maintain their spirituality.

4. Moral and Ethical Training

In addition to academics, BP Guru Sekumpul provides moral and ethical training to students. They are taught Islamic values such as honesty, loyalty, and empathy. This helps them become better individuals and contribute positively to society.

5. Extracurricular Activities

Apart from the main activities mentioned above, students are also engaged in extracurricular activities such as calligraphy, sports, and other skills. This is intended to develop their potential holistically.

The activities at BP Guru Sekumpul in Pidie Regency, Aceh, are geared towards providing students with a well-rounded education encompassing not only the academic aspects but also a deep understanding of religious teachings, moral values, and ethical principles. These activities, which include Quranic instruction, the study of Hadith and jurisprudence, routine religious practices, moral and ethical training, and extracurricular engagement, aim to foster not just academic knowledge but also spiritual and ethical growth among the students. BP Guru Sekumpul plays a crucial role in shaping individuals who are not only academically proficient but also morally upright and spiritually connected, preparing them to contribute positively to society.

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The Impact of Community Service Activities

The community service activities conducted at BP Guru Sekumpul in Pidie Regency have significant positive impacts. Introducing the Quran to children from a young age aims to guide them to have a belief that Allah is their Lord, and the Quran is His sacred word. In this way, we hope that the values and teachings of the Quran will permeate their hearts, the light of enlightenment will fill their minds, and their senses will be influenced by these sacred messages. With this approach, our goal is for children to grow with a deep love for the Quran. They are expected to accept and follow all the commandments contained in the Quran, avoid its prohibitions, and behave in accordance with the ethics taught by the Quran. Moreover, the students there also participate in programs to deepen their understanding of the fundamentals of religion. They are able to apply Islamic teachings in their daily lives and serve as positive role models in society.

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Furthermore, this Religious Studies Center also plays a role in preserving the rich traditional values and Islamic culture in Aceh. This helps to safeguard valuable cultural heritage for the Indonesian nation. The students there are pleased with our visits to teach religious knowledge.

CONCLUSION

BP Guru Sekumpul in Pidie Regency is one of the Islamic boarding schools that plays a crucial role in shaping the foundational understanding of religion among its students in Aceh. Through various community engagement activities they conduct, this Islamic boarding school has been instrumental in nurturing a younger generation with a strong grasp of religious principles. The students are not only taught to read and memorize the Quran but also provided with profound insights into the values, ethics, and principles of Islamic faith. In this conducive environment, the students at BP Guru Sekumpul have the opportunity to deeply internalize religious teachings and apply them in their daily lives.

The importance of Islamic boarding schools like BP Guru Sekumpul is also reflected in the positive contributions made by the young generation they have molded. These students not only possess a strong understanding of their faith but also exhibit behavior aligned with Islamic values within their community. They serve as role models in devotion to Allah and exhibit good moral conduct. This serves as tangible evidence that religious education imparted by Islamic boarding schools has a positive impact on shaping the character of the younger generation in Aceh, thereby contributing to the development and progress of the local community.
REFERENCES


