

Optimalisasi Peran Pendidikan Islam dan Tongkonan Dalam Memperkuat Kerukunan Umat Beragama di Tana Toraja

Zaenal Muttaqin

Universitas muhammadiyah Makassar
zmuttaqien33@gmail.com

M. Nasir Mahmud

Universitas muhammadiyah Makassar
natsirmahmud@gmail.com

Darwis Muhdina

Universitas muhammadiyah Makassar
darwismuhdina@unismuh.ac.id

Abdul Rahim Razaq

Universitas muhammadiyah Makassar
abdrahimrazaq@gmail.com

Abstrack

Tongkonan, for the people of Tana Toraja, is a source of reference for religious peace with the values of *siangga*, *sikamali*, *sipakaborok*, and *sialamase*. The noble values in Tongkonan are also noble values in Islamic education, so it can be said that there has been a merger of positive values in the climate of religious harmony and tolerance among the indigenous people of Tana Toraja so that religious resilience can reduce tension and opportunities for religious violence. This research uses a qualitative ethnographic approach. The data sources for this research are officials of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, the Head of Madrasah, the Sub-District Head, and Toraja Traditional Guardians. Furthermore, the data collection methods used are observation, interviews, documentation, and reference searches. Then, data processing and analysis techniques are carried out through three stages, namely: data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing. The results of this study are that the government and related partners from community organizations should: 1) improve the quality of formal education through schools and madrasahs with a curriculum that is loaded with religious harmony and tolerance. 2) Increase the role of Islamic education in fostering harmony by stimulating a culture of harmony and tolerance among students and the Islamic community in Tana Toraja as an object of non-formal education. 3) Strengthening the role of Tongkonan as a medium for learning religious harmony and tolerance in the Toraja community through training.

keyword: Optimization; Role; Islamic education; Tongkona; Religious Harmony.

Abstrak

Tongkonan bagi masyarakat Tana Toraja menjadi sumber acuan ketentraman beragama dengan nilai-nilai *siangga*, *sikamali*, *sipakaborok*, *sialamase*. Nilai-nilai luhur dalam Tongkonan juga merupakan nilai-nilai luhur dalam pendidikan Islam sehingga dapat dikatakan bahwa telah terjadi penggabungan nilai positif dalam iklim kerukunan dan toleransi beragama di Masyarakat adat Tana Toraja, sehingga ketahanan beragama dapat meredam ketegangan dan peluang terjadinya kekerasan agama. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif jenis etnografi. Adapun sumber data penelitian ini adalah; pejabat Kementrian Agama, Kepala Madrasah, Camat dan Pengampu Adat Toraja. Selanjutnya, metode pengumpulan data yang digunakan adalah observasi, wawancara, dokumentasi, dan penelusuran referensi. Lalu, teknik pengolahan dan analisis data dilakukan dengan melalui tiga tahapan, yaitu: reduksi data, penyajian data, dan penarikan kesimpulan. Hasil penelitian ini adalah pemerintah dan mitra terkait dari organisasi kemasyarakatan untuk; 1) Meningkatkan mutu pendidikan formal melalui sekolah dan madrasah dengan kurikulum yang sarat dengan muatan kerukunan beragama dan toleransi. 2) Meningkatkan peranan pendidikan Islam dalam membina kerukunan dengan menstimulasi budaya rukun dan toleran kepada anak didik serta masyarakat Islam di Tana Toraja sebagai objek pendidikan non formal. 3) Memperkuat peranan Tongkonan sebagai media pembelajaran kerukunan dan toleransi beragama di tengah masyarakat Toraja melalui jalan pelestarian nilai-nilai dalam Tongkonan, penyebar-luasan pesan-pesan leluhur tentang kerukunan dan toleransi beragama. 4) Perlu melakukan riset berkelanjutan dalam memperkuat peranan Tongkonan dalam pembinaan kerukunan beragama dan toleransi dalam rangka menciptakan iklim kondusif beragama.

Kata Kunci: Optimalisasi; Peran; Pendidikan islam; Tongkona; Kerukunan Beragama.

Pendahuluan

The Toraja Muslim community is unique in that Toraja is predominantly Christian. Islam is even a minority religion in this area, although it later became the religion of South Sulawesi Province. The Toraja Muslim community's existence in Tana Toraja is a haven of peace and religious harmony. The family bond in Tongkonan has brought them into a positive habitat with harmony and tolerance as its support. It is noteworthy that the Muslim community has never experienced intimidation or even discrimination in this area; on the contrary, their Christian brothers and sisters have always accompanied them in building a life together.¹

Diversity and religious differences are not obstacles for the community of Tana Toraja to coexist peacefully. It happens because of close family ties in a kinship named Tongkonan. For the indigenous people of Toraja, the presence of the Tongkonan is a unifier and adhesive for their togetherness in navigating life in the format of the Tongkonan.

Islamic education teaches humans about life's values so that they can achieve order and prosperity. Maintaining harmony in human life and the universe is an important part of the implementation of obedience to Allah SWT because it is not considered an obedient human being when it always presents hatred, chaos, discord, and division among human beings.²

Islam as *rahmatan lil 'alamin* clearly expresses the broad meaning of Islamic education in creating social structures in society along with its noble goals of creating strong social bonds to make religion a pillar of togetherness and strong ties in creating social order.³ Konsep *Rahmatan Li al-Alamin* merupakan pemahaman yang dibangun dari tafsir ayat Alquran yang menjelaskan perihal diutusnya Nabi Muhammad sebagai utusan yang akan menyampaikan ajaran untuk menjadi rahmat bagi seru sekalian alam sehingga menjadi penyebab ditundanya azab karena ajaran tersebut (QS. Al-Anfal: 33).

¹ Nuryani, *Pola Hubungan Lintas Agama Di Tana Toraja*, Cet.I (Makassar: Alauddin University Press, 2015), h. 192

² Moh Dannur et al., "Madurese Islam: Dissemination Of Multicultural Education in Islamic Religious Streams," *TADRIS: Jurnal Pendidikan Islam* 18, no. 2 (2023).

³ Muhammad Khairan Arif, "Islam Rahmatan Lil Alamin From Social and Cultural Perspective," *Al-Risalah* 12, no. 2 (2021): 169–186.

Therefore, the concept of Islam *rahmatan lil 'alamin* should be the basis for managing Islamic education that advances, soothes, and is far from violence. This means that Islam must bring peace and safety to humanity universally. The concept of *rahmatan lil alamin* contains three dimensions, namely: *first*, Islam is a rational religion; *second*, Islam has concern or empathy; and *third*, Islam is a religion of civilisation. Thus, Islamic education is also expected to give birth to an inclusive attitude: open, respectful of differences, and tolerant of differences in religion, ethnicity, race, and plurality.⁴

However, to realize true inter-religious harmony, it is necessary to establish a state order that binds all members of social groups with different religions and cultures to avoid conflict. In this way, inter-religious harmony can still be managed and maintained properly so that religious diversity remains part of the wealth of a harmonious national civilization. With such a harmonious situation, life activities in society become safe and peaceful. Minority communities can enjoy life in peace, both in terms of comfort of worship and economic, social, and cultural, together with the majority (Islam), without any conflict, dispute, or conflict.⁵

Pancasila, as the foundation of the Republic of Indonesia, provides an ideal concept for creating inter-religious harmony. This is also explained in the amended 1945 Constitution in Article 29, paragraph 2, where the state guarantees the independence of each resident to embrace their respective religions and to worship according to their religion and beliefs.⁶

The people of Tana Toraja, South Sulawesi, are known as a multicultural society, having various ethnicities, races, and religions. They have a unique way of maintaining tolerance between ethnicities and religious communities. The tradition of "*Tolu Batu Lalikan*," which in Toraja means fellowship between culture, religion, and government, is a strong glue of interfaith tolerance in Tana Toraja.⁷ Exploring the meaning of cultural and religious symbols in a broad context for the benefit of humanity, which is constantly promoted by the community, government, and religious leaders, makes Toraja not easily

⁴ Kathleen M. Moore and others, 'Islamic Legal Interpretation: Muftis and Their Fatwas', *Contemporary Sociology*, 1998, 199

⁵ Ibnu Hadjar, "Kala Agama Jadi Bencana," *Unisia* 28, no. 58 (2005): 458–461.

⁶ Undang- Undang Dasar Neraga Republik Indonesia, "Undang- Undang Dasar Neraga Republik Indonesia 1945" (1945): 1–21.

⁷ Junaedi, 'Toleransi Antarumat Beragama Ala Tana Toraja', *Kompas.Com* (Jakarta, 29 December 2017), h. 1.

provoked by conflict or disharmony between religious communities that often erupts in several regions of the country⁸ What is interesting is that the Toraja people, in enriching tolerance awareness, not only utilize their respective religions as a base but also the Toraja culture that has been passed down from generation to generation. The tradition of "Tolu Batu Lalikan" in Toraja is also interpreted as mutual support, making Toraja people not easily divided despite the ongoing disharmony issues in various regions.⁹

Toraja's inter-religious, inter-ethnic, and inter-group unity is strong and not easily shaken, despite efforts to undermine the spirit of tolerance from outside the region. The unique tolerance of the people of Tana Toraja can be found in the implementation of religion in Toraja. When Christians celebrate Christmas and Easter, for example, other believers offer any roles they can do as a form of participation and respect without being invited first. Vice versa, when people of other religions, such as Muslims, celebrate religious events such as Idul Fitri, Isra Miraj, and Maulid Nabi, people of other religions also come to offer assistance without being asked.

This can be an example or inspiration for developing harmony elsewhere. The kinship system of the Toraja people (Torayaan) is tied to a Tongkonan: "Wherever he is, however far he goes, he is tied to his Tongkonan." Among the Torajans, the kinship system up to the seventh cousins is still considered as brothers; they are bound in a Tongkonan.¹⁰

A traditional *Torajan* building serves as a representation of the family system known as Tongkonan. Every Torajan is a part of a Tongkonan that his ancestors built, either along the paternal or maternal line. He is also a member of the *saroan* community (a working community of *neighboring* groups) and a member of a wider regional community (penance, *ambakan* datu, bua, or *lembang*). He has rights and obligations within the alliance, the genealogical alliance, and the regional or territorial alliance (alliance because of the bond of unity or residence) as a bond of the adat or *aluk* alliance.¹¹

⁸ Muhammad Yunus, "Umat Muslim Menyanyikan Lagu Kasidah Di Pembukaan Festival Natal Toraja," *Suarasulsel.Ic*.

⁹ K Mustamin, S Macpal, and Y Yunus, 'Harmonisasi Antara Islam Dan Kristen Di Tana Toraja', *AL-MUNZIR*, 15.2 (2023), 197–216

¹⁰ Yudha Nugraha Manguju, "Harmonisasi Sebagai Jalan Interspiritualitas Dalam Relasi Kristen-Islam Di Toraja," *KAMASEAN: Jurnal Teologi Kristen* 3, no. 2 (2022): 162–175.

¹¹ M.Arch Ir. Riyadi Ismanto and M.T. Margareta Maria S., S.T., *Rumah Tongkonan Toraja Sebagai Ekspresi Estetika Dan Citra Arsitektural* (Makassar, 2020).

The optimization of the role of community traditions as an instrument for strengthening harmony has been widely carried out, one of which is Abdur Rahman Adi Saputera's research, which examines the existence of local wisdom and religious organizations in mainstreaming religious moderation in Gorontalo. An important finding of this research is the use of the community's philosophy of life, namely "*Adati hula-hula'a to syara'a wau syara'a hula-hula'a to Qurani*," as an instrument for mainstreaming religious moderation. In addition, the challenge lies in people's misunderstanding of religious moderation.¹² Another researcher is Andi Muhammad Taufiq, who specifically examines the tradition of earth alms as a means of building religious harmony in a pluralistic society. In the presentation of its findings, this research confirms that *sedekah bumi* has several tolerance values, including cooperation, tolerance, and unity.¹³ Another study was conducted by Sopyan Hadi, who examined the role of Bugis culture in building pluralism among students. The findings of this study show that cultural learning in religious education in higher education is in line with the values of pluralism. This pluralism value can be found in the concept of *pesse*, such as the values of *Sipakatau*, *Sipakalebbi*, *Sipakaingge*, and *Sipakatou*. Meanwhile, expressions of affection are revealed in proverbs such as *Mali siparappe*, *Rebba sipatokkong*, and *Malilu sipakainge*.¹⁴

Some of the research described above, apart from showing the urgency of this research in examining values that are integrated into societal traditions, also provides an overview of the position of this research among several previous studies. This research on the role of Islamic education and Tongkonan is based on the phenomenon that the Tongkonan tradition is an instrument for building harmony in a pluralistic society. It is hoped that this research can contribute to the development of studies on harmony in society, especially by utilizing existing traditions.

¹² AbdurRahman Adi Saputera, "Potret Pengarusutamaan Moderasi Beragama Di Gorontalo," *MODERATIO: Jurnal Moderasi Beragama*; Vol 1 No 1 (2021), <https://ejournal.metrouniv.ac.id/index.php/moderatio/article/view/3351>.

¹³ Andi Muhammad Taufiq, Rifki Rosyad, and Dadang Kuswana, "Dampak Tradisi Sedekah Bumi Terhadap Kerukunan Umat Beragama Di Blitar, Jawa Timur," *Jurnal Iman dan Spiritualitas* 3, no. 1 (2023): 117–130.

¹⁴ Sopyan Hadi and Yunus Bayu, "Membangun Kerukunan Umat Beragama Melalui Model Pembelajaran PAI Berbasis Kearifan Lokal Pada Penguruan Tinggi," *Tarbiyah Wa Ta'lim: Jurnal Penelitian Pendidikan dan Pembelajaran* (2021): 23–36.

Metode Penelitian

This research uses a qualitative-ethnographic approach. The author chose this qualitative-ethnographic method to describe in detail the practice of harmony in one particular society or community, including the culture and local wisdom that support this harmony.¹⁵ The location of the research includes three sub-districts in Tana Toraja Regency, namely Mengkendek Sub-district, Sangalla Sub-district, and Makale Sub-district, known as Tallu Lembangna. The selection of the three sub-districts is considered a representation of religious harmony in the Tana Toraja Regency.

To describe the participants and the field in which the shared culture exists. At the same time, the researcher also simultaneously analyzes patterns of behavior, beliefs, and language and concludes the meaning obtained from the observations of participants and the research field. Data analysis uses Spradley's analysis model, domain analysis, taxonomy analysis, theme analysis, and theme analysis. To explore information that is maintained for validity and reliability, the data validity tests used in this study are extended participation, peer debriefing, triangulation, and member check.

Tongkonan Instrumen Pendidikan Islam

Etymologically, Islamic education in Arabic is called *at-tarbiyah* with the verb "*rabba*," and the word teaching in Arabic is "*Salim*" with the verb "*alama*". Education and teaching in Arabic are "*tarbiyah wa Salim*," while "Islamic education" in Arabic is "*tarbiyah islamiyah*". The verb *Rabba* (educate) was already used at the time of the Prophet Muhammad. Theoretically, education means "feeding" (opvoeding) the soul of students so that they get spiritual satisfaction; it is also often interpreted as awakening basic human abilities.¹⁶

Education, in this case Islamic education, is expected to be the main medium to provide a correct understanding of Islam as a religion of *rahmatan lil alamīn* that teaches universal value principles such as humanism, equality, tolerance, openness, and respect for differences and plurality. With the principle of *rahmatan lil alamīn*, Islam prioritizes the benefit, safety, peace, and harmony of life. The main vision of the presence of Islam

¹⁵ Farligt feltarbejde, *Ethics and Ethnography in Sociology*, Cet. I (Aalborg, Denmark: Aalborg University Press, 2001), h.24.

¹⁶ Nita Zakiah, "Hakikat, Tujuan Dan Fungsi Pendidikan Islam Di Era Modern," *As-Salam, Vol 1, No 1* (2013), 2461-0232, , 2089-6638, , 2013 1, no. 1 (2013): 105–123.

is to bring order to human life, nature, and life so that humans can achieve true welfare and safety. Islamic education in various forms, both formal and informal, plays a role in defining Islam correctly so that it gives birth to a correct, deep, and comprehensive understanding that can also be implemented in the reality of social life.

Toraja, based on data from the 2020 population census results by the Regional Statistics Agency of Tana Toraja Regency, has 280,794 people. The number is then divided into several classification groups based on age: 9.41% post-Generation Z born in the 2013 age range of 7 years; 33.69% post-Generation Z, which is calculated to be born in the 1997–2012 age range of 8–23 years; 24.13% Millennial Generation born in 1981–1996 age range of 24–39 years; 18.7% post-Generation X born in 1965–1980 age range of 40–55 years; 10.70% post-Baby Boomer born in 1946–1964 age range of 55–74 years; 3.09% pre-Boomer 3.09% were born before 1945 age range of 75 years and over. The data provides a percentage of the Tana Toraja community as a whole with a population at productive age in the range of 69.03% and a percentage of the number of people in the elderly at 7.75% of the total population in Tana Toraja Regency.

The data above at least provides information on the potential of the younger generation of the Tana Toraja community, but the number of people does not affect the dynamics of religious life in Tana Toraja. The religious life of each person does not emphasize the different side because of the beliefs adopted, but more because of the encouragement of the power of *nashab* and kinship that has been built very solidly for a long time. So it is not surprising that conflicts due to different beliefs do not appear on the surface, even though the fanatical attitude of each religious adherent exists and naturally exists due to deeply rooted religious doctrines, but also does not provide friction for a harmonious life between fellow religious believers..

BPS Tana Toraja data can be analyzed using maturation theory (religious maturity). According to the theory of maturation, a region's average population age plays a significant role in determining the level of religious maturity there. Although not conducting a large-scale survey, analysis of the distribution and age division of the population in BPS data can reveal that Toraja is in the category of strong maturation. The high level of harmony in this area also lends support to the assumption. This assumption is built on the basis that maturation is highly dependent on the level of achievement

associated with the age of the population.¹⁷ Furthermore, maturation is also a strong influence on the conducive climate of harmony in Toraja society. The average age of maturity based on statistical data shows that the productive age between 25 and 45 occupies the highest percentage. This means that the maturation level of Torajan society is also very high.

Anti-discrimination also develops from local wisdom, in which they understand a person's existence not based on their wealth but on how good they are to others. Understanding the basic philosophy of getting along in society through *siangga*, *sikamali*, *sipakaborok*, and *sialamase* helps people form strong emotional bonds with each other. These bonds are shown in the practices of *rambu tuka* (the ritual of joy) and *rambu solo* (the ritual of grief), which are organized so that extended family groups can take part. *Siangga*, *sikamali*, *sipakaborok*, and *sialamase* are wisdom values that emerge from the interaction of Torajans in Tongkonan. Such wisdom contrasts with the values of harmony and tolerance, both within religions within the Tongkonan as well as between cultures.

Cultivating the principles of *siangga*, *sikamali*, *sipakaborok*, and *sialamase* in Toraja culture in Tongkonan is a very strong adhesive for fostering cultural and religious harmonization. Although not all forms of cooperation in religion are justified, the principles built into the teachings of *Siangga*, *Sikamali*, *Sipakaborok*, and *Sialamase* will explain the limits of such cooperation. Nurdin Baturante explained that although *adat* implies cooperation between religious adherents, it does not mean that cooperation between religious adherents intolerance must be excessive. There are still limits and values that must be upheld so that tolerance and harmony are maintained, but within the corridor of maintaining faith as a Muslim.

One of the informants described the existence of preachers in Tana Toraja as more militant than preachers in other regions, considering the challenges facing preachers in Tana Toraja are more severe. This was stated by Nurdin with an example of when there was grief over the death of a relative of a Tongkonan who was Muslim, then *takziyah* would still be carried out even though no one was found who was Muslim..

Tongkonan is a social place where we go to the secretariat and hang out; there is

¹⁷ Sakdiah, "Kematangan Beragama Dan Sikap Tasamuh Marga Masyarakat Aceh Di Aceh Singkil," *Jurnal Al-Bayab: Media Kajian dan Pengembangan Ilmu Dakwah* 26, no. 1 (2020): 100.

education; there is marriage; or there is ta'siyah or rambusolo'. For example, for Muslims, if we imagine that, we can give an example. There is a Muslim family who died, but the family is not Muslim and asked for takziah. That's why I'm saying that Islam in Toraja, whatever our position is, especially as a preacher, ustaz, is more militant than in other areas. From a scientific point of view, we disagree with the same cardiologist, but there can be differences in handling the heart. There are differences in the same department; therefore, that's where the scientific harmony is.¹⁸

Torajans understand Tongkonan as a symbol of kinship and a unifying institution for the extended family. The format of Tongkonan is interesting to develop because Torajans do not only see Tongkonan as a house but also as a symbol of kinship and unity within a kinship. Tongkonan not only shows the existence of a formal building in the form of a Toraja house but also shows the existence of a community group that binds themselves in kinship and family ties.

Tongkonan is a Torajan traditional house that has a broad social function. Tongkonan is not only a house but can also be a customary area, customary community, or customary institution. Tongkonan has important social functions for indigenous people. It is the centre of government, the centre of security, the centre of religion, and the centre of traditional ceremonies. Without these social functions, Tongkonan cannot be called a Toraja traditional house. Tongkonan has a very important social function in Torajan society. Tongkonan symbolizes the unity of the Torajan people, who are made up of various faiths. Tongkonan becomes a place to gather and discuss various important matters for the Toraja indigenous people, including traditional rituals.¹⁹

Tongkonan is a gathering place for families to solve various problems, including differences in the beliefs of family members. Tongkonan is also the centre of traditional ceremonies, both festive and mourning. Tongkonan is considered a gathering place for Torajan elders to control customs and a place for traditional activities to sustain the existence of the religions practised by its people.

Wajah Kerukunan Umat Beragama di Tana Toraja

¹⁸ Nurdin Baturante, 73 Tahun, *Wawancara*, Tanggal 14 Maret 2023

¹⁹ Erick Cristal Ranteallo, 55 Tahun, *Wawancara*, Tanggal 12 Januari 2023

Another version states that Islam entered Toraja starting with the marriage of a man from Palopo (Luwu) named Opu Demmakalu' with a woman from Toraja named Madandan Ne'Rangga in 1857, which took place in Lembang Madandan, Rantetayo District. Opu Demmakalu' came on the initiative to help Ampu Lembang and Palullu', who were fighting against Pong Tamba', who was in coalition with Lullu', who came from Rembon. After the war ended, Ampu Lembang married his sister to Opu Demmakalu' as a form of brotherhood between the two parties, which then began with the Islamization of Madandan Ne'Rangga, which was then followed by his family. The event was the starting point of the entry of Islam into Toraja, which later became the originator of the establishment of a Jami mosque named Madandan Jami' mosque in 1858.²⁰

According to Tamrin Lodo, the Toraja indigenous people's attention and appreciation towards Islam are quite high, as seen from their understanding that what their ancestors implemented comes from the noble values of Islamic teachings. The values of harmony and tolerance that have been practised for generations are very contrasting in the teachings of Islam, so they sometimes interpret Islam as the same religion as the teachings of their ancestors.

The harmony created as a form of implementation of ancestral teachings is contrasted in Toraja society. Anti-discrimination has been practised for generations in the spirit of family ties. Through Tongkonan, the Toraja people have made Geertz's theory of harmony and the dominant factors that influence harmony manifest. There is no false tolerance or hidden harmony in the community. It all stems from their sincerity and nobleness in accepting the meaning of difference where kinship ties overshadow them. Harmony is impossible if there is no nobility of mind to uphold cultural similarities in a territory.²¹

According to Clifford Geertz, harmony is seen as the determination of each person to uphold cultural similarities, a lack of missionary or the will to dominate, the emergence of a desire to maintain public order, maturity of thinking, and mutual openness, all of which are part of the composition of the presence of good cooperation among religious

²⁰ Muhammad Rifky, "Tribunnews.Com," *Ini Sejarah Permulaan Masuknya Islam Di Tana Toraja, Ternyata Ada Dua Versi* (Makassar, March 2023).

²¹ Clifford Geertz, *Agama Jawa, Abangan, Santri, Priyayi Dalam Kebudayaan Jawa*, ed. Aswab Mahasin & Bur Rasuanto, Cet. II. (Illinois: KomunitasBambu, 2013).

believers. Such a harmonious society also characterizes the potential for integration in religious life that is inherent in a multicultural society.²²

Until recently, Tana Toraja Regency was one of the most predominantly Christian regencies in South Sulawesi. Toraja Christianity notes that 92% of Tana Toraja's population is Christian. Having a total population of 291,047 people,²³ Tana Toraja is unique in South Sulawesi in that it is a predominantly Christian region, while the rest of South Sulawesi is predominantly Muslim.²⁴

Kesimpulan

First, Islamic education in a broad sense has the potential to be developed as a reinforcing factor in fostering harmonization among religious adherents in Toraja. The symbols of local wisdom found in Tongkonan are a common platform for the creation of harmonious relationships between religious adherents in the bond of kinship. *Second*, the spirit of Tongkonan as an adhesive symbol that embraces a deep philosophy of equality, cooperation, and mutual assistance eliminates differences that exist in other contexts. The Tongkonan institution is also considered to be able to accommodate differences and open a space for dialogue among all religious adherents. Islam, as a minority religion, can blend in and contribute to fostering tolerance and interfaith harmony in Tana Toraja. Uniquely, Tongkonan can also be used as a medium for Islamic education, which in turn is seen as a positive thing in optimizing the building of harmony among religious communities in Toraja. *Third*, Tongkonan becomes the centre for spreading the values of harmony to the people of Toraja. The strategic role of Tongkonan will be stronger with the support of Islamic education values that are full of messages of harmony and religious tolerance. At this point, there is a harmonious blend of the concepts of harmony and tolerance values between Islamic education and Tongkonan.

²² Kiki Mayasaroh and Nurhasanah Bakhtiar, "Strategi Dalam Membangun Kerukunan Antarumat Beragama Di Indonesia," *Al-Afkar* 3, no. 1 (2020): 77–88.

²³ Badan Pusat Statistik, "Badan Pusat Statistik Tana Toraja," *Jumlah Penduduk 2022*.

²⁴ Nyoman Yoga Segara, I.

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