



**SCIENCE TRENDS IN ISLAMIC BOARDING SCHOOLS
AS AN EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN AQIDAH
(RESEARCH STUDY AT IBAD AR-RAHMAN
PANDEGLANG ISLAMIC BOARDING SCHOOL)**

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the implementation of digital marketing in an effort to increase sales in a store. The type of research used is qualitative research with a case study approach. The main informants in this study were the store owner and employees, while the supporting informant was a customer. Data collection was carried out through three techniques, namely interviews, observations, and literature studies. This research was conducted at MR Butik Store. The results of the study indicate that the MR Butik Store has consistently implemented a digital marketing strategy. This allows for increased interactivity, better information provision, service personalization, and inclusion of market trends. The implementation of digital marketing contributes to increased accuracy in determining selling prices, cost efficiency, and increased demand and sales volume.

Islamic boarding schools are considered unresponsive to the times, difficult to accept change (renewal), while maintaining their traditional educational patterns (salafiyah) Islamic boarding schools become a kind of institution that tends to be exclusive and isolative from general social life. To respond to pesantren towards the modernization of Islamic education and socio-economic changes taking place in society. The Ibad Ar-Rahman Islamic Boarding School tries to answer this challenge by having a vision of realizing a generation of rabbanis who have a qur'ani spirit, armed with science and technology. The research method used in this research is phenomenological research with a qualitative approach. Phenomenological research is research on experiences, traditions and various cultural phenomena of a social community. The results of the research in this article, Ibad Ar-Rahman Islamic boarding school has a strong commitment to creating an interesting, structured learning climate, and is able to illustrate learning in everyday life. In addition, the learning program at the Ibad Ar-Rahman Islamic Boarding School is directed at students to be able to balance religion and science and reminds them that there is no conflict between the two. In accordance with the vision they have, namely the realization of a generation of rabbani who have a qur'ani spirit, armed with science and technology. So that the field of science is able to strengthen the creed of the students, not reduce their faith.

Key Word: Science, Boarding School, Aqidah

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I. INTRODUCTION

Islamic education has a long history. In a broad sense, Islamic education developed with the emergence of Islam itself. The arrival of Islam was accompanied by educational efforts—not to mention institutions—representing a major change in the context of Arab society where Islam was born and developed. This is because pre-Islamic Arab society basically did not have a formal education system (Azra, 2017).

Pesantren is a non-formal Islamic education that has many dynamics. The historical roots of the presence of pesantren in Indonesia have been going on for a long time, since the early days of Islam's entry into the archipelago, and there is no doubt that pesantren were very involved in the process of Islamization. At the same time, in the process of Islamization, pesantren have adapted and transformed the lifestyle and socio-culture of the local community with their maturity. Therefore, in terms of history, the birth of Islamic boarding schools was not only to meet the needs of education that emphasized, but also to spread Islam. According to M. Dawam Raharjo, this became the identity of pesantren in the early years of its formation as a center for the spread of Islam in addition to being an educational institution (Muhtar, 2021).

Given the many negative opinions about the existence of Islamic boarding schools in the past, considering Islamic boarding schools to be unresponsive to developments in the era and difficult to accept change (renewal) by maintaining the traditional education model (salafiyah) Islamic boarding schools have become a practice that tends towards exclusive institutions that are isolated from social life in general. Even more cynical, some believe that traditional education depends on the taste of the kyai. There are still many people who look down on Islamic boarding schools.

In addition, the long history of Islamic boarding schools in Indonesia has marginalized Islamic boarding schools in national education policies since the colonial era until the beginning of the New Order government. So, if only Indonesia had never been colonized, Islamic boarding schools would not have fallen to remote villages like they are now, but would have developed in cities or centers of power and economy like Islamic boarding schools as Islamic institutions. Religious education is very international and of course the development of the Indonesian education system will follow the path taken by Islamic boarding schools (Ismail).

Responding to the modernization of Islamic education in Islamic boarding schools and the socio-economic changes that have occurred in Indonesian society since the beginning of this century, especially in responding to the development of science and technology (Azra, 2019). Ibad Ar-Rahman Islamic Boarding School is an Islamic boarding school that has a vision of realizing a Rabbani generation that is equipped with the spirit of the Qur'an and equipped with science and technology. They believe that knowledge about this world and the world to come cannot be separated. The birth of Muslim scholars who initiated the golden age of Islamic civilization were figures whose understanding and practice of both sciences were

consistent. We want to give birth to a Qur'anic generation that can work, lead civilization, and become a path of universal mercy.

Whether we realize it or not, schools in general, including those labeled Islamic, teach students subjects such as biology and geography without concluding that what is being discussed is the greatness and majesty of God. Students study the rain cycle but are stuck with the problem of who makes it rain. Or study the solar system, unfortunately without concluding that Allah designed all the order in this universe.

Why don't our teachers connect natural phenomena with the concept of divinity, Tauhid Rububiyah. We are currently feeling the consequences. The biggest feeling is that scientists are almost easily bought and our leaders are corrupt on average. They work together irresponsibly in the exploitation of natural resources entrusted by Allah. Not to mention our dependence on technological gadgets is getting wilder every day. Unfortunately, almost none of these products come from Muslim countries, including the largest Muslim country, Indonesia.

The question above raises doubts. What is the root of the problem? There are two problems: the science that is currently developing must be fixed because it brings disease, and we as Muslims must no longer be indifferent to science.

We all imagine that there are natural sciences: physics, chemistry, biology, geology, medicine, pharmacy and astronomy and technological applications, which from the beginning are based on the Qur'an. We dream of the revival of Islamic civilization based on the science of the Qur'an. There is no future without science. Without Qur'anic values, science tends to be blind and brings disaster. The dream of giving birth to honest and moral scientists must be realized. This great effort is called Trensains. Therefore, this article will examine its truth based on the existing reality.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Science Lessons

Learning is an activity that seeks to teach a person or group of people in gaining knowledge, skills, and attitudes by utilising various things in the environment (Sanusi et al., 2022). According to Gusteti & Neviyarni (2022), the purpose of learning is to arouse students' initiative and participation in learning. Science is knowledge that has been accumulated over time from a scientific examination that produces new knowledge. The knowledge from science serves to inform the Engineering design process. Science provides great benefits for the advancement of technological progress and the welfare of society. In addition, almost every day humans constantly interact with scientific phenomena (Wijaya & Dewi, 2021).

Based on this explanation, it can be concluded that science learning is a learning process that focuses on understanding scientific concepts and how the universe works through observation, experimentation, and analysis. The main purpose of science learning is to develop the ability to think critically, solve problems, and understand natural phenomena more deeply. It involves subjects such as physics, biology, chemistry and earth science. In general, science

learning not only teaches scientific facts, but also teaches the scientific methods used to explore the world around us, such as the scientific method, data collection, and analysis and interpretation of research results. This learning aims to form a critical, rational and evidence-based scientific attitude.

B. Boarding School

Boarding school is an Islamic educational institution that grows and is recognised by the surrounding community with a dormitory system whose santri receive religious education through a recitation system or madrasah (Maduningtias, 2022). Boarding school is an Islamic educational institution where students usually live in huts (dormitories) with teaching materials on classical books and general books aimed at mastering Islamic religious knowledge in detail and practising it as a guide to daily life by emphasising the importance of morals in social life (Latifah & Awad, 2023).

In this regard, it is clear that boarding schools are at the forefront of promoting Islamic values and cultural understanding in Indonesia. The boarding school has the potential to become a major political and cultural force in the Indonesian Muslim community if its large financial resources are properly handled. The boarding school also maintains strong ties with the neighbourhood it serves (Ismayani et al., 2023). Boarding schools in Indonesia are of various types, ranging from the more traditional salafi boarding schools, to modern boarding schools that combine religious and general education. Boarding schools are places for santri to not only deepen their religious knowledge, but also to learn social values, ethics, and life skills that can be applied in society.

Islamic boarding schools also play a big role in the social and political life of Indonesia, as many religious figures, scholars, and even politicians come from Islamic boarding schools.

C. Aqidah

Aqidah can be defined as a matter that is justified by the heart firmly imprinted into the depths of the soul that grows from a source that cannot be felt, forcing humans to believe in a provision without evidence and cannot be shaken by the storm of subhat (Asbar & Setiawan, 2022). Aqidah Akhlak learning is well realised in order to realise students who are morally good. And it is hoped that students will be smarter and more accomplished, but still polite in behaviour and speech (Rofiq & Nadliroh, 2021).

The subject of moral creed is a subject that teaches and guides students to be able to know, understand and believe in Islamic aqidah and can form and practice good behaviour in accordance with Islamic teachings. The goal is that students are able to understand, skilfully implement Islamic teachings in everyday life so that they become people who believe and fear Allah SWT. and have noble character in personal life, family, society, nation and state (Mumtahana et al., 2022).

Aqidah is a very fundamental aspect in the life of a Muslim. A correct belief in aqidah will provide spiritual and moral strength for a person in facing

the challenges of life. In a plural society like Indonesia, maintaining a straight *aqidah* is very important, because the correct *aqidah* forms the basis of personal integrity, social harmony, and peace between religious communities. Learning *aqidah* is not only important as part of religious knowledge, but also as a foundation for living life with confidence, peace and responsibility. The correct *aqidah* is a strong foundation for a Muslim to face various tests of life and achieve happiness in the hereafter. Therefore, an understanding of *aqidah* must be given thoroughly and deeply to every individual, both through formal education and through informal learning in everyday life.

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research approach used in this paper is a qualitative approach. What is meant by qualitative research is a series of activities or the process of capturing information from natural conditions in the life of an object, related to a problem, both from a theoretical and practical point of view (Ramdhan, 2021).

While this type of research is phenomenological research, namely research on experiences, traditions and various cultural phenomena of a social community. This research was conducted in November-December at Pesantren Ibad Ar-Rahman. The data used in this article are primary and secondary data. Primary data is the type of data collected directly from the main source such as through interviews, surveys, experiments, and so on. And secondary data is data obtained not from direct observation. However, the data is obtained from the results of research that has been conducted by previous researchers.

The data collection methods used in this article are documentation, interview, and observation methods. The documentation method is a method of collecting data by searching or digging up data from literature related to what is intended in the formulation of the problem. The interview method is the process of obtaining information for research purposes by means of questions and answers while meeting face to face between the interviewer and the respondent/interviewee, with or without using guidelines. While the observation method is a data collection technique that is carried out through an observation, accompanied by notes on the state or behaviour of the target object.

The data analysis used in this paper is annotated bibliography analysis. Annotation means a simple conclusion of an article, book, journal, or some other written source, while bibliography is defined as a list of sources of a topic.

IV. RESEARCH RESULT

Islamic boarding schools are ancient institutions that etymologically teach various religious sciences. There are (linguistic) similarities between farmers who emerged in Hindu history and farmers who emerged later. Both have the same principles of religious education that are practiced in the form of lodging. In general, the purpose of Islamic boarding schools is to educate their citizens to have attitudes that reflect the personality of Muslim women in accordance with the teachings of Islam and to penetrate this sense of religiosity in all aspects of their

lives, making them useful people in religion and making society and society. and the state.

Then, the Islamic Boarding School Law No. 18 of 2019 states that Islamic boarding school education is education organized by Islamic boarding schools located in Islamic boarding schools by developing a curriculum in accordance with the characteristics of Islamic boarding schools in the Kitab Kuning or in Islamic education with the Muallimin education model.

The curriculum is one of the tools of educational institutions, including Islamic boarding school education. The curriculum is an introduction to material that is considered efficient and effective in teaching tasks and optimizing human resources, namely students. The purpose of establishing Islamic boarding schools is to prepare students to become pious people in religious knowledge taught by each Kiai and to practice it in society or in other relationships with Da'i.

In the Regulation of the Minister of Religion of the Republic of Indonesia Number 31 of 2020, the Islamic boarding school curriculum consists of the Islamic boarding school curriculum and the general education curriculum. The Islamic boarding school curriculum is based on yellow books and is taught in Islam with a muallimin education pattern. While the general curriculum consists of Pancasila and Citizenship education, Indonesian, mathematics, and natural sciences or social sciences.

One of the phenomena of Islamic boarding school science that first appeared was presented at the Darul Ihsan Islamic Boarding School in Sragen which was launched in 2013. The curriculum of this Islamic boarding school is a unifying curriculum so that it has a strong character in the integration of Islam and science. The school's teaching staff are selected based on their own specializations, including foreign graduates.

This Science Concept is considered a new breakthrough in the world of Islamic boarding schools, where usually students only focus on religious knowledge and in general Islamic boarding schools only focus on religious studies without being associated with modern science. Even if there is, perhaps there is no interaction with science and technology, no meeting point is sought, only at the level of teaching and developing

In the Ibad Ar-Rahman pesantren, aqidah and the real life of the universe (science) are linked. Muslims believe that all knowledge in general comes from the Creator, Allah SWT.

The sources and laws of Allah cannot possibly contradict the Quran, especially the verses of kauniyyah (nature/science). This pesantren has the spirit to prove that there is no conflict between religious knowledge and general sciences or science. In fact, the two are very connected and related. Before the Quran was revealed, the ancient Greeks had already discovered theories and knowledge, but they were still based on reason and senses, namely the geocentric theory that the earth is the centre of the solar system, while the other planets surround the earth, and it turns out that the earth is circling the sun which rotates on its axis.

This knowledge is described by the Quran in Surah Yasin. The Qur'an is the initial guidance where man must seek his potential, seek the truth of the creed and connect it with science with a very simple medium. After the Quran was revealed, it changed and raced with the Quran and science. Although there were not many discoveries at that time, but at that time, Muslim scholars were very critical, such as Al Farabi, Ibn Sina, al Kinder, Ibn Rushd, Al Ghazali and so on. In fact, all of these Muslim scientists did not put aside general knowledge and logic with religion, even though they were more expert in the field of religion. So that's where the interaction between religion and science arises.

With the interaction of religion with science, there was a conflict between the theories of scientists and Muslim scientists at that time, because of the decline and wars at that time. Then the sciences were finally separated because of many disagreements among scientists. After we can know the relationship between religion and science, it is very easy to find a common thread, why pesantren must take over the role to ground the interaction between religion and science. Pesantren is an Islamic-based institution and is the oldest educational institution in Indonesia. For generations, it has contributed greatly to the spread of Islam, up to the independence of this nation. As time goes by, the world changes, and of course pesantren must be able to run to take over the process, to develop science, not only religious science.

Pesantren here plays a very important role in maintaining God's knowledge, especially religion and science, which are actually one. So it is made a collaboration and fusion. Islamic boarding school students who generally only learn religious knowledge, then in this latest pesantren concept, are combined with science and science. The goal is clear, to form character and faith as a strong and experienced foundation in preparation for the future, not only for students, but for the development of world science.

One of the female students who graduated from Pesantren Ibad Ar-Rahman, Firda Raoudotul Adawiyah, explained that this pesantren tries to make science a companion in the daily activities of the students. So that santri activities are always supported by science and scientific equipment. So if Islam has the slogan Islam is rahmatan lil'alam, then science is part of this rahmatan lil'alam which cannot be separated from religion.

Firda further said that the pesantren always encourages students to participate in science activities, whether organised by the government or the private sector. For example, we always participate in various science events such as madrasa science, scientific papers, and science technology exhibitions.

Fatul Gülen says that science education is expected to provide a means to learn about oneself and one's environment, as well as an opportunity to advance in its application in daily life. In the learning process, emphasis is placed on providing direct experience to develop skills for the natural environment to be studied and understood scientifically. Science education aims for research and action so that it can help humans understand nature and God more deeply.

In addition, the Ministry of Religious Affairs has programmes to improve the quality and skills of scientific students, such as KSM, Madrasah Robotics and scholarships for outstanding students.

Madrasah Science Competition (KSM) is an activity organised and implemented by the Ministry of Religious Affairs to foster the spirit of science competition among Madrasah students. KSM has become a positive platform to build a competitive culture and a means for madrasah students to develop their skills and interest in science.

The madrasah robotic competition is a programme to prepare students to meet Indonesia's generation in 2045 in facing the era of Cybion (Cybernetics, Biology and Ontology).

Scholarship for Outstanding Santri is an effort to increase the capacity of Islamic boarding schools in the field of science and technology while strengthening the study of tafaqquh fiddin (deepening of religion) which is the main study in Islamic boarding schools.

V. CLOSURE

Ibad Ar-Rahman Islamic Boarding School has a strong commitment to creating an interesting, structured learning climate that is able to illustrate learning in everyday life. In addition, the learning program at the Ibad Ar-Rahman Islamic Boarding School is directed at students to be able to balance religious knowledge with science and remind them that there is no conflict between the two.

In accordance with their vision, namely the realization of a rabbani generation with a Qur'anic soul, equipped with science and technology. So that the field of science is able to strengthen the aqidah of students, not diminish their faith.

The trend of science directs the intelligence of knowledge and then is aligned to the happiness of the afterlife without expecting material gain, conducting tireless and detailed studies of the universe to find the absolute truth that underlies it. In Ibad Ar-Rahman science, it emphasizes the importance of developing science and scientific research accompanied by perfect faith, morals, and cleanliness of heart in seeking knowledge. The purpose of seeking knowledge itself is by seeking knowledge, he must know his God. For that, integration is needed between religious knowledge and science.

Therefore, it is obligatory for Muslims to study Islamic religious knowledge and science, Islamic religious knowledge is used for the provision of the afterlife and a fortress in the world. While science is used to solve life's problems in the world.

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