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Anthropological Approach as a Strategy to Increase Interest in Learning Islamic Education

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Informasi Artikel	Abstract
Received: 6 November 2023	<i>This research examines how an anthropological approach can increase interest in studying Islamic religious education at the Muhammadiyah University of Palu. This research uses a qualitative approach with a phenomenological type of research. Data analysis in this research uses single data analysis (individual case analysis), with a data analysis model from Miles and Huberman, through three activities that co-occur: data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing/verification. In this research, it was found that the anthropological approach in Islamic Education learning at Muhammadiyah University in Palu includes (1) an approach appropriate to student culture, (2) translating scientific explanations through local cultural symbols, (3) creating students who uphold the values of wisdom, locally through learning Islamic education. Meanwhile, the impacts given to students are (1) providing comfort and increasing students' interest in learning, (2) helping students understand the material explained by their lecturers, and (3) giving birth to generations of Muslims who respect and uphold local wisdom values. , especially giving birth to a generation that does not conflict between Islam and local wisdom who does not think that local wisdom can tarnish the sanctity of Islam. However, he loves both of them, positions them according to their respective portions, and views them as values that support each other.</i>
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Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji bagaimana pendekatan antropologi mampu menjadi strategi dalam meningkatkan minat belajar pendidikan agama Islam di Universitas Muhammadiyah Palu. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif, dengan jenis penelitian fenomenologi. Analisis data pada penelitian ini menggunakan analisis data tunggal (individual case analysis), dengan model analisis data dari Miles dan Huberman melalui tiga jalur kegiatan yang terjadi bersamaan, yaitu: reduksi data, penyajian data, dan penarikan kesimpulan / verifikasi. Pada penelitian ini ditemukan bahwasanya, Pendekatan antropologi dalam pembelajaran PAI di Universitas Muhammadiyah Palu meliputi: (1) pendekatan sesuai kultur mahasiswa, (2) menerjemahkan penjelasan ilmiah melalui simbol-simbol budaya lokal, (3) menciptakan mahasiswa yang menjunjung tinggi nilai-nilai kearifan lokal melalui pembelajaran pendidikan Islam. Sedangkan dampak yang diberikan kepada mahasiswa adalah: (1) memberi kenyamanan serta meningkatkan minat belajar mahasiswa, (2) membantu mahasiswa dalam memahami materi yang dijelaskan oleh dosennya, (3) melahirkan generasi-generasi Islam yang menghormati serta menjunjung tinggi nilai-nilai kearifan lokal, terkhusus melahirkan generasi yang tidak membentur-benturkan antara Islam dan kearifan lokal, yang tidak menganggap bahwasanya kearifan lokal dapat menodai kesucian Islam. Akan tetapi justru mencintai keduanya, memposisikan keduanya sesuai porsinya masing-masing, dan memandang keduanya sebagai nilai yang saling mendukung antara satu sama lain.

I. INTRODUCTION

Education, in general, is, of course, a basic need for human life, especially regarding Islam itself. As servants created by Allah, we must obey His commands and avoid His prohibitions. How can humans know about what their God desires? Therefore, education is a suitable way to discover all that. Education must be directed at developing a person's potential towards perfect physical, intellectual, and moral development (Firmansyah et al., 2022).

Islamic Religious Education can also be interpreted as a conscious and planned effort to prepare and develop students to know, understand, appreciate,

believe in, and practice the values of Islamic teachings from its primary sources, namely the Al-Qur'an and Al-Hadith, so that they will become a person who is strong in faith, pious, and has good morals (Hidayatulloh, 2019).

Interest is wanting to know, learn, admire, or possess something. Interest can be related to the driving force that encourages us to feel interested in people, objects, or activities or can be a practical experience stimulated by the action. In other words, interest can cause activity and participation in activities.

Interest arises from external attraction and comes from the "heartstrings." An excellent interest in something is significant capital, which means to achieve or obtain the object or goal of interest. The emergence of interest is caused by various things, including a strong desire to increase one's dignity or get a good job and live happily. This interest arises through a process that stems from self-motivation, both from outside and within the individual. Someone interested in an object will always try to find and understand the ins and outs of that object.

Learning happens naturally to gain knowledge or skills through teaching and learning activities. So, that interest in learning is a personal preference related to education, which means that individuals prioritize one thing over another. Interest in education is related to affective functions and knowledge, which will give rise to strong emotions such as positive feelings towards something, feelings of attachment, fascination, and increasing cognitive processes (Kpolovie et al., 2014).

Interest in learning is an aspect of psychology that influences each individual's knowledge. Because a person's interest will give rise to a feeling of liking and attachment to a thing or activity without compulsion. Interest in education has a huge role in students because this interest in education is one of the keys to a student's activeness. If there is a high interest in education, the student will have activeness from within himself. So, having an interest in education influences learning outcomes and the process (Anwar, 2022).

Anthropology itself comes from the Greek words "*anthropos*", which means "man" or "person," and *logos*, which means "discourse" or etymologically anthropology, which means the science that studies humans (T. Ismail et al.,

2023). Anthropology is a branch of social science that aims to understand the reality that occurs in society. Linguistically, anthropology comes from the words *anthropos*, which means individual, and *logos*, which means word or science. Thus, anthropology is the science of individuals (Firmansyah et al., 2023).

The history of the emergence of the anthropological approach in Islamic studies can be classified into four parts (Potabuga, 2020). *Firstly*, before the 18th century, the results of European travel to various regions with various missionaries consisting of pilgrims, sailors, priests, religious preachers, and colonial government officials began to be collected in extensive book collections containing descriptions of customs, social structure, and language: and physical characteristics and various ethnic colours. *Second*, at the beginning of the 19th century, attention to knowledge about the customs and physical attributes of societies outside European nations became very large. *Third*, in the mid-19th century, various ethnographic books appeared based on the evolution of society.

Palu Muhammadiyah University is the best private campus in Central Sulawesi Province. This campus has several best and mainstay study programs, including the Islamic religious education program. This study program is in demand by new students. Every time a student is admitted, this study program is always one with the most unique student achievements.

The learning process carried out in this study program is exciting and exciting. The lecturers in this study program have good quality and creativity in working with students, both inside and outside the classroom. Among the approaches used to increase students' interest in learning is the anthropological method.

An anthropological approach is very suitable to be applied on this campus, considering that most of the students come from areas far from the city centre of Palu. The places where they come from are said to still be very strong in their local culture. This can be seen from their use of language, behaviour patterns, and appreciation of their cultural values.

The research problems raised by researchers are as follows: First, it takes work to increase students' interest in learning. Second, it takes work to approach

students so that the students feel comfortable with our presence. Third, it takes work to maintain a good impression of a study program so that it remains trusted and attractive to prospective new students.

Previous studies that have similar discussions as this research are as follows: (Dedi Mahyudi, 2023; Effiyati Prihatini, 2017; Faidi, 2021; Harahap & Kahpi, 2021; H. Ismail, 2022; Jajang A Rohmana, 2015; Lestari, 2013; Potabuga, 2020; Sirait, 2016; Supardi et al., 2012).

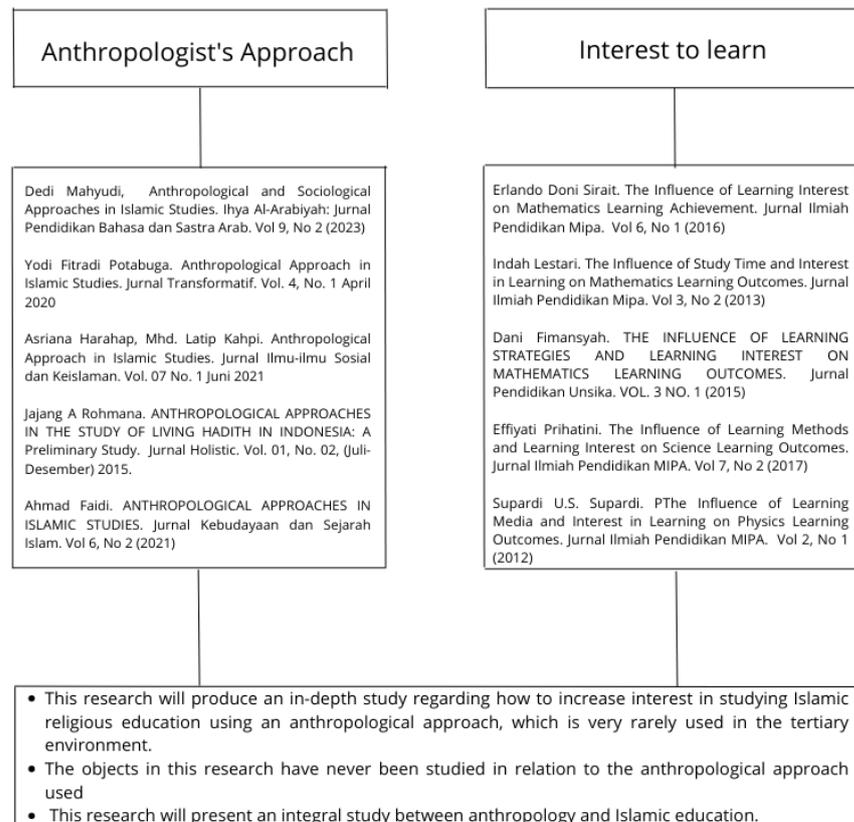


Figure 1. Map of research literature

Novelty research resulting from this research is: first, this research will produce an in-depth study regarding how to increase interest in studying Islamic religious education using an anthropological approach, which is rarely used in the tertiary environment. Second, the objects in this research have never been learned about the anthropological approach used. Third, this research will present an integral study between anthropology and Islamic education.

The interesting phenomena that have been described then attracted the interest of researchers to research with the title "anthropological approach as a

strategy to increase interest in studying Islamic religious education at Muhammadiyah University in Palu." This research uses two problem formulations as follows: (1) how to approach anthropology as a strategy to increase interest in studying Islamic religious education at Muhammadiyah University in Palu. (2) What are the implications of the anthropological approach to increase interest in studying Islamic religious education at the Muhammadiyah University of Palu.

II. METHOD

The type of research used is phenomenology. Phenomenology is an interpretative study of the matter-of-fact nature of the human experience, which aims to understand and describe human situations, events, and experiences "as something that appears and is present every day". The phenomenological approach is a renewed way to view the relationship between humans and the environment and study their relationships. The big challenge in the phenomenological approach is depicting the close relationship between humans and the world, which is interrelated with formal subject-objects. To understand the relationship between humans and their world.

This research was conducted on September 15, 2023, at Muhammadiyah University of Palu. This research was conducted at the Muhammadiyah University of Palu because the problem related to the use of an anthropological approach in learning Islamic religious education was at the Faculty of Islamic Religion, Muhammadiyah University of Palu.

There are several main characteristics of phenomenology carried out by phenomenological researchers, according to Moleong, namely: (a) paying attention to the existing reality, in this case, awareness of an object clearly, (b) understanding the meaning of events or events that occur, and are related to people who are in certain situations. (c) start with silence, then continue with a clear description of the phenomena experienced directly (Moleong, 2018).

A qualitative research approach was applied in this research. This research approach is a way for researchers to investigate how crucial individual life is as well as group life. This qualitative research process includes various fundamental questions. The final report in this research has flexible structures or frameworks.

The type of research we use in this research is ethnography (Creswell & Poth, 2016; Ikhwan, 2021).

Data analysis in this research uses single data analysis (individual case analysis), with a data analysis model from Miles and Huberman, through three activity paths that co-occur, namely: (1) data reduction, carried out continuously during the research, even before the data is collected. (2) data presentation, carried out to find Islamic values taught in the family, such as reciting the Koran, aqidah, worship, and morals. (3) concluding/verification, carried out during data collection and afterwards, to conclude so that patterns can be found in the events. The data collection technique in this research uses observation, interviews, and documentation methods.

The focus of this research is: (1) how to approach anthropology as a strategy to increase interest in studying Islamic religious education at Muhammadiyah University in Palu. (2) What are the implications of the anthropological approach to increase interest in studying Islamic religious education at the Muhammadiyah University of Palu.

III. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Anthropological Approach to Increasing Interest in Learning

1. Take an approach according to student culture

Lecturers, as educators, are responsible for student development, both in and outside the classroom. A good lecturer will pay close attention to whether students can understand the material presented. The way to find out a student's level of understanding can be seen from the results of tests or exams in class and can also be seen from changes in the student's behaviour outside of class.

Students who understand will have good test results in the classroom and changes in behaviour outside the school. For example, students who understand Islamic education material should behave politely and be honest and responsible in everyday life.

PAI lecturers at Muhammadiyah University in Palu have a very humanistic character. They are susceptible to the conditions of their students. They know very well how to understand their students. Palu Muhammadiyah University has

students from various regions with different ethnicities and cultures. So, PAI lecturers try to understand these differences in the background by taking different approaches according to the character and culture of the students.

2. Translating scientific explanations through local cultural symbols

One of the many challenges students face in the educational process is how students need clarification about understanding the lecturer's explanation if the lecturer uses a lot of scientific terms or similes. So, it is not surprising that many students are sleepy and not optimally able to receive learning. Therefore, lecturers need creative ideas in modifying the presentation pattern so that it does not confuse and bore students.

PAI UNISMUH Palu lecturers are said to be very creative in arranging patterns of presentation of Islamic education material to make it easier to understand and avoid student boredom. Among the ways implemented is translating scientific materials through local cultural symbols that are easily understood by students. For example, using the sintuvu character from the local culture of the Kaili ethnic group in explaining Islamic ukhuwah material or using the sambulugana symbol in explaining human potential, which is brought by nature and how humans must have a high value of gratitude to the Almighty Creator (Allah).

3. Creating students who uphold local wisdom values through learning Islamic education

Learning Islamic education at the Muhammadiyah University of Palu has extraordinary uniqueness, where the Islamic education taught is Islamic education that is very open and does not clash with local wisdom values. Moreover, local wisdom values are in line with local wisdom values. Islam. So what the lecturer does is how the students appreciate, maintain, and uphold the importance of local wisdom to preserve culture and as a symbol that contains the values of Islamic education for their ethnic community.

Implications of the Anthropological Approach in Increasing Interest in Learning

1. Providing student comfort and interest in learning

The increasing interest in studying Islamic education at the Muhammadiyah University of Palu indicates the success of the approach taken by the lecturers. PAI students said that they felt comfortable with the process of PAI lecturers. They felt that their character and culture were truly understood. So that lecturers and students have a good relationship and are quick to ask their lecturers for guidance when they have problems, whether related to learning or in everyday life.

2. Make it easier for students to understand the material presented.

The pattern of translating scientific explanations through local cultural symbols carried out by PAI lecturers at Muhammadiyah University in Palu has a significant impact on the level of student understanding of the material presented by PAI lecturers. This can be seen in students' excellent exam results and how they describe their knowledge very neatly and appear very knowledgeable.

Moreover, it can also be seen how students are highly interested in exploring new knowledge related to their scientific discipline, namely PAI. They have high curiosity about the material they understand and want to try to implement this knowledge in the field.

3. Preserving local wisdom values

Efforts to create students who uphold local wisdom values through learning Islamic education at the Muhammadiyah University of Palu have been successful. Currently, there are many graduates or active students who are highly concerned about local wisdom values. Quite a few of these students choose to study Islamic education based on local wisdom in their final assignment (thesis).

Apart from that, PAI students have a favourable view regarding local wisdom. They say that local knowledge is likely to be acculturated with Islamic values. Therefore, local insight can support and strengthen the position of Islamic values in society, as well as help ensure that the community can adequately understand Islam.

IV. CONCLUSION

The research above can conclude that overcoming the problem of declining interest in studying Islamic education can be done in several ways, especially by using an anthropological approach. Several reasons why the anthropological approach is said to be ideal include that the anthropological (cultural) realm is a fundamental realm for humans in general. Remember that it is from the cultural environment that humans are born, grow, and are educated for the first time. So, certain artistic principles are already embedded and formed within humans before humans acquire other values or live in a new environment.

Interest in studying Islamic education at the Muhammadiyah University of Palu has increased dramatically, and the anthropological approach taken has had a positive impact. Therefore, this could be an example for Islamic education study programs in other higher education institutions to try an anthropological approach when facing the problem of low interest in studying Islamic education.

The anthropological approach to Islamic Education learning at the Muhammadiyah University of Palu includes (1) an approach appropriate to student culture, (2) translating scientific explanations through local cultural symbols, and (3) creating students who uphold local wisdom values through learning Islamic education. Meanwhile, the impacts given to students are (1) providing comfort and increasing students' interest in learning, (2) helping students understand the material explained by their lecturers, and (3) giving birth to generations of Muslims who respect and uphold local wisdom values. , especially giving birth to a generation that does not conflict between Islam and local wisdom and does not think that local wisdom can tarnish the sanctity of Islam. However, instead, he loves both of them, positions them according to their respective portions, and views them as values that support each other.

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