# Implementation of Literacy Culture in Forming Students' Integrity Character at Muhammadiyah 1 Middle School, Central Parigi

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## Abstract

As a process, education requires a programmed and stable system, as well as clear goals so that the intended direction is easily achieved. The formulation of the problem in this research is: What is the literacy culture at SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Central Parigi, How is the implementation of literacy culture in the formation of students' integrity character at SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Central Parigi, What are the supporting and inhibiting factors for the implementation of literacy culture in the formation of students' integrity character at SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Parigi Middle. The aim of the research is the supporting and inhibiting factors for the implementation of literacy culture in the formation of students' integrity character at SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Central Parigi. Literature study research method. The type of research used is literature study. The literature study method is a series of activities related to methods of collecting library data, reading and taking notes, and managing research materials . The results of this research are aimed at collecting and reviewing various studies which conclude by looking at the results of student character and applying literacy culture in schools.

**Keywords:** Literacy Culture, Character Formation, Student Integrity.

## Introduction

Education is a very important activity that must be implemented in human life. Education is a person's basic capital to develop their potential which is useful for the benefit of their life. Education also plays an important role in nation building and the survival of a nation. Everyone has the right to receive education from primary education to tertiary education. Through education, it is hoped that we can produce a superior generation that can make a positive contribution to the life of the nation. The era of globalization, which is marked by increasingly sophisticated advances in information technology, has an impact on

life, especially among teenagers. Globalization sometimes has a positive influence and sometimes has a negative influence on the life of the nation (Nurhaidah & Musa, 2015).

Education is also an effort to help humans obtain a meaningful life, so that they can achieve happiness in life both individually and as a group. As a process, education requires a programmed and stable system, as well as clear goals so that the intended direction is easily achieved. Education is a deliberate effort, education is a design of the process of an activity that has a solid basic foundation and a clear direction as the goal to be achieved (Ummul Qura, 2015).

In general, the term Implementation in the Big Indonesian Dictionary means implementation or implementation. The term implementation is usually associated with an activity carried out to achieve certain goals. According to Syaukani, (Eliawati, Awanda 2020) implementation is a series of activities in order to deliver policies to the community so that the policies can bring the expected results.

One effort to make it happen in a system is implementation. Policies that have been determined, because without implementation a concept will never be realized. The implementation of policy is actually not only related to the mechanism of translating political decisions into routine procedures through bureaucratic channels, but more than that it concerns issues of conflict, decisions and who gets what from a policy .

The educational process can never be separated from reading activities, by reading the knowledge and information obtained will lead people to goodness, by reading a lot it will be easier for someone to solve problems in their life, with that someone will be able to improve the quality of their life and even make their country better. Just like literacy cannot be separated from the world of education. Literacy is a means for students to recognize, understand and apply the knowledge gained from school.

In Indonesia, literacy was initially interpreted as "literacy" and later interpreted as "literacy" or "understanding". In the first step, "reading and writing literacy" is emphasized because these two language skills are the basis for developing literacy in various things. Ultimately understanding literacy does not only extend to reading and writing issues, it even reaches the multiliteracy stage (Wiedarti et al, 2019).

According to Abidin et al (in Awanda, Diah. E 2020) states that literacy is the ability to use language and images in various forms to read, write, listen, speak, see, present and think critically about ideas. Another opinion according to Mustafa et al (2018) states that literacy can be interpreted as practice, social relations related to knowledge, language and culture.

School literacy culture has an important role, so macro policies are needed, so that a literacy culture is formed that produces a generation of people who have a character of integrity. This is intended so that students have cognitive abilities and skills. It is important to implement a culture of literacy in schools, because the quality of a nation is determined by the intelligence and knowledge of its people, while intelligence results from how much knowledge is obtained and knowledge is obtained through oral and written information. A literacy culture in schools is very important because a literacy culture will instill in students a love of books, apart from that it can also increase students' interest in reading books. Reading can increase critical thinking concentration based on insights gained through reading and increase interest in a field, Mustafa in (Awanda, Diah. 2020).

The above explains that literacy plays an important role in forming the character of students at school because the existence of a culture of literacy will instill in them a love of books, instill an interest in reading books and make students intelligent because they gain knowledge through new information they get from reading habits.

Moh. Yaumi (2016) explains that character is a person's natural nature in responding to situations morally, which is manifested in real actions through good behavior, honesty, responsibility, respect for others, and other noble character values. Character is the nature,

psychology, character, disposition, morals or manners that differentiate one person from another. Character is also often equated with personality. Character development is the most important effort ever given to humans, character formation is the main goal of the education system, to develop strong self-esteem, be clever, skilled, honest, know one's abilities and limits, have honor and have noble morals.

Character is the most important thing that a student must have as a student because the first thing that is assessed about a person is his character, character, character and morals. Character formation in schools can be done through existing programs in schools, one of which is the school literacy movement program.

Lack of interest in reading among students can affect their ability to think critically, ultimately making students unable to express the ideas they have. Students who don't have the habit of reading also tend to have bad character, for example spending time cheating, not wanting to find out the answers themselves, being unable to solve problems, or even cheating during exams. This can also cause students to often fight because they don't accept it if answers they have struggled to get or complete themselves are instead taken away and asked for nothing. Of course, this kind of student character must be handled by getting used to a culture of reading literacy.

The results of initial observations carried out by researchers show that there are still many students at SMP Muhammadiyah 1 Central Parigi who have an indifferent attitude in reading or re-studying material that has been taught to them previously. They also tend to speak harshly, often teasing each other when their friends don't want to cheat on them. There are even those who hit and bully their friends just because they didn't get a cheat sheet.

## Literature Review

According to Dewi Utami in (Azriansyah, et al. 2021) Literacy can be defined as the ability to access, understand and use things intelligently through various activities including reading , viewing, listening, writing or speaking. Meanwhile, according to Chaedar (in Fitra Assyahra, et al. 2021) in simple terms, literacy can be defined as the ability to read and write. Meanwhile, in a broad sense, we know it as literacy or letters so that literacy is no longer a single meaning, but rather contains several meanings, there are various kinds of literacy or literacy, for example computer literacy, virtual literacy, mathematical literacy and so on.

Some of these opinions can be concluded that school literacy culture can be interpreted as literacy activities, including various activities that have been implemented in schools by collecting students' daily journals and oral and written notes which are used as non-academic assessments. Provide a literacy corner in the library, park , or any convenient location in the school environment.

So that schools can be at the forefront of developing literacy culture, Beers, et al in the book *A Principal's Guide to Literacy Instruction* , in (Prastika R. A, 2019). convey several strategies for creating a positive literacy culture in schools. The existence and role of education has a very important contribution in shaping a person's character, in fact it has become mandatory for every person responsible for education to carry out intensive coaching in achieving ideal educational goals. Education is something that is very important for every human being as a bridge to improving the quality of human resources. Education can also be

interpreted as the process of changing the attitudes and behavior of a person or group of people in an effort to mature humans through teaching and training (Quraisy, 2023) .

Character is the characteristic of each individual and the way of thinking to live and work together and behave well so that they can make decisions and even take responsibility for every decision they make. Character education is an effort to provide direction to students so that they live in accordance with the values desired by society. This means that the good and bad morals of students must be in accordance with the age development stage of the students (Mamonto, 2020) . Character is an important aspect that needs to be developed at this time, considering that various challenges and obstacles that come from outside are very dangerous for the condition of the character of Indonesian teenagers. This is in line with Budimansyah's thinking that character determines the condition of the nation, if the character of teenagers is indifferent and uncaring then the nation will decline. The most important thing to instill in character is the value of love for the country. (Kurniawaty, 2022).

Character education can be carried out in various school institutions, both inside and outside of learning. The implementation of character education is carried out by internalizing the learning material at school. This is theoretically in accordance with the strategy for implementing character education, because it integrates learning. This integration brings positive impact because indirectly students will learn character (Hanipah, 2022).

There are three important things in character education, namely: The element of goodness (knowing goodness), good deeds (doing goodness) and inner motivation to do good (loving goodness). When these three things are automatically symbolized, they explain things like First, character education needs to develop the human brain to process information, understand and interpret reality within and outside oneself. Second, character education must maximize the use of hands and feet as a meaningful activity. Third, national character education must foster a sense of beauty, comfort and stability because he knows that what he does is meaningful and makes him happy (Hanipah, 2022). The quality of education can not only be assessed from cognitive abilities but also students must have noble character. Character cultivation starts from the family, relatives, school and community environment (Kunci, 2023) . The character values from the first perspective are honesty, which means an attitude that states something that is true without covering up the actions that have been done. Second, fairness can be interpreted as putting everything in its place. Third, namely responsibility, which means bearing all the actions that have been done. Fourth, with courage, which means feeling a steady heart when taking all actions and decisions. Fifth, namely being willing to work, which means making an effort to do something and not being lazy. Sixth, discipline, which means everything is done in accordance with the regulations (Arif, 2021) .

It is hoped that character education can be realized through national education goals, not only improving cognitive abilities but also being able to foster a sense of love for the homeland, insight into the archipelago and love for the creator by involving students' direct experiences (Chaerunnisa, 2019).

According to Retno Listyarti in (Ridwan, 2018) linguistic formation means nominal (noun) the process, method , action of forming. The word character in the Indonesian

dictionary means mental qualities, morals or manners that differentiate a person from others. Meanwhile, according to Kamaruddin in (Amanda, Diah 2020) as a basic format, character means what a person has since birth into the world. Character is the difference between humans who are reflected in their actions and behavior.

From the description above, it can be concluded that the meaning of character formation is a continuous process and formation carried out in education to form basic values or character in a person and to build that person's personality, be it character values towards God or other values. The value of human character, teachers can start educating the character of students by starting to develop the character of nationalism in students by accustoming teachers to mutual respect and tolerance for each other.

## Research Methods

This article is a review of a selection of articles that are case studies in this review. A literature search was carried out using the online databases Google Scholars and LibGen between July 2023 . Several terms and combinations of terms that are relevant to the topic are used but are not limited to Indonesian language articles but are also dominated by English language articles using several keywords/terms, such as 'degradation, morals, and youth' . Some research was also obtained by searching the reference lists of several high-quality publications . Likewise, suitable e-books are sorted and relevant information is extracted. qualitative with descriptive analysis techniques with library research where this research seeks to describe existing phenomena that are taking place currently (Sugiono, 2023).

## Results/Findings

Schools as educational institutions want to develop their potential in terms of personality, knowledge, ethics and other skills that are important for themselves, society, the country and the world. This statement is based on the National Education System Law no. Law 20 of 2003. In this context, schools are considered as a government tool to create a better life for citizens. Schools as a microcosm of social life are very important for developing good principles and understanding, so that in the end when students graduate and enter society, students can transform this culture, knowledge and skills into social life. This would not be possible without the efforts of the school team (principal, teachers, students and parents). School participation is very important to implement safety culture development programs in schools. In addition to developing academic skills, school technology aims to support and develop students' skills, manage their reading habits and discoveries, and make learning meaningful, enjoyable and enjoyable. As we said. Literacy goals in schools (2016) and interesting ways to take diversity into account.

The development of information technology requires students to understand the importance of reading and writing. Good reading and writing skills pave the way for other language skills such as reading, speaking and writing. Additionally, good reading improves

skills like critical thinking, technical skills, and personality development of students. One of the government's efforts to overcome these learning problems is through the implementation of the School Literacy Movement (GLS) program. The School Literacy Movement is a new program sponsored by the government. Literacy programs are born from learning that has not been established in schools. Primary School Literacy Activity Manual (2016), the 2011 Progress in International Reading and Literacy Progress (PIRLS) study found that Indonesian students' reading comprehension was below the international average. Therefore, reading has not become a culture among Indonesian students, especially in elementary schools.

## Discussion

The age known as the 21st century or the age of knowledge is the main foundation for various aspects of life. 21st century learning places more emphasis on students' abilities to think critically, connect knowledge with the real world, master information technology, communicate and collaborate. In early development, literacy is defined as the ability to read, write, listen, speak, see, present and use language and images in rich and varied forms to think critically about ideas (Nadiroh et al., 2023) . Literacy can be understood as the ability to speak or convey something (listening, speaking, reading and writing) to interact in different ways according to the purpose (Firmantyo & Alsa, 2017) . As information and communication technology develops, the definition of literacy also develops, namely literacy in the fifth generation. In the fifth generation, the term literacy is also known as multiliteracy. The term multiliteracy refers to the ability to use various methods to express and understand ideas and information, using conventional text forms as well as innovative text, symbols and multimedia (Fatmah, 2018)

In the context of the School Literacy Movement, the definition of literacy is the ability to acquire, understand and use something intelligently through various activities such as reading, watching, listening, writing and/or speaking. The School Literacy Movement (GLS) is a comprehensive and sustainable effort to transform schools into lifelong learning organizations with community participation (Hakim, 2015) . The literacy level of Indonesian students who represent Indonesian society in general is relatively low, especially in terms of language literacy (Nurgiyantoro, 2010) .

## Conclusion

Character is the most important thing that a student must have as a student because the first thing that is assessed about a person is his character, character, character and morals. Character formation in schools can be done through existing programs in schools, one of which is the school literacy movement program. Lack of interest in reading among students can affect their ability to think critically, ultimately making students unable to express the ideas they have. Students who don't have the habit of reading also tend to have bad character, for example spending time cheating, not wanting to find out the answers themselves, being unable to solve problems, or even cheating during exams. This can also cause students to

often fight because they don't accept it if answers they have struggled to get or complete themselves are instead taken away and asked for nothing. Of course, this kind of student character must be handled by getting used to a culture of reading literacy.

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