LEARNING STRATEGIES FOR ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN THE FAMILY TO INCREASE CHILDREN'S SPIRITUAL AWARENESS

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Abstract
Families play a very important role in shaping children's spiritual awareness by having a great responsibility in guiding children to understand the teachings of Islam. Children's spiritual awareness is strengthened through a family environment that supports spiritual growth and strengthens the bond between children and God. By integrating religious routines into daily life, families shape spiritual awareness that is integrated into children's daily activities. The role of the family includes not only conveying information about religious teachings, but also involves implementing moral values in every daily behavior, creating an environment that supports the moral and spiritual growth of the child. Although faced with challenges such as cultural changes, lack of parental understanding, technological influences and time pressures, this article encourages the development of learning strategies that are creative, integrated and appropriate to the dynamics of modern family life.
Keywords: *Islamic Religious Education, Family Education, Spiritual Awareness, Learning Strategy, Role of Parents.*

INTRODUCTION

Islamic Religious Education plays a very important role in shaping one's personality and spiritual awareness, especially in the family environment which acts as the first community entity to participate in shaping children's character. More than just being the first place where children learn, the family is also the main foundation for the development of their moral and spiritual values. Along with each stage of growth, children form a deep understanding of religion and life principles through daily interactions in their family environment. (Anwar, 2017, 157-170)

In a modern era characterized by a complexity of challenges and distractions, the family plays a central role as the main stage where the principles of Islamic Religious Education can be effectively applied. Providing a supportive environment and engaging children in the process of religious learning is an urgent need. This is so that they can develop a solid spiritual awareness in facing the dynamics of contemporary life.

Children's spiritual awareness, which involves a deep understanding of religious values, morality and personal relationship with God, emerges as a critical foundation in shaping their character. In this context, the family is considered the main foundation in the process of shaping children's spiritual awareness. The central role in the development of such deep understanding, especially from an early age, is held by the learning strategy of Islamic Religious Education in the family environment. While a number of comprehensive studies have been conducted on religious education in schools, it is important to note that research on the implementation of Islamic Religious Education learning strategies at the family level is limited. Therefore, further research is needed to explore the various strategies that can be implemented by families as informal educational institutions. This aims to gain a better

understanding of how daily interactions within the family environment can contribute significantly to the development of children's spiritual awareness. (Rakhmawati, 2015, 1-18)

In line with the shifting social and cultural dynamics that continue to evolve, as well as rapid advances in technology, the family as an educational institution is faced with the challenge of remaining relevant and responsive to the needs of their children. Such advancements create a new landscape filled with various external influences that can affect children's religious understanding and spiritual awareness. Transformations in lifestyles, values and social interactions push families to adapt in order to remain an effective source of delivering religious education, which is a core value in people's lives. Within this framework, research that specifically explores learning strategies for Islamic Religious Education in the family environment is an urgent need. These efforts not only recognize the complexity of the challenges faced by modern families, but also provide concrete solutions in the face of changing times to ensure that the family remains a strong foundation in effectively shaping children's spiritual awareness. (Wahy, 2012)

By outlining and exploring the various strategies that families can employ, this study is committed to providing deeper insights into how religious education in the family environment can be an effective instrument in shaping children's spiritual awareness. Through a rigorous literature analysis approach, this study aims to present a significant perspective for educational practitioners, academics and parents. It is hoped that the findings of this research will provide valuable practical guidance and theoretical understanding that can be concretely applied and implemented by those involved in education, both at the academic and family levels. Therefore, this research is geared towards playing a key role in improving the quality of religious education in the family, forming a solid foundation for children's spiritual growth, and responding to the demands of the times in a relevant and meaningful way.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research is a type of literature analysis or library research that has been conducted by referring to various sources of information that have relevance, such as books and previous studies. This approach includes methods of reading, examining, and critically analyzing a number of existing writings. The data that forms the basis of this study can be divided into two categories, namely primary data obtained directly from original sources such as books, and secondary data sourced from literature and previous studies. The data collection process was carried out carefully, involving relevant literature and references in accordance with the research objectives. Data validity was measured using four evaluation criteria, including degree of trustworthiness, transferability, reliability, and certainty.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Role of Family in the Formation of Children's Spiritual Awareness

The important role of the family in developing children's spiritual awareness shows great significance within the scope of Islamic Religious Education. The family is not only considered as a biological entity, but furthermore as a primary educational institution that has a central role in guiding children's character and religious values. In this context, the family becomes more than just a biological unit; rather, it is considered an early educational

institution that guides children in understanding the teachings of Islam and forms their spiritual bond with God. (Sri Lestari, 2012, 22)

The key role of the family includes providing a solid foundation for children's introduction to the teachings of Islam. From the beginning of life, parents serve as the first educators to provide a basic understanding of Islamic beliefs, worship and morality. By learning through observation and interaction in the family environment, children can form the basis of spiritual awareness through religious values instilled by parents.

In addition, families have a responsibility to create a supportive environment for children's spiritual growth. Through shared worship practices, such as family prayers, reading the Quran, and dialogue about Islamic values, families can strengthen the spiritual bond between children and God. By incorporating religious routines into daily life, families form a spiritual awareness that is integrated into daily activities, helping children internalize religious values as an integral part of their identity. (Al-Hasan, 2006, 3)

The role of the family in Islamic religious education is not only limited to the distribution of knowledge about religious teachings, but also involves a broader dimension, namely the implementation of moral values in every daily behavior. The family is considered the first and closest environment where children can directly experience and understand religious concepts. As the central figure in the family, parents have a significant responsibility to set an example for their children. By integrating the principles of Islamic teachings in daily activities, parents not only communicate these values verbally, but also demonstrate real implementation through concrete actions. This approach creates a supportive environment for children's moral and spiritual growth, guiding them directly to understand, internalize and ultimately apply religious principles in all aspects of their lives. Therefore, the family is not just a conveyor of information, but also a character-building institution that provides a solid foundation for children's spiritual awareness. (Hude, 2020, 273)

Thus, the role of the family in shaping children's spiritual awareness is not only limited to developing an understanding of religious teachings, but also involves a more comprehensive process. The family has a central role in shaping children's life practices and attitudes that are in line with Islamic values. Daily activities with family members, participation in religious activities, and the implementation of moral values within the family environment provide a strong foundation for children's personal and moral development. Islamic Religious Education in the family environment is not only a medium for conveying information, but also includes practical experiences that shape children's character in all its aspects. The spiritual awareness that emerges through family interactions creates a solid foundation to guide children towards a deeper understanding of the values of life within the framework of Islamic teachings.

Islamic Religious Education Learning Strategies to Increase Children's Spiritual Awareness

Islamic Religious Education is considered the main pillar in shaping children's character and instilling spiritual values from an early age. Realizing the crucial role of Islamic Religious Education in shaping children's spiritual awareness, effective learning strategies are inevitable. In an effort to increase children's spiritual awareness, it is necessary to understand

that the learning approach must be holistic and integrated with the reality of children's daily lives in the family environment.

The successful formation of children's character and values in society is highly dependent on the central role of the family as the first environment that has a significant influence on their personal and moral development. In this context, Islamic Religious Education becomes a crucial aspect that cannot be ignored, as it becomes an important foundation in guiding children to understand the values of life based on religious teachings. The family, as the smallest unit in society, is considered the most effective place to integrate Islamic values in children's daily lives. The importance of understanding that religion is not just one separate aspect, but also the core of family life, becomes an important basis for designing learning strategies that are not only informative but also relevant to the context of children's lives. (Arifin, 2009, 307)

In this context, efforts to harmonize religious learning with the reality of daily family life not only create a deep understanding, but also provide a strong foundation for the formation of a solid character and sustainable spiritual awareness in future generations. Therefore, religious learning in the family is not just knowledge, but also the main pillar in building a strong moral and spiritual foundation in children.

One of the basic yet highly effective learning methods in shaping children's spiritual awareness is to harmonize religious values in all aspects of daily family life. Within the framework of Islamic Religious Education, this approach provides opportunities for children to experience and reflect on religious teachings through concrete actions. For example, families can involve children in sharing with others as a concrete manifestation of the principles of justice and compassion taught in Islam. In this way, children not only understand religious concepts theoretically, but also apply them directly through the experience of sharing and empathizing. The integration of religious values in daily life creates a wider space for children to internalize and practice religious teachings in every action, contributing significantly to the formation of their character and increasing their spiritual awareness in a real way. (Trianto, 2011, 35)

The utilization of technology in the field of religious education represents a significant step forward in aligning with the progress of the current digital era. In the midst of an increasingly connected life, the application of apps, religious learning videos and other digital resources is a highly efficient learning strategy. The younger generation, especially children born in the digital era, tend to respond more positively to learning methods that utilize technology.

Specialized religious education apps not only present religious material in an engaging manner, but are also interactive, facilitating a deeper understanding of religious teachings with a more dynamic approach. The use of religious learning videos provides a strong visual dimension, enriching children's learning experience and connecting them with spiritual concepts. Through the incorporation of technology and innovation, this approach not only preserves religious values in a digital society, but also forms a solid foundation for children to understand and apply religious teachings in their daily lives. (Syukur, 2008, 205)

Parents' involvement as agents of education has a significant impact in shaping children's religious understanding and spiritual awareness. The role of parents is not limited to being caregivers, but also as the main guides and supporters in their children's spiritual journey. Active involvement of parents in the religious learning process at home is not an option, but a crucial strategy that strengthens the religious foundation of the family. Activities such as periodic workshops, family discussions on religious values, and cooperation between schools and families can create an interactive environment that supports children's spiritual development. By setting a positive example and taking an active role in religious education efforts, parents can become strong role models for their children. Therefore, parental involvement not only opens up opportunities for deeper understanding, but also strengthens the child's overall spiritual awareness through continuous interaction in the family environment. (Hatimah, 2016)

By bringing together various learning strategies, Islamic Religious Education in the family environment can be a major force in shaping a generation that has a solid foundation of spiritual awareness. Through a comprehensive approach that includes theoretical, practical, and contextual aspects, the family can be an effective means of communicating religious and moral values to children. Islamic Religious Education that is integrated with daily life, such as through the introduction of stories of the Prophet's life, prayers, and small practices, can be a solid foundation for the development of children's character with noble morality. It is hoped that the spiritual awareness that grows from religious education in this family environment will form individuals who not only internalize the values of truth, but are also able to apply them in their daily actions. Therefore, it is hoped that the generation that experiences religious education in the family will become strong and responsible moral pillars, contributing to building a better society.

Challenges and Obstacles in the Implementation of Islamic Education Learning Strategies in the Family

The implementation of Islamic Religious Education learning strategies in the family environment cannot be separated from a number of challenges and obstacles that can have an impact on the effectiveness of these educational efforts. One of the main obstacles arises in the context of rapid cultural and social change, where families often face external pressures that may affect the priority of religious education in the home. Under conditions of widespread information flows and the influence of popular culture that tends to be secular, families are often faced with serious distractions, which in turn make it difficult for them to maintain a focus on Islamic religious education. (Masduki, 2020, 9)

In addition, parents' lack of understanding and skills in communicating Islamic Religious Education materials can be a significant obstacle. Not all parents have adequate knowledge of the principles of Islamic religious teachings, and this can negatively impact on children's understanding of spiritual values. Parents who lack familiarity with religious concepts may have difficulty in expressing and integrating religious teachings in their family's daily life. Therefore, there is an urgent need to provide support and training to parents so that they can improve their religious literacy. With this endeavor, it is hoped that parents can gain greater confidence and become more effective in conveying Islamic principles to their

children, thus helping to form a solid foundation for a steady spiritual awareness throughout the child's developmental stages. (Helmawati, 2014, 51)

The technological aspect is also one of the challenges in implementing Islamic Religious Education learning strategies in the family environment. Although technology can serve as a useful tool, its uncontrolled or undirected use can result in children being exposed to content that is not in line with Islamic religious values. This situation creates new obstacles in the effort to provide religious learning that is consistent with Islamic teachings in today's digital era. Children's easy access to information from the internet, including content that contradicts the religious values instilled in the family, is a significant issue.

Therefore, it is imperative to design learning strategies that wisely utilize technology and integrate it in a balanced manner within the context of religious education in the family. Concrete measures need to be taken to supervise and direct the use of technology in line with religious principles. This is so that children can reap the positive benefits of technological development without compromising the integrity of the Islamic religious values that are to be taught in the family environment. (Bumi, 2008, 17)

Another significant challenge in implementing Islamic Religious Education learning strategies in the family is the time pressure that modern families often face. In their busy lives and tight schedules, parents often face difficulties in providing adequate time to provide religious education to children in the home environment. In this era of uncertainty and high mobility, it needs to be recognized that modern families have real time constraints. Therefore, it is essential to develop learning strategies that are not only effective in conveying religious values, but are also flexible and can be integrated into the family's daily routine without creating additional burdens. This awareness of time pressure emphasizes the need for a creative approach in designing learning strategies that can be adapted to the dynamics of modern family life, making them relevant and consistently applicable. (Slameto, 2003, 61)

By identifying and understanding the obstacles and barriers that may arise in the family context in relation to the implementation of Islamic Religious Education learning strategies, we open up opportunities to develop a more comprehensive and integrated approach. Recognizing the complexity of family dynamics and the requirements of modern times, efforts to raise children's spiritual awareness cannot be separated from a deep understanding of the factors that hinder it. With this awareness, we can design strategies that not only provide theoretical religious knowledge, but are also integrated in the daily activities of the family. This holistic approach allows Islamic religious education in the family not to be an isolated element, but an integral part of daily life, creating meaningful and relevant learning experiences for children. Thus, through concerted efforts in overcoming these obstacles, we can ensure that Islamic religious education in the family remains an important foundation in shaping children's spiritual awareness, in accordance with the demands of the times and the religious values upheld.

CONCLUSIONS

Families play a very important role in shaping children's spiritual awareness through the implementation of Islamic Religious Education learning strategies. The family is not only considered as a biological entity, but also as an early institution in the educational process

that has a significant responsibility in guiding children towards a deep understanding of Islamic teachings and building their spiritual bond with God. Parents, as primary educators, play a key role in guiding their children to understand Islamic values from an early age. Learning strategies for Islamic Religious Education in the family involve a number of aspects, including joint worship practices, recitation of the Quran, and in-depth dialogue about Islamic values. The importance of a supportive family environment to strengthen children's spiritual growth is a major factor in building a spiritual bond between children and God. By integrating religious routines into daily life, families play a key role in shaping spiritual awareness that is systematized in children's daily activities. The family's involvement in conveying information about religious teachings is not only limited to the informational level, but also includes the implementation of moral values in every daily action. This approach creates a supportive environment for children's moral and spiritual growth. Although faced with a variety of challenges

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