

## The Effectiveness of Religious Programs in Strengthening the Disciplinary Character of Students at Al-Islah Integrated MTs in Gorontalo City

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### Abstract

The effectiveness of a Religious Program is an achievement or result obtained from a program to obtain the best results and in accordance with the goals to be achieved. This research aims to: 1) Analyze the forms of religious programs in strengthening the disciplinary character of students at Al-Islah Integrated MTs (Madrasah Tsanawiyah) in Gorontalo City. 2) Analyzing the impact of religious programs in strengthening the disciplined character of students at al-Islah Integrated MTs in Gorontalo City. 3) Analyzing the effectiveness of implementing religious programs in strengthening the disciplined character of students at al-Islah Integrated MTs in Gorontalo City. The type of research used is qualitative research, with a phenomenological approach and using data collection methods of observation, interviews, documentation and research questionnaires. The research results show: 1) Forms of religious programs that are effective in strengthening the disciplined character of students, namely routine religious programs, periodic religious programs and annual religious programs. 2) The impact of religious programs in strengthening disciplined character, namely students' time discipline, worship discipline, scientific discipline, dress discipline, behavioral discipline and social discipline. 3) The effectiveness of religious programs in strengthening disciplinary character has been running smoothly, seen from several aspects, namely, firstly, the accuracy of the right targets for students and the entire community in the madrasah environment. Second, socialization of religious programs is often carried out through seminars, training, accepting new students and through the learning process in the classroom. Third, the program objectives are achieved, namely, students have straight and correct aqidah, perform correct worship, have commendable morals and are independent and careful with time. Fourth, monitoring of religious programs by madrasahs involves collaboration with teachers and parents of students.

**Keywords:** Effectiveness, Religious Programs, Discipline

### Introduction

Education is an activity to develop all the basic or innate abilities (potential) of educators which include basic physical and spiritual abilities. Education is the most important part of human life which also differentiates humans from animals. Humans are gifted by God with reason and thought, so that humans know all the nature of problems and can at the same time differentiate between good and bad in themselves and in the life of society and the nation. The aim and function of organizing education is one of the efforts made by educational institutions to educate, guide, develop, teach, and form Indonesian people who have noble character, have faith and are devoted to God Almighty.

According to Republic of Indonesia Law Number 20 of 2003, concerning the National Education System, education is a conscious and planned effort to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have religious spiritual

strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character, as well as the skills needed by himself, society, nation and state.

In line with the meaning of education in the Law above, Daradjat (2012) stated the definition of Islamic religious education, namely guidance and care for students so that later after completing education they can understand, appreciate and practice the teachings of the Islamic religion which they believe in thoroughly, and make the teachings of the Islamic religion a a view of life for the safety and prosperity of life in this world and the hereafter. So Islamic Religious Education is something important for the lives of students in the future.

Today's global challenges, building student character is really not an easy job. The influence of technological and media developments has been extraordinary in shaping the character of the nation's sons and daughters. Educational institutions should be the main pillar in preparing national cadres with noble characters.

Practicing the values of religious teachings through religious programs in schools is an alternative to grounding or passing on the religious teachings in question. Likewise, religious programs are one way to strengthen students' character. Seeing the increasingly modern era with increasingly sophisticated technology, it is easy for foreign cultures to enter and influence the lifestyle and morals of the nation's children. So some parents send their children to study at madrasas in the hope that they will receive more Islamic religious education subjects and programs than at other elementary schools.

According to Ngainun Naim, discipline is the attitude of selflessly obeying the rules and regulations that have been implemented. Islam also teaches that humans should pay attention to and apply the values of discipline correctly in everyday life so that the quality of society can be developed properly. The disciplined character of students must be strengthened, this is also ordered in the Islamic religion to always behave in a disciplined manner.

For example, fardhu prayer times have a limited start and end time so that every Muslim must pray at the specified time, otherwise the prayer is considered invalid. Discipline is also a characteristic of a pious person. In Islamic teachings, there are many verses in the Koran and hadith, which instruct us to be disciplined in the sense of obeying the rules set by Allah SWT. In this verse, discipline is behavior that always obeys the rules or orders according to the Koran and hadith. Students must obey the rules at school as long as they lead to goodness and obey the teacher's orders as teachers at school do not disobey his orders.

Al-Ishlah Integrated MTs is a private madrasah school at junior high school level. Al-Ishlah Integrated MTs is famous as a superior school which received grade A accreditation status with a score of 92 (2019 accreditation) from BAN-S/M (National Accreditation Body) for Schools/Madrasahs. This school uses an educational curriculum referring to the Islamic school curriculum under the guidance of the Ministry of Religion and the general school curriculum under the guidance of the Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture. The age of these students is classified as the gold period for teenagers whose character needs to be formed so that they can become the golden generation of the Indonesian nation who are Qur'anic and Rabbani. Al-Ishlah Integrated Mts has a special religious program in developing disciplinary character that does not exist in other schools, both programs for students and programs for parents such as the Islamic Personal Development Program (BPI), Jalasah Ruhwiyah, the Koran Parents Movement (GOM) and Parenting for parent. so that at this school it is always an option in the research process.

In an effort to realize the big ideals of an educational institution under the auspices of the Ministry of Religion, MTs Terpadu al-Ishlah implements various religious programs that have been designed systematically involving various elements of the school starting from the principal, teachers, students, staff and parents of the participants. educated with various

religious programs. From the results of observations and interviews with teachers at schools, the facts obtained at MTs Terpadu al-Ishlah state that the students' character is good but there are still some students who lack discipline, this shows that there are students who break the rules at school, especially classes. nine, so there are still some students who are disobedient to the teacher and difficult to manage, in the learning process there are students who disturb their friends. So that religious programs become an alternative way that can be done to overcome character problems that occur in the madrasa environment. By making religious programs more effective, madrasas become programs that must be implemented by all students, and become a center for character formation, especially strengthening disciplinary character. So that madrasas are able to produce a generation with good morals.

## **Methods**

The type of research used in this research is qualitative. The research approach used was the Phenomenological method. Researchers went to the research location which was located at al-Islah Integrated MTs in Gorontalo City. In this research, the research targets were PAI teachers and students at al-Islah Integrated MTs in Gorontalo City. The data sources in this research are primary and secondary data using observation and interview data collection methods (Sugiyono et al., 2018). Data collection in this research was carried out through observation activities in the form of observations carried out by researchers and used to obtain information regarding the effectiveness of religious programs in strengthening the disciplinary character of students at al-Islah Integrated MTs in Gorontalo City. Interviews were conducted through face-to-face questions and answers with informants to obtain information related to in-depth research problems. Documentation is a record of past events, this can be in the form of pictures, written reports or works.

## **Results and Discussion**

### **The Essence of Effectiveness**

Effectiveness comes from the English word effective, which means successful, precise and effective. Effectiveness also comes from the word "effect" which means the influence caused by cause, effect or impact. Muhaimin (2020) stated that the characteristics of effectiveness in his book Islamic education paradigm are that the effectiveness of Islamic religious education learning can be measured through the accuracy of students' mastery of abilities or behavior. Speed for work as a form of learning outcome. Conformity with the procedures for learning activities that must be followed. The quantity of final results that can be achieved. Based on the explanation above, the author is of the opinion that in seeing whether something is effective or not, it must refer to predetermined criteria such as having clear goals, clear strategies for achieving goals, a solid analysis and policy formulation process, careful planning, appropriate program preparation, availability of work facilities and infrastructure, effective and efficient implementation, as well as an educational supervision and control system.

### **The Nature of Religious Programs**

A program is a structural design, design, schematic code, or other form that is arranged according to an algorithmic flow with the aim of simplifying a problem. A program is usually also called an application, its aim is to make things easier so that work can be more productive and more efficient. The implementation of the Islamic religious education program in Indonesia has quite strong foundations, namely (Isom et al., 2021; Amrin et al., 2022). The juridical basis of Law, the Qur'an and Hadith, the aims and benefits of religious programs, namely the aim of implementing religious programs is to deepen students' knowledge of the material obtained in class, recognize the relationship between subjects and faith and devotion, channel students' talents and interests, as well as completing efforts to develop the whole person (Abidin, 2019). The various religious programs in this activity encourage students to be able to understand

religious activities in depth and be able to translate them into everyday life. Training in individual and congregational worship, recitations and tadarus of the Qur'an, art appreciation and Islamic culture, commemoration of Islamic holidays (PHBI), field trip activities to a certain location to observe, appreciate and reflect deeply on the creation of the power of Almighty Allah.

### **The Nature of Disciplined Character**

The word character means mental qualities, morals or manners that distinguish a person from others, or means innate, heart, soul, personality, behavior, personality, nature, character and temperament (Sunaryo & Fauziati, 2023) Obstacles and principles of strengthening disciplined character are one of the important points that determine a person's success. The existence of differences in the character/personality of each individual really depends on the obstacles that influence them. personality is formed, develops and changes along with the socialization process which is influenced by the following obstacles: biological barriers, geographical barriers, cultural barriers, group experience barriers and unique experience barriers.

### **Results and Discussion**

#### **Effectiveness of Implementing Religious Programs in Strengthening the Disciplinary Character of Students at Al-Islah Integrated MTs in Gorontalo City**

By looking at the results of interviews with the principal, several teachers and students at MTs Terpadu al-Ishlah were related to the effectiveness of religious programs in strengthening disciplinary character. The programs carried out are: 1) Routine programs are activities carried out regularly and continuously at school, the aim of which is to get students used to doing something well. Religious programs that are routinely carried out in schools include: getting used to saying hello and shaking hands with teachers, employees and fellow students when entering and leaving school, dhuha prayers in congregation, praying before and after learning, recitations and muroja'ah before studying, reciting sholawat to the prophet muhammad SAW and maintain cleanliness. 2) Periodic religious programs, programs that are implemented periodically or at any time, namely programs that are implemented once a week or every 2 weeks which have become school programs to be implemented, such as the BPI Program, Monday and Thursday fasting program, JR (Jalajah Ruhwiyah) program ), Friday sharing program and infaq program. 3) Annual religious programs are activities carried out in stages according to the educational calendar or predetermined schedule. The programmed activities carried out at Al-Ishlah Integrated MTs are: commemorating religious holidays such as commemorating the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, commemorating Isra'mi'raj, commemorating santri day, commemorating the Islamic New Year and taking part in commemorating sacrifices on the Eid al-Adha holiday, the qur program 'an camp, GOM (Parents' Movement for Koran Recitation) activities is a program by madrasas that is useful for parents so they are able to know, read and even memorize the Koran, so that parents can have sufficient knowledge in supervising, controlling and teaching their children when they are young. At home. Religious parenting for parents is a program implemented for parents every time they accept new teachings at a madrasa or when accepting new students..

#### **The impact of the effectiveness of religious programs in strengthening the disciplined character of students at al-Islah Integrated MTs in Gorontalo City**

The impact of religious programs in strengthening the disciplined character of Al-Islah Integrated MTs students, namely, First Time Discipline (Respecting and utilizing time). learning. This is due to getting used to the Dhuha prayer in congregation which is mandatory for students to do before entering class and is mandatory for all students and teachers who are not teaching at that time. Reading the Qur'an after the Dhuha prayer activity. Training students' discipline in respecting and utilizing time. so that students are more disciplined in managing

the time given. Second, behavioral discipline (Strengthening Polite Behavior). The existence of religious programs in madrasas makes students more friendly and polite towards other people, such as teachers, staff and other students. Apart from that, students can cultivate greetings, smiles and greetings (3S) (Fata, 2021). All elements say hello when they meet, all elements smile at each other when they meet, all elements act friendly to each other when they are at school. With this religious program, students always cultivate a disciplined attitude in behaving towards other people.

The three disciplines in dressing, namely religious programs, can also have an influence on the dressing of students, teachers and the entire community in the madrasah environment. Students and teachers always keep their clothes, hair and nails neat. So that students, teachers and all employees in the madrasa environment are always disciplined in dressing and maintaining personal hygiene, and make them comfortable in carrying out and participating in the learning process in the madrasa environment (Vilian, 2021).

Fourth, social discipline, namely by having a religious program, we can get used to helping friends without asking for compensation, helping each other when there are friends, teachers, parents who experience problems such as illness, fire, floods and other disasters. So that you can develop a social attitude and be ready to help others who are experiencing a problem.

Fifth, scientific discipline (getting used to the discipline of carrying out the tasks given), namely the effectiveness of religious programs that can make students able to carry out the tasks and responsibilities given by the teacher well and on time. Students are more focused and orderly in carrying out assignments given by the teacher, both individually and in groups (Jazilurrahman et al., 2023). This certainly has a positive impact on students in their development to participate in the learning process at school optimally. Fifth, discipline in worship. In this case, students always worship according to the rules contained therein. Discipline in worship is needed. Allah SWT., always recommends humans to be disciplined as in the sense of our norms, namely maintaining the five daily prayers, praying on time, being orderly in carrying out obligatory and sunnah worship both in congregation and individually..

### **The effectiveness of implementing religious programs in strengthening the disciplined character of students at al-Ishlah Integrated MTs in Gorontalo City**

The effectiveness of the religious program was said by the school principal, not only the students who implemented a disciplined attitude but also applied and felt by the entire community in the madrasa environment, this can be seen from the attitude shown by the teachers, school security guards, canteen guards. and small traders in the madrasah environment (Sabililhaq et al., 2024). Based on the results of interviews with several sources above, the author states that the effectiveness of the religious program at MTs Terpadu al-Islah is quite effective. This can be seen from the effectiveness measurement theory put forward by Budiani which states that measuring the effectiveness of a program can be done using the following variables: First, target determination, namely the extent to which customers of the program match the targets that have been determined previously. The targets of the effectiveness of a religious program in this research are students and the results of interviews and observations show that the majority of students are obedient and obedient in carrying out religious programs in the school environment, in fact this is not only felt by students but by the entire community. those in the madrasah environment such as principals, teachers, administrative staff, cleaning services, food and drink sellers in the school environment and all those in the madrasah environment. Second, program socialization, namely the ability of program organizers to carry out program socialization so that information regarding program implementation can be conveyed to the community in general and program targets in particular. The results of observation and interview research show that the socialization of religious programs has been carried out by the madrasah as the religious program organizer in strengthening the disciplined

character of students. Socialization of religious programs is carried out by the madrasah to students through seminars, through training, through student acceptance and through the learning process in frequent classes (Almuhtarom et al., 2024). Socialization is carried out by the madrasah not only to students but also through parents by carrying out parenting activities for parents, through GOM (Parents Studying the Koran Movement) activities and collaboration with parents, so that the socialization received can be delivered, supervised and implemented by participants educate both at home and in the school environment. Apart from that, socialization is also carried out by teachers by providing direct and real examples to students so that students can see a program directly and apply it. Third, program objectives, namely the extent to which the results of program implementation match the program objectives that have been previously determined. Based on the results of research through observations and interviews, it shows that the aim of religious programs is to form and provide character strengthening in students, including religious character, discipline, good manners and broad religious insight (Suriadi & Supriyatno, 2020).

This is in line with the goals of madrasahs, namely, students have straight and correct aqidah, perform correct worship, have mature and commendable morals, have good independence and are careful with time (Rustiani & Suyatman, 2023). The aim of the religious program has been formed within the students, after following and getting used to the religious program that has been created by the madrasah because these programs are always carried out every day, every week and there are even programs every year. By working together with parents and the entire community in the madrasah environment, the goals of the religious program can be realized (Kholil, 2021). Fourth, program monitoring, namely activities carried out after providing the results of the program as a form of attention to students. Based on the results of observations and interviews, it shows that monitoring of religious programs created by the madrasah for students has been carried out as closely as possible by the madrasah. Monitoring in the school environment is carried out by involving teaching teachers, homeroom teachers, canteen guards, school security guards and all those in the madrasah environment to always monitor activities in the implementation of religious programs in schools and report if anyone violates and does not implement the program. educational punishment. Then outside the school environment such as at home, the school has collaborated with parents to monitor the progress of students at home and the application of religious programs not only at school but also at home. With the cooperation of all parties, the religious programs created by the madrasah can be realized optimally.

Based on the results of observations, interviews and documentation, the author concludes that the effectiveness of the religious program at MTs Terpadu al-Ishlah has been effective in strengthening the disciplined character of students. This can be seen from the 20 religious programs that have an influence on the disciplinary character of students, 18 programs are already running effectively and 2 programs still need to get used to implementing the program so that it runs to be more effective in its implementation. These religious programs have also been assessed as successful in their effectiveness because in this case the religious programs are consistently implemented according to the specified schedule and have become a prioritized program in the madrasah environment which always accustoms students to always be disciplined in following all the religious programs provided. for this, apart from that, teachers together participate in discipline in implementing religious programs so that they become role models for students.

In this case, the researcher provides solutions and suggestions so that religious programs continue to run smoothly, becoming something that is liked by students, namely by making innovations in each religious program, providing educational punishments by giving students additional memorizing tasks that are more challenging, so that students be more disciplined with religious programs, then establish good cooperation and communication between parents

and the madrasah so that supervision of their children can be paid attention to by utilizing digital media which has developed nowadays by documenting and making reports on their children's activities outside the school environment. So by doing the above, it is hoped that it will be able to strengthen the character of students, especially the character of discipline, with the religious programs that have been planned and implemented at the madrasah being more controlled and maximal

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