

THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN FORMING THE RELIGIOUS CHARACTER OF TEENAGERS NURUL YAQIN MOSQUE, TUNJANG DUSUN, PAGUTAN VILLAGE, BATUKILIANG DISTRICT, REGENCY CENTRAL LOMBOK

Muhamad Ifan Maulana¹

¹Student, Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training, Mataram State Islamic University, Indonesia

Corresponding Author Email: mimaulana11@gmail.com

ABSTRACTS	ARTICLE INFO
<p>This research aims to determine the use of Social Media, supporting and inhibiting factors in forming the religious character of teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Tunjang Hamlet, Pagutan Village, Batukliang District, Central Lombok Regency. The research method used qualitative with a descriptive approach. Data was collected through in-depth interviews, observation and analysis of Social Media content. The informants for this research are teenagers who actively use Social Media and are involved in religious activities at the local mosque. The research results show that the use of Social Media has a significant influence in shaping the religious character of teenagers, both positively and negatively. The use of social media expands teenagers' access to religious information, allowing them to participate in online religious discussions and activities, but also carries the risk of exposure to content that is inconsistent with religious values. Nevertheless, the Nurul Yaqin Mosque still plays an important role as a supporting institution in the process of forming the religious character of teenagers. Through religious programs, moral education and self-development, this mosque provides a platform for teenagers to actualize religious values in everyday life. This research provides a deeper understanding of the relationship between the use of Social Media and the formation of teenagers' religious character, as well as its implications in the local community context. The practical implications of this research can be used as a basis for policy makers, educational institutions, and religious communities to develop more effective strategies in utilizing Social Media to support the formation of the religious character of teenagers.</p>	<p>Article History:</p> <p>Received: October 10th 2024</p> <p>Revised: October 20th 2024</p> <p>Published: October 2024</p> <hr/> <p>Keywords:</p> <p>Social Media, Religious Characters, Mosque Youth</p>

INTRODUCTION

In the context of the current development of the digital era, technological advances have had a significant impact on various aspects of human life. The digital era is

characterized by rapid growth in the use of information and communication technology, especially Social Media. Almost all daily activities have shifted to digital platforms, where Social Media has become one of the main elements in interaction and information exchange. The development of social media does not only occur in developed countries, but also in developing countries such as Indonesia. Indonesia itself shows rapid growth in the use of Social Media, with the number of users continuing to increase from time to time. In fact, Indonesia is ranked 5th in the world in terms of the number of Social Media users.

The use of social media in Indonesia is not only limited to sharing information and data, but has also become a forum for various activities, including efforts to build religious character, especially among teenagers. Islamic content presented through Social Media can be a means of strengthening religious values and morality in the daily lives of teenagers. There are various benefits found in using Social Media, including making it easier for users to get inspiration and become more creative, and being able to make friends and network with everyone, there are no more obstacles in communicating, then they can find various business opportunities, it is easier to find out what they are doing. is happening all over the world.

Social Media is a tool on the internet that allows users to represent themselves and virtually interact, share, communicate with other users and form social bonds. Discussing Social Media with the various benefits it contains so that Social Media also plays an important role in shaping the religious character of teenagers. Thus, it needs to be understood that character formation is behavior, attitudes or habits that exist in humans since they were born on earth, forming habits with religious activities so that teenagers will get used to doing positive things, namely by holding activities in the environment. mosque. Discussing the character above, there are (eighteen character values) of the nation that must be instilled in humans as issued by the Ministry of Education and Culture, namely: Religious Values, Honesty, Tolerance, Discipline, Hard Work, Creative, Independent, Democratic, Sense Curious, National Spirit, Love for the Motherland, Appreciate Achievement, Friendly/Communicative, Love Peace, Love Reading, Care for the Environment, Social Care, Responsibility. With these eighteen characters, as teenagers are the nation's only hope to form the golden generation of Indonesia's homeland, they must instill these eighteen characters within themselves.

The Nurul Yaqin Mosque in Tunjang Hamlet is one of the oldest mosques in Pagutan Village, this mosque is precisely in Tunjang hamlet, where Tunjang hamlet is quite large and is divided into three parts, namely, West Tunjang, East Tunjang and North Tunjang. As time and technology develop very quickly, the people of Tunjang hamlet are starting to become interested in the importance of having a mosque administrator who helps the marbot at the mosque in preparing various religious events that are often held at the mosque. With this in mind, the Tunjang hamlet community held a meeting to establish a youth forum for the Nurul Yaqin mosque in Tunjang hamlet. And the Nurul Yaqin Dusun Tunjang Mosque Youth was formed in 2008.

The results of initial interviews in the field highlight the use of Social Media in shaping the religious character of teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Tunjang Hamlet, Pagutan Village. Youth Chair of the Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Dusun Tunjang, stated that Social

Media has a significant impact in facilitating teenagers' access to Islamic content that supports the formation of religious character. Through Social Media, teenagers can access religious lectures, verses from the Koran, as well as information about religious activities held at mosques. Apart from that, social media is also used by teenagers as a means to communicate, discuss and motivate each other in strengthening their faith and daily religious practices. However, there is awareness of the negative impacts of using Social Media, such as reducing time for intensive worship and potential exposure to content that is not in accordance with religious teachings. To optimize the use of Social Media in forming the religious character of teenagers, efforts are made to prioritize positive and useful content, as well as holding training on social media security and ethics. As a result of an interview with one of the active teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Dusun Tunjang, it was revealed that the use of Social Media helps in deepening understanding of religion, participating in religious activities, but also highlights the challenges in maintaining a balance between the use of Social Media and consistent religious practices. Initial interviews in the field illustrate the important role of Social Media as a means of strengthening religious values and morality in the daily lives of teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Tunjang Hamlet, Pagutan Village, Batukliang District, Central Lombok Regency.

In order to explore the use of Social Media in forming the religious character of teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Tunjang Hamlet, Pagutan Village, Batukliang District, Central Lombok Regency, initial observations were carried out in the field. During observations, it was seen that teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin Mosque actively used social media, especially platforms such as WhatsApp, Instagram and Facebook. They use social media to interact with each other, share information, and discuss religious topics. In looking at their activities on Social Media, it can be seen that teenagers often share religious content such as quotes from the Koran, hadith, religious lectures, as well as articles or videos that discuss religious values. Through Social Media, teenagers also participate in the promotion and organization of religious activities at mosques. They distribute activity posters, invite friends to take part, and disseminate information regarding religious activities that will be carried out. Social Media has become a platform for teenagers to discuss and exchange ideas about religion. They form discussion groups where they discuss religious topics, give each other advice, and motivate each other in carrying out religious practices. Despite positive activity, observations also indicate that some teenagers tend to be more passive in their use of Social Media, more as content consumers than as active content creators. They mostly monitor and consume content shared by other people without actively contributing. However, there are still many problems that cause social media to have a negative impact that is not in accordance with religious teachings, especially on the younger generation who are more vulnerable to being exposed to negative content such as violence, pornography and extremism which can affect their understanding of religious teachings. Furthermore, the uncontrolled influence of the online environment can expose them to religious ideas and practices that are not in line with the values taught in the mosque or home environment.

From the background description above, the use of Social Media and the formation of teenagers' religious character is a very important thing to study in more depth. Therefore, the author is interested in finding out more about this problem by raising the title: The Use of

Social Media in Forming the Religious Character of Teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Tunjang Hamlet, Pagutan Village, Batukliang District, Central Lombok Regency.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses a qualitative research approach because this research attempts to describe and describe phenomena that occur according to actual conditions in the field in the form of sentences or descriptions. According to Bogdan and Boklen in Ulfatin's book, qualitative research methods are research methods that produce descriptive data from individual behavior and written or spoken words. Meanwhile, according to Lexy J. Moleong, qualitative research aims to understand the phenomena experienced by research subjects, such as behavior, perceptions, motivations and actions, as a whole and in language and words, in a natural context and with several natural techniques. From the definition above, we can conclude that qualitative research is research carried out to reveal a natural phenomenon that produces descriptive data in the form of written words through a systematic, focused and accountable method. So the author uses a qualitative research method with a descriptive approach to gain a broader understanding of the extent of the use of social media in forming the character of teenagers in Tunjang Hamlet, Pagutan Village, Batukliang District, Central Lombok Regency.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Social media has become an integral part of teenagers' lives. Apart from being a means of communication and entertainment, social media also has the potential to be a tool for education and character formation, including religious character. Especially for teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin mosque, Tunjang Hamlet, Pagutan Village, Batukliang District, Central Lombok Regency. Social Media is one of the driving components of organizations or groups in cultural and technological development which has a big impact on mosque youth, so that social media is needed and utilized as the main object in facing the rapid technological developments of this era. One example is communication technology which plays a role in forming the religious character of mosque youth. Fathurrahman has an opinion regarding the use of social media for teenagers: "Social media has a very important role in forming the religious character of teenagers. Especially at our Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Dusun Tunjang, Pagutan Village, Batukliang District, we utilize platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp to spread information about religious activities, share video lectures, and inspirational quotes. With social media, we have more freedom to reach all groups of youth members and give them easy access to useful religious content which aims to shape religious character in them."

The same thing was also conveyed by Indra Cahyadi Putra, as treasurer of the Nurul Yaqin Mosque Youth, Tunjang Hamlet, Pagutan Village. "Based on our experience, video lectures from well-known religious figures such as Ustadz Abdul Somad and Ustadz Adi Hidayat are very effective because they can convey messages in an interesting and easy to understand way. Apart from that, inspirational quotes from the Koran and hadith are also very popular among teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin Dusun Tunjang Mosque, because they can be

easily shared and remembered. We also often share inspirational stories that can motivate teenagers to live their lives according to religious teachings, things like that will make teenage members little by little have a religious character embedded in them."

From the results of the interview, it can be concluded that the use of social media in forming the religious character of teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Dusun Tunjang, Pagutan Village, plays a very important role because social media can also make it easier for members to access and find out information and motivation shared by other members to used as learning and expanding their knowledge of religious teachings. In fact, with easy access to social media, teenage members can learn by themselves anytime and anywhere. In this research, I explored the use of social media in forming the religious character of teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Tunjang Hamlet, Pagutan Village, Batukliang District, Central Lombok Regency. The findings show that social media has a significant influence in shaping the religious character of teenagers. Teenagers use social media as a platform to learn more about a deeper understanding of religion by watching video lectures shared by their members and strengthen their connection to religious values. They also actively participate in online discussions about religious practices, share experiences in worship, and seek advice on religious issues. Apart from that, the local social and cultural environment of Tunjang Hamlet and Pagutan Village also plays an important role in the use of social media by teenagers. The culture of togetherness and strong religious traditions in the community influence the way teenagers use social media to strengthen their religious values so that there is great potential in using social media to strengthen religious communities and shape teenagers' positive religious character. With these steps, social media can become a strong tool in supporting the formation of the religious character of the members of the Tunjang Dusun Nurul Yaqin Mosque Youth.

When the researchers went to the field, there were many phenomena that occurred among teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Tunjang Hamlet, Pagutan Village, in the use of social media as an effective tool in forming the religious character of teenagers. Therefore, researchers are interested in what activities mosque youth carry out in using social media. The researcher asked Bang Indra, one of the youth members of the Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Tunjang Hamlet, Pagutan Village. The researcher asked what activities are often discussed via social media? he stated that: "The most frequently carried out activities on social media include sharing information and providing advice and motivation to each other by sharing lecture videos and other studies as well as quotes from the Koran. Having these activities on social media can form a religious character in a teenager, even the frequent discussions on social media have an impact on teenagers' daily lives so that teenage members often imitate the good things that are often shared on social media".

From the results of the interview above, we can conclude that the formation of religious character was formed due to the application of content that is often shared by youth members via social media such as WhatsApp, Facebook and Instagram. With this, the use of social media plays a very important role in shaping the religious character of the teenage members of the Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Tunjang Hamlet, Pagutan Village, Batuliang District, Central Lombok Regency. and Social Media acts as a means to make it easier for youth

members to conduct online discussions and make it easier to provide information and motivation to all members.

Through the use of social media, mosque teenagers often find good activities with Islamic themes on social media that can be emulated in their daily lives, so that the teenagers of the Nurul Yaqin mosque are moved to do these things. For this reason, the youth of the Nurul Yaqin Mosque often hold activity agendas that support the formation of religious character in its members. Among them are:

1. Utilizing Social Media

Talking about social media, there are a lot of things contained in it, both positive and negative, with the dynamics of a situation like this, the management section often faces very big challenges, even though the Nurul Yaqin Mosque youth association remains insist on using Social Media, where in the opinion of Mr. Syamsul Hakim as Youth Advisor at the Nurul Yaqin Dusun Tunjang Mosque when the researcher interviewed him, he stated that:

"Teenagers from the Nurul Yaqin Dusun Tunjang Mosque use Social Media as a means of facilitating the Religious Character Formation Process. Their members provide information to each other regarding the activities that will be carried out, and use Social Media as a means of increasing scientific insight related to religion, apart from that. Teenagers also use social media to provide motivation and send each other Islamic-themed shows, this activity makes Social Media very influential in the process of forming the religious character of teenagers, therefore it is also important to understand that Social Media does not always broadcast shows. - positive viewing, therefore the mosque youth management often holds study agendas with the theme "Good and Correct Ethics in Using Social Media" to prevent and expand the knowledge of its members in playing on Social Media." Studies related to discussions about the use of Social Media are not carried out routinely, but these studies are only held to fill the time gaps and are not only for members, but these studies are attended by various age groups such as children, teenagers and parents, who are in the pagutan village support unit, while other activities that are often carried out using social media are the activity of watching films together with Islamic themes. Likewise, this activity does not only involve members but also starts from children. -children, teenagers and parents in Tunjang Hamlet, Paguta Village, Batukliang District, Central Lombok Regency.

2. Formation of Adolescents' religious character

The formation of religious character is the most important topic for researchers in the formation of religious character. This is a positive thing and very useful for forming the golden generation of this nation. Thus, the researcher conducted an interview with Bang Indra as secretary of the Nurul Yaqin Mosque Youth regarding what activities help in forming religious character and realizing the vision and mission of the Nurul Yaqin Dusun Tunjang mosque youth association, based on Bang Indra's opinion: "Adolescence is a very unstable age, where at this age teenagers are easily eroded or fall into negative things, but if teenagers often or are used to taking part in research studies then little by

little the character within the teenager will change by itself, The teenagers of the Nurul Yaqin Mosque in Dusun Tunjang, apart from frequently conducting studies, there are also activities that they get from using social media which are able to shape the religious character of these teenagers, such as mutual cooperation activities in cleaning the mosque, reciting the Koran together, even the teenagers of the Nurul Yaqin Mosque also contribute. in teaching younger siblings in the hamlet of Tunjang to recite the Koran together and pray with the aim of forming and instilling religious character from an early age. Because this religious character is very important to instill in each person, this religious character will be a brake on them so they are able to think and know the good and bad of an action before they do it."

Thus, it can be seen that the role of social media is very influential in forming the religious character of teenagers so that teenage members find good ideas that are worthy of example in their daily lives from using social media such as mutual cooperation, cleaning mosques and reciting the Koran together. Offline activities like this are also very important as a tool or encouragement to shape the religious character of teenagers, especially for children. If you have been accustomed to doing positive things and making Islamic friends from a young age, then it will not be difficult to form character again when you become a teenager. , Because of activities like this, a person's thought patterns and ideas begin to form and make him more careful in carrying out any activity and plays an important role as a means of braking himself when facing the influence of modern progress and social interactions in the current era.

While the researcher was conducting observations and interviews in the field, the researcher also dug deeper into the title raised in this research so that the researcher looked for discussions that helped shape the religious character of teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin Mosque, Tunjang Hamlet, Pagutan Village, Batukliang District, Central Lombok Regency. By making social media a simple and efficient forum to facilitate the formation of religious character, researchers found these discussions by asking youth leaders to document these discussions.

Furthermore, carry out learning and training programs regarding the use of Social Media for the general public, especially teenagers and children who like to play with gadgets and provide experience in using Social Media as well as possible in good ways so that indirectly the general public will become aware of the importance of learning. and using Social Media has an impact on the personality of each community, especially teenagers, as a result, Social Media and technology such as gadgets can be well received among the general public. "In this case, we appeal to the younger generation and the general public to actively participate in religious discussions and activities on social media platforms with the aim of strengthening friendship and knowledge on the basis of religious Islam as the main stronghold of Muslim society today."

CONCLUSION

Based on the data analysis as described in the previous section, it can be concluded utilization of Social Media in Forming the Religious Character of Teenagers at the Nurul Yaqin Mosque in Dusun Tunjang. Teenagers at the Nurul Yakin Mosque actively use various

social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, and WhatsApp to discuss religion, share religious experiences, and participate in online religious activities such as regular monthly recitations and other studies. The use of Social Media has a positive impact on the formation of religious character among the younger generation. They can easily access religious information, interact with religious communities online, and feel social support for their religious practices. This helps strengthen their religious identity and the spiritual values they adhere to.

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