

FOSTERING RELIGIOUS VALUES FOR THE PACUL VILLAGE YOUTH GROUP, TEGAL REGENCY

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Abstract

The purpose of this study is to develop religious values for youth organizations in Pacul Village, Tegal District. The method used by the researcher is to carry out development through preaching (recitation). The results of this study show that the development of religious values for youth organizations is done by providing good advice, teaching morals from the books *Taitsirul Kholaq* and *Akhlakul banin*, as well as teaching the book *Aqidatul Awwam* and holding additional activities such as *maulidan*, *berzanji*, *ziaroh kubur* etc. Meanwhile, the supporting factors for fostering religious values for Karang Taruna Youth in Pacul Village, Tegal Regency is the learning of the book *Ta'lim wal muta'alim*, and support from the community. Meanwhile, the inhibiting factors are inadequate infrastructure and the busyness of the members.

Keywords: Religious Values, Youth, Youth Organisation

Abstrak

*Tujuan penelitian ini adakah untuk melakukan pembinaan nilai religius bagi pemuda karang taruna Desa Pacul Kabupaten Tegal, metode yang dilakukan peneliti dengan melaksanakan pembinaan melalui dakwah (pengajian). Hasil Penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa pembinaan nilai-nilai religius bagi Pemuda Karang Taruna dengan cara memberikan nasehat-nasehat yang baik, mengajarkan tentang akhlak dari kitab *Taitsirul Kholaq* dan *Akhlakul banin*, serta mengajarkan kitab *Aqidatul Awwam* dan mengadakan kegiatan tambahan seperti kegiatan *maulidan*, *berzanji*, *ziaroh kubur* dll, Sedangkan faktor pendukung pembinaan nilai nilai religius bagi Pemuda Karang Taruna Desa Pacul Kabupaten Tegal adalah adanya pembelajaran kitab *Ta'lim wal muta'alim*, dan dukungan dari masyarakat, Sedangkan faktor penghambatnya adalah sarana prasarana kurang memadai dan kesibukan para anggota.*

Kata kunci: Nilai-nilai Religius, Pemuda, Karang Taruna

INTRODUCTION

Education is an important factor that contributes to the progress of a country in various aspects of life. Education does not only include academic aspects but also the moral and religious values that shape the character of individuals in society. In the context of religious life, youth organizations have a strategic role in fostering the character of the younger generation to adhere to religious values during changing times (Aderibigbe dkk., 2023). One organisation that plays an important role in social and religious life in Pacul Village, Tegal Regency, is Pemuda Karang Taruna. Pemuda Karang Taruna is a forum

for the younger generation to learn and practice social, cultural and religious values in everyday life. This organisation not only functions as a gathering place for village youth, but also as a means of instilling religious values that can shape their character. With the existence of youth organisations such as Karang Taruna, it is hoped that young people can better understand the importance of religious values and apply them in their daily lives. Religious values play a very important role in shaping a person's character. A character formed from religious values usually reflects a personality that is more disciplined, responsible, and caring towards others. The stronger the religious values embedded in a person, the more attitudes and behaviours that reflect faith in God will be seen in their life.

In Pacul Village, the Pemuda Karang Taruna organisation plays an active role in instilling religious values in its members. Various religious activities such as recitation, Islamic discussions, social services, and other activities are often carried out to strengthen the religious character of young people. Through these activities, young people are invited to understand and practice religious teachings in their daily lives, so that they can become better individuals and be beneficial to their surroundings. In addition, religious values are also the basis for the formation of a religious culture in society. Without the cultivation of religious values, the religious culture in an environment will not develop properly. Therefore, youth organizations such as Karang Taruna are important elements in maintaining and strengthening religious culture in society, especially in Pacul Village.

As a youth organisation with a strong social base, Pemuda Karang Taruna has a significant influence in fostering religious values for its members. With this organisation, young people are not only given an understanding of religious teachings, but are also invited to implement them in their daily lives (Akhmadi, 2022). Some of the main roles of Pemuda Karang Taruna in fostering religiosity in Pacul Village include: The Karang Taruna Youth plays a significant role in fostering religious values among its members through various activities. One of the key efforts made by this organisation is holding regular recitations, where members gather for religious lectures, book studies, and discussions about Islamic values. These sessions serve as a platform for young people to deepen their understanding of religion and learn how to apply Islamic teachings in their daily lives. By actively participating in these recitations, the youth are encouraged to develop a strong foundation of faith and spirituality, which can shape their moral character and way of life (Afnan & Muthowah, 2022).

Apart from recitations, Karang Taruna Youth is also involved in organising religious-based social activities that reflect the values of Islam. These activities include orphan donations, social services, and charity initiatives aimed at helping underprivileged communities. Through these programs, members learn the importance of compassion, empathy, and social responsibility, all of which are fundamental teachings in Islam (Ahyani dkk., 2021). By engaging in these charitable efforts, the youth develop a sense of care and togetherness, strengthening their role as active contributors to society. In addition to fostering social responsibility, Karang Taruna Youth is committed to instilling

Islamic discipline and morals among its members. Every activity conducted by the organisation is designed to promote values such as discipline, responsibility, and ethical behaviour. The goal is to cultivate a generation of young individuals who are not only intellectually capable but also possess strong moral character. Through consistent exposure to Islamic teachings and practices, the youth are encouraged to uphold honesty, respect, and integrity in their interactions with others (Taufik, 2020). One of the significant challenges in nurturing religious awareness among young people in the modern era is their declining interest in religious activities. Many youths are reluctant to participate in recitations or other spiritual gatherings due to their busy schedules, work commitments, or excessive use of gadgets. Recognising this challenge, Karang Taruna Youth continuously strives to make religious programs more engaging and relevant to their lives. By introducing innovative and interactive approaches to religious learning, the organisation aims to rekindle the enthusiasm of young people and inspire them to take an active role in spiritual and community-based activities.

Organising Activities in the Month of Ramadan and Islamic Holidays The momentum of the month of Ramadan and other Islamic holidays is well utilised by Karang Taruna Youth to organise various religious activities such as tarawih (night prayer) together, breaking the fast together, reciting the Qur'an, and Islamic competitions. These activities not only strengthen relationships between members, but also reinforce Islamic values in daily life. Although the Karang Taruna Youth Organisation has made efforts to instill religious values in its members, there are several challenges that must be faced, including:

One of the main challenges faced by Karang Taruna Youth in fostering religious awareness among young people is the lack of youth awareness of the importance of religious values. As times change, many young individuals are becoming less engaged in religious activities and more inclined toward worldly matters. The appeal of modern entertainment, career aspirations, and social engagements often overshadow their interest in participating in spiritual gatherings or community-based religious events. This presents a significant challenge for youth organisations in attracting and maintaining active participation in religious activities. Without a conscious effort to instill the importance of spirituality in their daily lives, many young people may grow distant from the moral and ethical teachings that religion offers.

Another major factor that influences the religiosity of youth is the rapid advancement of technology and social media. The digital era has transformed the way young people interact, learn, and spend their leisure time. Many of them are more engaged in cyberspace, spending hours on social media platforms, gaming, and online entertainment rather than attending religious studies or community prayers. While technology brings various benefits, it also poses a challenge for religious organisations in ensuring that spiritual teachings remain relevant and accessible to modern youth. To address this, a more creative and strategic approach is needed to convey religious values through digital platforms, such as online discussions, virtual recitations, and engaging Islamic content

that resonates with their interests. By leveraging the media they enjoy, it becomes possible to rekindle their enthusiasm for religious learning.

Additionally, the lack of community support presents another obstacle in strengthening religious culture among the youth. Not all members of the community fully support the initiatives and activities organised by Karang Taruna Youth, which can make it difficult to sustain and expand their programs. Some community members may prioritise other aspects of development over religious education, while others may not actively encourage youth participation in spiritual activities. To overcome this, stronger synergy between youth organisations, religious leaders, and the wider community is essential. Collaboration with local leaders, elders, and institutions can help reinforce the importance of religious values and create a more supportive environment for young people to engage in spiritual and moral development. By fostering unity and shared responsibility, Pacul Village can build a more solid religious culture that benefits not only the youth but also the entire community.

METHOD

This research was conducted in Pacul Village, Tegal Regency, with a focus on fostering religious values through various activities in the Karang Taruna Youth Organisation of Tegal. To understand and analyse the development process, this research uses several methods of data collection and analysis to obtain accurate and in-depth information. One of the methods used is observation, where researchers make direct visits to the research location to directly observe the religious attitudes of the youth who are members of Karang Taruna. Through this method, researchers can understand how religious values are applied in daily life and how youth are involved in religious activities organised by the organisation. This observation also helps in identifying the challenges and obstacles that may be faced in the process of fostering religious values among village youth.

In addition to observation, this study also uses the interview method as a data collection technique (Iswadi dkk., 2023). Interviews were conducted with parties directly involved, such as Karang Taruna administrators, youth organisation members, and community and religious leaders in Pacul Village. Through these interviews, the researcher gained a broader perspective on the effectiveness of the religious development programme, the role of the organisation in building the character of young people, and the community's views on the efforts that have been made. As a complement, this research also relies on a literature study method. Data was collected by studying various relevant literature sources, including books, scientific journals, and documents related to the research theme. This literature study helped to enrich the understanding of the theory that supported the research and provided an academic basis for analysing the phenomena that occurred in the field. With a combination of these three methods, this research is expected to provide a comprehensive picture of the role of Karang Taruna in fostering religious values in Pacul Village, Tegal Regency.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Development of Religious Values in the Karang Taruna Youth Organisation

The development of religious values for members of the Karang Taruna Youth in Pacul Village, Tegal Regency, is carried out through various activities aimed at increasing spiritual awareness and shaping religious character among young people. Based on observations and interviews, this guidance is centred on various programmes designed to instil a deep understanding of Islamic teachings and how these values can be applied in everyday life. One of the methods used in this guidance is through routine recitals held every week. These recitals are not only an opportunity to deepen religious knowledge, but also a means of providing advice and motivation for young people to become more devout to Allah. Each recitation session contains the delivery of moral and ethical values related to daily life, especially in relation to human relationships with God and others (Ningsih, 2020). With this approach, Karang Taruna members are expected not only to understand religious teachings in theory, but also to be able to implement them in their lives.

In addition, the cultivation of religious values is also carried out through the study of the book *Aqidah*, which is one of the routine activities held. This study focuses on the book *Aqidatul Awam*, which discusses the basics of *aqidah* as the foundation of a person's faith. By understanding a strong *aqidah*, young people will have firmness in their faith and will not be easily influenced by things that can weaken their belief in Islam. This training also provides an understanding of the importance of maintaining good relationships, both with fellow human beings and with the Creator. In addition to the study of *aqidah*, religious development is also carried out by studying books on morals, such as *Ta'lim al-Muta'allim* and *Akhlaq al-Banin*. This study aims to shape attitudes and personalities with noble character. By studying and practising the moral values contained in these books, it is hoped that young people can become more disciplined, responsible, and have a good attitude in society. In this study, they are taught how to face various life challenges with good character and uphold Islamic principles.

In addition to Islamic studies, religious development is also strengthened through monthly activities such as *tahlilan* and commemorations of Islamic holidays (Siregar dkk., 2023). This program aims to increase spiritual awareness and strengthen religious bonds among Karang Taruna members. Some of the activities held include *maulidan* and recitation of the *Barzanji* book, which contains praises to the Prophet Muhammad. In addition, Karang Taruna members also make a joint pilgrimage to the grave, as a form of self-reflection to remember death and increase piety. Through these activities, young people are invited to get closer to Allah and improve the quality of their worship. Religious development in Karang Taruna Youth not only focuses on recitation and study of the scriptures, but is also carried out through various social activities that have religious value. For example, they are active in providing assistance to people in need, in the form of donations for

orphans, social service activities, and sharing food with the poor. By getting involved in these activities, young people are not only taught about the importance of worship, but also understand the values of social care taught in Islam.

Supporting Factors in the Development of Religious Values

In the process of religious development for Karang Taruna members, there are several supporting factors that play an important role in the success of the religious programmes implemented. One of the main factors is the support from the community, which participates in supporting the religious activities carried out by Karang Taruna. The close relationship between the youth organisation and the surrounding community enables the creation of an environment conducive to fostering religious values. The community not only participates in the activities that are held, but also provides moral and material support to sustain the programmes (Ismail dkk., 2024). In addition, the support of religious leaders and village heads is also a very influential factor. Religious figures who have a deep understanding of Islamic teachings are often invited to give lectures or guide religious activities held by Karang Taruna. With their guidance, the youths gain a deeper knowledge and can ask questions directly about various matters relating to Islamic teachings. Meanwhile, the village head also provides support in the form of facilities and permits for the organisation of religious activities, so that the organisation can run its programme more smoothly.

Inhibiting Factors in the Development of Religious Values

Although there are many supporting factors, the development of religious values in Youth Karang Taruna also faces various challenges and obstacles. One of the main obstacles is the lack of optimisation of the performance of the management. Some of the organisation's management have to divide their time between work and taking care of Karang Taruna activities, so that planned activities are often delayed or even postponed. The limited time available to the management is an obstacle in coordinating and running the various religious programmes that have been developed. Therefore, a more effective strategy in time management and division of tasks is needed so that religious programmes continue to run according to plan (Dewi & Wajdi, 2022). In addition, another obstacle is the limited facilities and infrastructure that support religious activities. Adequate facilities are needed for various activities such as recitation, book discussions, and other religious events. However, on several occasions, the available facilities are insufficient, both in terms of space, equipment, and technological support. For example, the lack of loudspeakers, reference books, and a comfortable place to study are obstacles in supporting the development of religious values. Therefore, further efforts are needed to obtain assistance or support from relevant parties so that the required facilities can be properly fulfilled.

In addition to technical obstacles, another challenge faced is the low interest of young people in religious activities. Along with the times and technological advances, many young people are more interested in modern entertainment, social media, and an instant

lifestyle compared to religious activities. Many of them spend more time in cyberspace than attending recitals or social activities based on Islamic values. To overcome this challenge, Karang Taruna needs to create more innovative and interesting programs for the younger generation. Technology-based approaches, such as the dissemination of da'wah (preaching) through social media, the creation of interesting Islamic content, and the organization of studies in a more relaxed format, can be solutions to increase youth participation in religious activities.

CONCLUSION

The development of religious values for members of the Youth Karang Taruna in Pacul Village, Tegal Regency, is carried out through various activities such as routine recitations, book studies, commemorations of Islamic holidays, and social activities that have religious values. In this development process, there are several supporting factors such as the support of the community, religious figures, and village heads, which play a role in strengthening the implementation of religious programs. However, there are also various inhibiting factors such as the lack of optimisation of the management's performance, limited facilities and infrastructure, and low youth interest in religious activities. Therefore, a more innovative strategy and a more creative approach are needed to ensure that religious values can continue to be instilled and applied in everyday life by young people in Pacul Village.

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