

Strengthening Children's Religious Education Through A Community-Based Maghrib Quran Learning Program In Environment Ii Tnh 600 Medan Marelان

Penguatan Pendidikan Keagamaan Anak melalui Program Pembelajaran Al-Qur'an Maghrib Berbasis Masyarakat di Lingkungan II TNH 600 Medan Marelان

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received, January 06, 2025

Revised, January 06, 2025

Accepted, January 06, 2025

Available online, January 06, 2025

Kata Kunci:

Maghrib Mengaji, Kolaborasi Masyarakat

Keywords:

Maghrib Recitation, Community Collaboration

About Article



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ABSTRAK

Pendidikan Agama Islam memiliki peran strategis dalam membentuk karakter generasi muda melalui internalisasi nilai-nilai keagamaan sejak usia dini. Salah satu implementasi nyata dari pendidikan keagamaan berbasis masyarakat ialah Program Maghrib Mengaji yang dilaksanakan oleh mahasiswa Kuliah Kerja Nyata (KKN) Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara di Lingkungan II Tanah 600, Medan Marelان. Program ini bertujuan untuk memperkuat pendidikan keagamaan anak-anak melalui kegiatan membaca, memperbaiki bacaan (tahsin), dan memahami isi kandungan Al-Qur'an secara kolaboratif antara mahasiswa, masyarakat, dan tokoh agama. Kegiatan ini diikuti oleh sekitar 40 anak dari berbagai jenjang pendidikan dan dilaksanakan secara rutin setelah salat Maghrib. Melalui metode pembiasaan dan pendekatan edukatif yang interaktif, kegiatan ini mampu menumbuhkan kecintaan anak terhadap Al-Qur'an, meningkatkan kemampuan literasi keagamaan, serta memperkuat karakter spiritual dan moral anak. Kolaborasi antara lembaga pendidikan, masyarakat, dan keluarga menjadikan program ini sebagai model efektif dalam penguatan pendidikan agama berbasis komunitas di tengah arus modernisasi.

ABSTRACT

Islamic Religious Education plays a strategic role in shaping the character of the younger generation through the internalization of religious values from an early age. One concrete implementation of community-based religious education is the Maghrib Mengaji Program implemented by students of the Community Service Program (KKN) of the University of Muhammadiyah North Sumatra in Lingkungan II Tanah 600, Medan Marelان. This program aims to strengthen children's religious education through reading activities, correcting recitation (tahsin), and understanding the contents of the Qur'an collaboratively between students, the community, and religious leaders. This activity is attended by approximately 40 children from various levels of education and is carried out routinely after the Maghrib prayer. Through habituation methods and an interactive educational approach, this activity is able to foster children's love for the Qur'an, improve religious literacy skills, and strengthen children's spiritual and moral character. Collaboration between educational institutions, the community, and families makes this program an effective model for strengthening community-based religious education amidst the current of modernization.

1. INTRODUCTION

Islamic Religious Education plays a strategic role in the character formation of the younger generation, particularly in instilling religious values from an early age. One important aspect of religious education is students' ability to read, understand, and implement the teachings of the Quran in their daily lives. For Muslims, the Quran is not merely a holy book, but also serves as a source of law, a moral guideline, and a foundation for organizing social behavior. Cultivating a love of reading and internalizing the Quran from an early age is a crucial part of Islamic education studies, in order to shape a generation with a solid

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spiritual and moral foundation. In the context of modern education, instilling Quranic values cannot be separated from an innovative and enjoyable pedagogical approach for children. The process of learning to read the Quran needs to be designed with interactive methods to foster interest and a love for the holy book. Quranic learning methods are relevant for measuring the extent to which the goals of spiritual education are achieved. The family and community environment also play a significant role in strengthening the habit of reading the Quran outside of school. focuses on fostering children through Maghrib Mengaji (Quranic Study) activities, which involve reading, correcting their recitation (tahsin), and understanding the meaning of the holy verses of the Quran. This activity is carried out routinely every day after the Maghrib prayer.

The Maghrib Mengaji program in Neighborhood II, Tanah 600, Medan Marelan, was held from September 1 to 12, 2025, as part of a series of student community service (KKN) activities at the University of Muhammadiyah North Sumatra. Approximately 40 children from various educational levels, from Kindergarten (TK), Elementary School (SD), Junior High School (SMP), to High School (SMA), participated in this program. Through this activity, KKN students acted as facilitators in the learning process and religious development, while also becoming community partners in fostering a young generation that loves the Quran and possesses noble morals. This program is run through a collaboration between KKN students and the local community, with active support from parents and religious leaders in the Tanah II 600 neighborhood of Medan Marelan. Through the Community Service Program (KKN) activities of the University of Muhammadiyah North Sumatra, students strive to instill a love of the Quran from an early age, ranging from reading guidance, tahsin, and introducing Islamic values into everyday life. Students strive to instill a love of the Quran from an early age. Collaboration between educational institutions, parents, and religious communities. As a concrete form of implementing Islamic values in daily life. This activity not only aims to improve religious literacy skills but also fosters a spirit of togetherness and strengthens religious character within the community. The formation of habits is formed through a process of repetition accompanied by a sense of satisfaction. Instilling habits is difficult and sometimes takes a long time. This difficulty is caused by the initial lack of practical knowledge of the person or child about something they want to make a habit. Therefore, getting used to good things needs to be done as early as possible so that good things will become habits by adulthood. (Ritonga S, 2021).

2. METHOD

This study employed a descriptive qualitative approach with field research. The research location was in Lingkungan II Tanah 600, Medan Marelan, where the Maghrib Mengaji Program was implemented by students from the Muhammadiyah University of North Sumatra's Community Service Program (KKN). The research subjects consisted of KKN students, children participating in the Maghrib Mengaji program, parents, and local religious leaders. Data were collected through observation, interviews, and documentation of Quranic learning activities and social interactions that occurred during the program. Data analysis was conducted through data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions, referring to the interactive analysis model of Miles and Huberman. This approach was used to illustrate how community and student collaboration contributes to strengthening children's religious education and developing their religious character..

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Religious education is not merely the imparting of knowledge about religious teachings and laws, but rather a process of internalizing spiritual, moral, and social values that shape the holistic character of students. In the context of strengthening children's religious education in Neighborhood II Tanah 600, Medan Marelan, the community-based Maghrib Mengaji program is a strategic step in instilling Islamic values from an early age. Through activities such as reading and understanding the Quran, improving recitation (tahsin), and instilling Islamic manners and morals, children are not only equipped with cognitive skills but also guided to practice religious teachings in their daily lives. The collaboration between the community, parents, religious leaders, and students in this program creates a religious and harmonious learning environment, so that religious education does not stop in the classroom but is embedded in children's daily lives. Maghrib Mengaji is an effective platform for developing a generation of faith, noble character, and a strong social concern for others. (Tsakila & Basri, 2025)

Children with a strong religious foundation generally grow up with more focused and stable characters. Parents play a crucial role in shaping and maintaining a child's religious character. One way to do this is by getting children into the habit of reading the Quran correctly and consistently. Supervision Parents are the main factor in ensuring children can focus on their reading, understand its meaning, and avoid pronunciation errors. This habituation not only develops the technical ability to read the Qur'an, but also strengthens spiritual values in children from an early age. The implementation of Maghrib Mengaji

activities, as implemented in the Community Service Program (KKN) of the University of Muhammadiyah North Sumatra in Neighborhood II Tanah 600 Medan Marelan, is a concrete form of guidance. This Maghrib Mengaji activity is carried out collaboratively between students, religious leaders, and the community, with the aim of creating a pleasant learning atmosphere and building an emotional closeness between children and the Qur'an. The main focus of this Maghrib Mengaji activity lies in improving the ability to read the Qur'an properly and correctly, starting from the introduction of the hijaiyah letters, pronunciation according to makhraj and letter properties, to understanding the laws of tajwid such as qalqalah, idgham, and ghunnah. Through a repetitive and interactive learning process, children are trained to pronounce letters correctly according to their rights and mustahak. The cognitive aspects of children in Environment II Tanah 600 Medan Marelan also develop through activities of memorizing short letters and understanding understand the translation. This activity contributes to improved memory and concentration, and fosters a love of the Quran. The Maghrib Mengaji program, integrated into the UMSU Community Service Program (KKN) program, is a strategic step in addressing the challenges of modernization, which tends to distance the younger generation from spiritual values. The activity not only improves children's religious literacy but also strengthens religious character and builds a social environment oriented toward Islamic values. Collaboration between students, the community, and religious leaders demonstrates that community-based religious education can be an effective solution for fostering interest in reading the Quran and shaping a young generation with noble morals grounded in Quranic values. (Maksudi, 2023)

The Role of UMSU Community Service Students in Instilling Islamic Manners and Morals in Children Through Maghrib Mengaji Activities

The Maghrib Mengaji movement is an educational strategy that is relevant and adaptive to the challenges of the digital era, where children now spend more time with online entertainment. By diverting time after Maghrib prayers to positive activities such as reading and understanding the Qur'an, this program functions not only as a vehicle for religious learning, but also as a medium for moral, spiritual, and social development. (Maghrib in Suka Ramai Village et al., 2025) The Maghrib Mengaji program is not just a routine religious ritual, but is one of the fundamental elements in character formation and moral education of children. This activity functions as a means of building values, habituating positive behavior, and a social naturalization process that fosters a religious personality from an early age. Through the habit of reading and understanding the Qur'an every Maghrib prayer, children learn discipline, spiritual calm, and Islamic ethical values that can be firmly embedded in them. From an Islamic perspective, the family occupies a central position as the primary institution in a child's education and character formation. The family's role is crucial because the emotional bond between parents and children is a key factor in accelerating the internalization of values. The habit of reciting the Quran within the family, reinforced through social activities such as Maghrib Mengaji (recitation of the Koran), creates continuity between home education and community education.

Collaboration between Students, the Community, and Religious Figures in Cultivating Islamic Values in Children Through Maghrib Recitation Activities

The community demonstrated extraordinary enthusiasm in encouraging their children to participate in the Maghrib Mengaji (Quran Recitation) activity with the Independent Community Service Program (KKN) students of the University of Muhammadiyah North Sumatra (UMSU). The active support provided by parents and community leaders illustrates a collective awareness of the importance of religious education for the character development of the younger generation. This collaborative spirit not only strengthens social ties between the community and students but also plays a role in creating a religious atmosphere conducive to moral development and improving the ability to read the Quran in children. The Maghrib Mengaji activity, held in Neighborhood II Tanah 600, Medan Marelan, is intended for all levels of Muslim society, from children to adults. This program not only focuses on the habit of reading the Quran at Maghrib time but also seeks to foster a deeper understanding of its content and meaning. This activity is an effective means of forming religious character, strengthening moral values, and fostering a generation with spiritual and social integrity and a love for the Quran. (Mafahir, 2018) This activity is not simply a religious routine, but also has profound educational and spiritual value. Through its implementation, children gain knowledge and skills in reading the Quran correctly according to the applicable rules of tajwid. The presence of university students in this program is also crucial, as they include national-level Quran reciters (Qori) with highly skilled Quran recitation skills. This makes them not only mentors but also role models and sources of inspiration for the children in improving their Quranic recitation and understanding.

The implementation of the Community Service Program (KKN) by the University of Muhammadiyah North Sumatra is a concrete manifestation of strengthening children's religious education

through community collaboration. The activity, which involves approximately 40 children in Neighborhood II, Tanah 600, Medan Marelan, not only focuses on improving Quranic reading and understanding but also plays a role in shaping children's spiritual, moral, and social character amidst the challenges of the modern era. Through the Maghrib Mengaji (Quran Recitation) program, children are guided to instill Islamic values such as discipline, responsibility, and mutual respect. The synergy between students, the community, and religious leaders in this program reflects a collaborative force that plays a crucial role in strengthening religious education at the neighborhood level. Maghrib Mengaji serves not only as a forum for Quranic learning but also as a medium for character development and the formation of a young generation with noble morals and a Quranic spirit. (Fiya Miladia, 2023)

Fostering Children's Manners and Spirituality Through the Maghrib Mengaji Program in UMSU Student Community Service Activities

One of the main focuses of the Community Service Program is fostering manners and increasing spiritual knowledge through religious education. Manners and spirituality are two crucial aspects in shaping children's character with noble morals and a religious spirit. Through religious education, children are not only taught theoretical religious knowledge but also guided to practice moral and ethical values in their daily lives. KKN students play a crucial role in providing children with an understanding of the importance of respect, courtesy, and discipline stemming from religious teachings. This activity also serves as a means to strengthen children's spiritual awareness so they can cultivate a love for Islamic teachings from an early age. Through programs like Maghrib Mengaji, UMSU Independent Community Service students strive to instill the values of manners, morals, and religious knowledge that can shape children's character into a generation of faith, knowledge, and noble character. (Listiana et al., 2024).

4. CONCLUSION

The Maghrib Mengaji program implemented in Neighborhood II Tanah 600, Medan Marelan, through the Community Service Program (KKN) of the University of Muhammadiyah North Sumatra (UMSU), has proven to be an effective community-based strategy for strengthening children's religious education. The program not only enhances children's ability to read the Qur'an correctly in accordance with tajwid rules but also fosters the internalization of spiritual values, moral character, discipline, responsibility, and social awareness from an early age. The strong collaboration among university students, parents, religious leaders, and the local community creates a supportive and religious learning environment that extends beyond formal education. Therefore, Maghrib Mengaji plays a significant role in shaping a generation with strong faith, noble character, and a deep attachment to Qur'anic values amid the challenges of modernization.

5. ACKNOWLEDGE

Thank you to Mrs. Pipit as a member of the community in the II Tanah 600 Medan Marelan area, for welcoming us from the 2025 UMSU Independent KKN, and thank you to the younger siblings for welcoming us.

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