

STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPING STUDENTS IN ISLAMIC BOARDING SCHOOLS: A STUDY AT THE MUNIRUL ARIFIN NW PRAYA FOUNDATION

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ABSTRACTS	ARTICLE INFO
The researcher was interested in studying strategies for developing the quality of students from the aspect of discipline, foreign language skills (English) and the achievements of students at the Munirul Arifin Islamic boarding school foundation NW Praya. This type of research uses qualitative research with a descriptive approach. The collection methods used are interviews, observation and documentation methods. The results of this research analysis show that there are several strategies implemented by the NW Praya Munirul Arifin Islamic boarding school foundation in developing the quality of students, including: a) discipline aspects, where 1) students are required to behave honestly, 2) providing motivation and advice, 3) establishment of rules; b) aspects of language skills, where 1) Mater of Student program, 2) English camp, 3) Repetition program; c) aspects of student achievements, where 1) coaching; a) supporting factors, b) inhibiting factors.	<p>Article History:</p> <p><i>Received: December 3rd 2024</i></p> <p><i>Revised: December 18th 2024</i></p> <p><i>Published: December 2024</i></p>
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INTRODUCTION

Islamic boarding schools are educational institutions that are much steeped in the characteristics of traditional Islamic society. This institution not only implements Islamic teachings, but emphasizes religious meaning as a norm of behavior. In its narrow sense, Islamic boarding schools are not only Islamic educational institutions and centers for the spread of Islam, but are also a stronghold of the Islamic community and a place that preserves religious culture. It is not easy to build an Islamic boarding school, let alone maintain its existence amidst the rise of politics and other external pressures.

The ability of Islamic boarding schools to survive and even have their educational existence recognized as part of the national education system cannot be separated from the development strategies implemented. In developing an Islamic boarding school, it is necessary to implement appropriate and effective strategies which are driven by the fact that the development of the world of education is increasingly competitive. Apart from that, the demand for educational services that comply with minimum educational service standards requires educational institutions such as Islamic boarding schools. Thus, a reliable strategy is something that is applied in the development of Islamic boarding schools. The implementation of this development strategy certainly covers all aspects of the curriculum, educators and education staff, students, facilities and infrastructure and

financing. However, in this research the researcher only focused on aspects of developing the quality of students.

Among the development functions are those related to increasing the intellectual or emotional abilities needed to do a much better job. In this context, it is very important because students who have finished will continue their lives towards the world of work, therefore requiring new skills and knowledge. In terms of the aspect of developing the quality of students, of course it requires various strategic components, one of which is implementing a competitive advantage strategy. An Islamic boarding school requires various strategic components, part of the strategy that needs to be carried out in maintaining the existence of an Islamic boarding school around a formal-based education environment, namely by improving the process of developing the Islamic boarding school students themselves.

The Munirul Arifin Nahdlatul Wathan Islamic Boarding School Foundation NW Praya Praya District is one of the well-known and well-known modern Islamic-based educational institutions in Central Lombok. The NW Praya Munirul Arifin Nahdlatul Wathan Islamic Boarding School Foundation is able to compete with educational institutions in Central Lombok. This can be seen from the number of students, namely 1,179 students. The Munirul Arifin Nahdlatul Wathan NW Praya Islamic Boarding School Foundation is the community's choice in children's education in Central Lombok. This is because the Munirul Arifin Nahdlatul Wathan NW Praya Islamic Boarding School Foundation has attractiveness from several aspects, one of which is the aspect of developing the quality of students. The NW Praya Munirul Arifin Islamic Boarding School Foundation is one of the Islamic educational institutions that strive to develop the quality of its students. Of course, developing the quality of its students cannot be separated from the strategies implemented by the leadership, administrators and caregivers, so that later the students can compete with schools-outside state schools. This made the Yanmu students famous in the eyes of the government and society.

Based on the results of an interview with Ustadz H. Mustanir, regarding the superiority of students in the aspect of discipline at the Munirul Arifin Nahdlatul Wathan NW Praya Islamic Boarding School Foundation, students have been accustomed to queuing for anything, such as queuing to eat, bathe, shop, even students when doing activities. In the north or south buildings they are always organized in two rows, for example female students who go to and come home from school are always disciplined in two rows because they are The girls' dormitory and the school building are in different locations. In their daily lives, the students have a schedule for cleaning around the dormitory and the students have a turn to sort organic and non-organic waste.

Then, the superiority of students is in terms of language, namely in daily communication students use English and Arabic, but the majority use English, to get students used to speaking English, the Munirul Arifin Islamic Boarding School Foundation creates programs including a morning ceremony, English camp, Master of Student (MS), repetition after the early evening program, and here. Those who are found to have violated the language by (MS) will be subject to sanctions in the form of punishment by the ustadz or master of student.

To achieve these advantages, there are various strategic components implemented in developing the students of the Munirul Arifin Nahdlatul Wathan (YANMU) NW Praya Islamic Boarding School Foundation, namely the competitive advantage strategy.

On this basis, researcher was interested in conducting in-depth research on the strategies implemented by the Munirul Arifin Nahdlatul Wathan Islamic Boarding School

Foundation NW Praya, Praya District, Central Lombok Regency in developing the quality of its students.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research uses a qualitative method, with a descriptive approach, namely explaining in depth what is objectively according to the data that has been collected. Qualitative methods are research procedures that can produce descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people or observed behavior. The location of this research is Jl. Basuki Rahmat, Camp. Rabitah, Central Praya District, Central Lombok Regency. The data source in research is the subject from which the data was obtained. Meanwhile, according to Lofland in Moleong, the main data source in qualitative research is words, and the remaining actions are additional data such as documents and so on. In conducting research, researchers used several techniques in collecting data, including observation methods, interview methods, and documentation methods. Data analysis is an effort carried out by working with data, organizing data, sorting it into a manageable whole, looking for and finding patterns, finding what is important and what has been learned so that you can decide what to tell other people. Data validity is a step to check the correctness of the data obtained so that the researcher's data matches the data obtained. In the data testing process, it can be done in various ways, namely by extending observations, increasing persistence in research, triangulation, negative case analysis and member checking. In qualitative research, findings or data can be declared valid if there is no difference between the data reported by the researcher and the data that actually occurs on the object under study.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In developing students, they use a competitive advantage strategy, this is in accordance with the results of the interviews described above, namely that students are required to be able to appear different from others. Competitive advantage is the development of value that educational institutions are able to create for their students. Competitive advantage is something that allows an educational institution to gain a much better image of excellence when compared to the average excellence obtained by other educational institutions. Competitive advantage is the heart of the performance of educational institutions in the context of educational development. To find out that the students of the Munirul Arifin Islamic Boarding School Foundation have advantages in terms of discipline, language skills (English) and the students' achievements can be seen from 4 dimensions that influence educational institutions to have a competitive advantage, which is called the 4C Framework:

1. Creation and Innovation

In forming students who are superior in terms of discipline, language skills (English) and students' achievements, there are several strategies used by Yanmu, namely in the discipline aspect by making rules so that later the students will be disciplined, not only that so that the students don't feel pressured. with the existence of a regulation also accompanied by the existence of advice and motivation from the caregiver so that this can balance the process of developing the quality of the students, then from the aspect of language skills there are various strategies used, namely by creating a Master of Student program, English camp and repetition, this is a form of creation used by Yanmu in developing the language skills of its students and is not owned by other institutions, then from the aspect of the students' achievements that Yanmu carries out is through a coaching process so that later when the students are outside they can excel compared to others.

2. Cooperation

Of course, the process of developing the quality of students cannot be separated from the cooperation carried out by leaders, administrators and caregivers so that this can form the excellence of students in these three aspects.

3. Co-option

In shaping the quality of students through existing programs, of course it cannot be separated from the agreement of all parties involved in the Munirul Arifin (Yanmu) Islamic boarding school Foundation, such as leaders, administrators and caregivers, so that they can form programs that can develop the quality of students.

4. Competition

After creating programs that can support the development of the quality of students in terms of discipline, language skills (English) and students' achievements, of course the last thing that Yanmu will do is take part in various competitions so that they can be superior to other educational institutions.

Competitive advantage basically grows from the value or benefits that educational institutions create for their students. There are two main principles that educational organizations or institutions need to have to achieve competitive advantage, namely the existence of customer value and the uniqueness of educational services. The competitive advantage of the institution is innovation, creativity, quality of education, and being a reference for interested students. Apart from that, the institution also has differentiated superior programs so that it is able to provide an attraction for those who want different and quality education. Regarding the two main principles that Islamic boarding schools need to have, now the Munirul Arifin Islamic boarding school foundation has implemented these two principles:

1. There is value from the customer's perspective and the uniqueness of the service. The Munirul Arifin Islamic boarding school foundation is widely known by the people of Central Lombok because the attraction highlighted by this Islamic boarding school makes people want to see their children study there, first in terms of discipline because the students have been educated and trained to behave in a disciplined manner wherever and whenever so that they take this habit home and be seen by the public. Second, in terms of foreign language skills, English is the everyday language at the Munirul Arifin Islamic boarding school foundation. To be fluent in the language, of course there are programs that support this, such as English camp, Master of Student, and others. Because of the habit of the students using English in the Islamic boarding school environment, so when they come home, students often use English in the community environment because it has become a habit that spontaneously emerges within them, not only that, the students often follow along. in English language competitions, starting from speeches and English debates, so that this becomes a way for the students to become better known to the public and of course this becomes the attraction of the Islamic boarding school itself. thirdly, in terms of student achievements, not only are they talented in the field of English, the students of the Munirul Arifin Islamic Boarding School Foundation also often take part in competitions such as the Olympics, school scholarships in Egypt, Al-Qur'an tahfidz competitions, and it is not uncommon for them to always bring awards when they return to the Islamic boarding school. Indirectly, this is also an attraction for this Islamic boarding school for people who believe in sending their children to study at the Munirul Arifin Islamic boarding school foundation.
2. Innovation, creativity, quality education, and being a reference for interested students. Every year the Munirul Arifin Islamic boarding school foundation always

experiences development, especially in terms of developing its students, and of course the development of these students cannot be separated from the programs and rules set by the Islamic boarding school. Currently, the Munirul Arifin Islamic boarding school foundation is undergoing digital transformation and keeping up with the times. This can be seen from the fact that every student now has their own shopping card, so the students shop in the canteen using a card and scan it on the barkot that has been provided, then the card owner's face will appear on the computer screen so there is no chance for the students to lend money to another friend. And all shopping money entrusted by parents goes into the student's spending card so students are not allowed to hold cash and the maximum limit for students shopping a day is 20,000 outside of book purchases. This is one way for Islamic boarding schools to continue to innovate so that it becomes an attraction for the outside community.

Thus, this theory states that the strategy used is one way for Islamic boarding school leaders and caregivers to develop the quality of their students. This is in line with the leadership concept presented by Muhibbuddin Abdulmuid, stating that leading is a process that influences group activities that are organized to achieve common goals. Leading is a process of providing social influence to other people, so that other people carry out a process as desired by the leader.

The strategy implemented is a way for Islamic boarding school leaders and caregivers to develop the quality of their students. Thus, to create students who are superior in terms of discipline, language skills and student achievements, leaders and caregivers do this by creating programs and rules that can have implications for developing the quality of students. Talking about excellence certainly cannot be separated from the attitude and character that emerges in each individual, habits and actions that are routinely carried out will be able to create something different from others. This excellence will be the key to a person's success in the future because he will be able to preserve all the potential that exists within him. Being superior is not a coincidence or innate, but rather through a process that is created and accustomed to through various methods, namely understanding, realization and habituation.

Islamic boarding school caregivers are a group of people who care for and serve in Islamic boarding schools. Islamic boarding school administrators must also be figures in displaying religious and cultural values to their students. Because in supervising their students, Islamic boarding school administrators must be patient and with a sincere heart to educate their students with different characters. In order for a leader to be able to fulfill his leadership well, he must have the nature of love towards those he leads. With this characteristic, leaders will make HR the most important main asset and unmatched by any other asset.

Thus, in developing the quality of its students, there is a strategy carried out by the leaders and caregivers of Islamic boarding schools, namely a competitive advantage strategy by creating programs and rules as explained above to develop the quality of their students so that they become superior.

CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that to produce quality students from a disciplinary aspect, foreign language skills (English) cannot be separated from the development strategy, which is implemented by the leaders and caregivers of Islamic boarding schools in educating and developing their students. Development strategy is one of the influences on how an organization runs well in accordance with its expected goals. A good strategy

includes good work team coordination. The existence of a santri development strategy can boost the ability of santri to face developments in the era which are currently advancing rapidly, with this all santri can know, understand, do and get used to life in the outside world which is very different from the world of Islamic boarding schools.

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