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# Strengthening Moderation and Arousing Students' Interest in Literacy at SDN Banjiran as Provision for the Future

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Abstract. Literacy is an activity that is useful for increasing information, knowledge, and insight. If children are trained and accustomed to reading from an early age, then the character of liking to read will grow in the child. Therefore, the KKN UIN Walisongo Semarang Team held a socialization of strengthening religious moderation and strengthening literacy interest at SDN Banjiran. Where the purpose of this socialization was carried out to provide a deep understanding to teachers and students regarding the importance of religious literacy in forming good and religious children's characters. Religious moderation literacy is the ability to understand, interpret and apply religious teachings in a balanced and tolerant way. Religious moderation literacy also includes the ability to communicate effectively about the values of moderation and to live side by side harmoniously with individuals from various religious backgrounds. In this socialization, learning media such as videos, material summaries in the form of power points and also educational applications are used to convey the values of religious moderation.

Keywords: literacy, religious moderation, early childhood..

Abstrak. Literasi merupakan kegiatan yang berguna untuk menambah informasi, pengetahuan, dan wawasan. Jika anak dilatih dan dibiasakan untuk membaca sejak dini, maka karakter gemar membaca akan tumbuh dalam diri anak. Oleh karena itu, Tim KKN UIN Walisongo Semarang mengadakan sosialisasi penguatan moderasi beragama dan penguatan minat baca di SDN Banjiran. Dimana tujuan dari sosialisasi ini dilakukan untuk memberikan pemahaman yang mendalam kepada guru dan siswa terkait pentingnya literasi keagamaan dalam membentuk karakter anak yang baik dan religius. Literasi moderasi beragama adalah kemampuan untuk memahami, memaknai dan mengaplikasikan ajaran agama secara seimbang dan toleran. Literasi moderasi beragama juga mencakup kemampuan berkomunikasi secara efektif tentang nilainilai moderasi dan hidup berdampingan secara harmonis dengan individu-individu dari berbagai latar belakang agama. Dalam sosialisasi ini, media pembelajaran seperti video, rangkuman materi dalam bentuk power point dan juga aplikasi edukatif digunakan untuk menyampaikan nilai-nilai moderasi beragama.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Education is the most important means in the life of the nation and state, with the existence of education will affect the quality of human resources, therefore education must be started early. One of the most important education is in terms of li Banjiran Village is a village located in the Warungasem sub-district, Batang Regency, Central Java Province, Banjiran Village has an elementary school, namely SDN Banjiran, which is located behind the Banjiran village hall. SDN Banjiran has approximately 130 students. Banjiran State Elementary School, as one of the Educational Institutions in Indonesia, is committed to strengthening religious literacy and instilling basic provisions for religious

moderation from an early age. Good religious literacy not only includes an understanding of religious teachings, but also how these teachings are applied in everyday life.

Literacy in elementary school is a basic skill that must be possessed by students to read, write, speak, and understand information effectively. Literacy in this case is the ability to read, write, speak, count, and understand information effectively. In a broader sense, literacy is the main foundation in daily learning activities in elementary school. This socialization emphasizes the benefits of literacy, the purpose of literacy, and how to instill basic provisions in religious moderation from an early age.

One very important part of the learning process is reading. Reading is one of the very important steps to determine the success of the expected teaching and learning process. Reading means translating or interpreting signs or symbols in a language that the reader understands. Lifelong education, or lifelong education, is a concept adopted in our country. This is in line with the eternal obligation of every human being to learn, from birth to death. A reading culture can help society progress. A reading culture must be built from childhood because knowledge cannot be obtained without reading. Because reading provides knowledge, reading skills are very important in life. Therefore, students must master this skill well from an early age to get used to the culture of reading. (Salma. A, 2019)

Banjiran State Elementary School in reality still needs socialization regarding the importance of literacy, some students at Banjiran State Elementary School are still confused when asked about the ideals they want to achieve, this is one of the impacts of low literacy among elementary school students. Therefore, KKN students of Walisongo State Islamic University held a socialization regarding the importance of literacy and religious moderation.

In addition, through literacy socialization aims to build the knowledge and skills needed to participate effectively. In today's information age, the ability to read, write and understand texts is becoming increasingly important, not only in academic contexts, but also in everyday life. Literacy is not just the ability to recognize letters and words, but also includes a critical understanding of the information obtained, as well as the ability to express ideas and opinions clearly and effectively. With strong literacy, individuals can more easily access information, evaluate the truth and make the right decisions.

Therefore, efforts to improve literacy must be a top priority in elementary school education.

#### 2. RESEARCH METHOD

Literacy activities used as a form of community service were carried out in RW 02 Banjiran Village with elementary school children at SDN Banjiran. To achieve the objectives in accordance with to understand and describe the process of strengthening literacy and religious moderation at Banjiran State Elementary School. This approach was chosen to get an in-depth picture of the implementation of the program and its impact on students.

In its implementation, this research was guided directly by KKN UIN Walinsongo students towards grades 1-6 at Banjiran Elementary School, teachers involved in the literacy and religious moderation program, and parents of students. The number of respondents was selected by purposive sampling to ensure that the data obtained was relevant and comprehensive.

In practice, in socialization to students of Banjaran State Elementary School, the basic concept of religious moderation is used, the approach to religion emphasizes an attitude of tolerance, balance, and not extreme in carrying out religious teachings, religious moderation encourages an attitude of tolerance towards differences in understanding religious practices, in a small example, namely students can respect each other even though they have different beliefs. KKN UIN Walisongo students emphasized that a fair attitude in religious moderation means giving equal rights to everyone, regardless of religious, racial, or ethnic background.

In delivering material on religious moderation literacy, KKN UIN Walisongo students use picture methods, games, and fun methods so that it is not boring and SD N Banjiran students are more focused and find it easier to understand the material delivered by KKN UIN Walisongo Semarang students.

#### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

#### **Definition of Literacy**

According to KBBI, literacy is the ability to write and read. Literacy is a complex and dynamic concept depending on the point of view. According to the Usaid Prioritas Team (2015:13), literacy is a person's language ability (listening, speaking, reading, and

writing) to communicate in different ways according to their goals. Literacy can also be defined as knowledge or skills in a particular field or activity. Literacy can also be interpreted as an individual's ability to process information and knowledge for life skills.

## **Definition of Religious Moderation**

Religious moderation comes from two words, namely moderation and religion. The word moderation comes from Latin, namely moderatio, which means moderate (not more and not less). While in Arabic moderation is wasath or wasathiyah which means middle. Then the word Religion according to KBBI is embracing or adhering to a religion while religion itself contains meaning, system, principles of belief in God with teachings of worship and obligations related to that belief.

Meanwhile, the definition of religious moderation itself is our perspective on religion in a moderate way, namely understanding and practicing religious teachings without being extreme, either extreme right or extreme left. Extremism, radicalism, hate speech, to the breakdown of relations between religious communities, are problems currently faced by the Indonesian nation. (Nurdin. F, 2021)

# Strengthening Moderation and Stimulating Interest in Literacy as Provision for the Future of Students at SDN Banjiran

Republika (in Permatasari, 2015:146) UNESCO noted that Indonesia's reading interest index has only reached 0.001. This means that in every 1,000 people, only one person has an interest in reading. The average Indonesian person reads zero to one book per year. This condition is lower than the population in ASEAN countries, other than Indonesia, who read two to three books per year. This figure is even more unequal when compared to United States citizens who are accustomed to reading 10-20 books per year. At the same time, Japanese citizens read 10-15 books per year. Our literacy rate is also only ranked 64th out of 65 countries surveyed. Another sad fact is that the reading rate of Indonesian students is only ranked 57th out of 65 countries.

The activities carried out by KKN UIN Walisongo Semarang students are an effort to introduce and provide learning about the concept of strengthening literacy. KKN UIN Walisongo Semarang students conducted a survey and interview first with the principal of SD N Banjiran to obtain information about the right learning needs for children. Based on the results of the survey and interview with the principal of SD N Banjiran. The results showed that children also do not have a deep understanding of literacy. Through the

results of the survey that has been carried out, KKN UIN Walisongo Semarang students then compiled a series of activities and conducted socialization to all students of SDN BANJIRAN. After that, activities were held for children by presenting material on literacy and various moderation that would be carried out. The first material was presented by one of the KKN members from the Education division regarding literacy. Literacy and religious moderation provisions are motivated by the low interest in reading among elementary school students.

Religious moderation education at Banjiran Elementary School is implemented early on to equip students with the values of tolerance, justice, and balance in religion. This program aims to prevent students from extremism and radicalism, and encourage them to live harmoniously in a multicultural society. In delivering a series of socialization activities, a special strategy is needed because the audience is still among children, namely students in grades 1 to 6 of elementary school. Therefore, a special trick is needed, the first of which is to invite students to ice breakers, namely by "applause" which is expected to make students more enthusiastic and make participants more comfortable during the socialization after that interspersed with the delivery of literacy materials and basic concepts of religious moderation.

After a brief presentation of material on literacy and the basic concept of religious moderation, the UIN Walisongo KKN students then presented a short video on literacy in which there were several lessons that would later be asked to the participants by one of the KKN students, if the participants could answer the questions they would get prizes in the form of stationery etc. The delivery of the material was carried out alternately between games and ice breaking so that participants did not get bored. Regarding the material for providing religious moderation, it covers various basic aspects of introducing religious moderation, namely by introducing the main principles of religious moderation, namely respecting others who have different beliefs and not forcing religion on them. Treating everyone fairly and not discriminating based on religion and race. Avoiding attitudes and actions that are too harsh in religion. In addition, the UIN Walisongo KKN Team also conveyed the importance of religious moderation, namely to prevent conflicts, quarrels and divisions that often occur due to religious differences, not only that, religious moderation can live side by side in peace and respect each other.

### 4. CONCLUSION

Community service carried out by KKN UIN Walisongo Semarang students to the community carried out in RW 02 Banjiran village at SD N BANJIRAN with strengthening literacy and basic provisions for religious moderation from an early age at Banjiran Elementary School has succeeded in improving students' literacy skills and forming tolerant and moderate attitudes in religion. An integrative program involving curriculum, daily activities, teacher training, and collaboration with the community has created an inclusive and harmonious educational environment. As a result, students are not only smarter in reading and writing, but also wiser in dealing with differences and diversity. The integration of literacy and religious moderation values has proven effective in forming the character of students who are intelligent and have noble morals.

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