

## Family is the Main Pillar of Children Character Education

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### ABSTRACT

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The family as one of the three educational centers is tasked with forming positive habits (habit formation) as a strong foundation in informal education. This research is a type of library research (Library Research), namely research that examines and explores various written sources related to the theme discussed by the author, namely the concept of family as the main pillar of character education in children as the author's main reference. Based on the description of research data and discussions that have been expressed, the family has an important role in forming a child's character. Education in the family is the initial and main education for a human being. In order to create a generation that has strong character and strong faith and Islam, it is necessary to instill Islamic personality values in children. Character education is an integrative and comprehensive education.

Kata Kunci

*Family, Character, Education*

## INTRODUCTION

Education is one of the main keys as a driver and determinant of the progress of a nation and state. The education process cannot be separated from the development process which aims to develop quality human resources. Quality humans themselves can be seen in terms of education (Omar Hamalik, 2007) Education is a conscious effort and aims to improve human quality (Saiful Bahri Djamarah, 2000)

This means that education is a great asset in the development of the people, helping to determine the quality of human "civilized Muslim personality", including the "black and white" dynamics of economics, politics, ecology, socio-culture, and the problems of life and human life. (Muhammad Yasin, 1999)

The quality of education in Indonesia is currently very worrying. This is proven, among other things, by UNESCO (2000) data regarding the Human Development Index ranking, namely the composition of educational attainment, health and income per head rankings which shows that Indonesia's human development index is decreasing. Among 174 countries in the world, Indonesia ranks 102nd (1996), 99th (1997), 105th (1998), and 109th (1999).

In relation to the world of education, the current era of globalization is a big challenge for parents in their efforts to educate their children. Increasingly

sophisticated technology and easier access to information have more or less influenced children's mental development. As a result, phenomena in our society are currently decorated with increasingly widespread brawls between students, deviant teenage behavior, free sex and many other incidents that are far from Islamic character values. Parents also complain a lot about it Their children's delinquency is difficult to control, stubborn, does not want to obey their parents' orders, often fights, does not want to learn, destroys other people's property, robs, cheats and likes to lie as well as other moral lowliness. (Sofyan Sori, 2006) If this condition is left unchecked, cases like this will likely continue to spread as time progresses. And if this continues, children as the Islamic generation will not have a strong character base to face the challenges of the times.

The aim of this research is: To find out the concept of family as the main pillar of character education for children. To find out the relevance of the concept of family as the main pillar of character education for children with an Islamic child's personality.

With this research, the author hopes that it can provide benefits, including the following: Useful in contributing knowledge and insight through the concept of family as the main pillar of character education in children, adding to the treasures of knowledge, especially regarding the concept of family as the main pillar of character education in children with personality.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This research is a type of library research (Library Research), namely research that examines and explores various written sources related to the theme discussed by the author, namely the concept of family as the main pillar of character education in children as the author's main reference. "In this research, a "philosophical approach" is used, namely a way of thinking according to free logic to get to the bottom of the problem or deep knowledge about the secrets and purposes of everything" (Ismail Muhammad Syah, 1991)

The data source used in this writing is Library Research, so the sources referred to are library sources or various literature or books in order to find a formulation about the concept of family as the main pillar of character education in children, while secondary sources are supporting sources for the use of this research

After the required data has been met, qualitative data analysis is carried out using inductive deductive analysis instruments" (Suharsini Arikunto, 1996). The deductive method is used to examine the family as the main pillar of

character education in children and is then generalized, especially regarding the problems discussed.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The obligation to uphold noble character (akhlaq karimah) was further emphasized by the Prophet SAW. with statements that link morals to the quality of the will, the weight of charity and the guarantee of entering heaven. Words of the Prophet Saw. which was narrated by Abdullah Ibn Amr: "The best of you are those with the best morals..." (HR. al-Tirmidhi). In another hadith the Prophet SAW. said: "Indeed, the person who loves me the most among you and will sit closest to me on the Day of Resurrection is the one who has the best morals among you..." (HR. al-Tirmidhi). It is also explained in another hadith, when the Prophet SAW was asked: "What will bring the most people into heaven?" Prophet SAW. answered: "Fear Allah and have good morals." (HR. al-Tirmidhi) (Marzuki.tth: 8).

In fact, human nature does not necessarily mean that human character can be maintained and develop in accordance with that nature. Facts prove that the experiences each person faces are a very dominant factor in the formation and practice of their character. This is where character education has an important and strategic role for humans in order to carry out the process of internalizing and implementing noble character values in society.\

### Character Education Objectives

With the increasingly declining character of the nation, one of which is caused by globalization, it requires all parties to fortify themselves with education, which is none other than character education. Character itself is a term used to combine the terms ethics, morals and/or values and is related to moral strength, has a positive connotation, not neutral. However, if we examine it carefully, the term character itself is a term regarding psychological traits, morals or manners that differentiate a person from others, this understanding is in accordance with the statement in the Big Indonesian Dictionary (2008).

From the two definitions above, it can be concluded that character is the totality of behavior in humans with unique traits. Character coherently radiates from the results of thought, heart, feeling and intention, as well as the exercise of a person or group of people. The environment itself is an important factor and has a big role in character education. Because the environment helps students make changes in behavior as a result of the character education process, this is very much determined by environmental factors. In this case it is interpreted that the environment is a form of engineering which includes the physical and cultural environment of the school, school management,

curriculum, educators and teaching methods. Character formation through engineering environmental factors can be done through strategies:

1. Exemplary
2. Intervention
3. Habits done consistently
4. Strengthening.

Character education itself is based on ethical values, these values take the form of political, religious or cultural biases. Meanwhile, the pillars used for character education include trust, respect, responsibility, justice, caring, citizenship.

The aim of character education according to Islam is to create people with noble character. In this case, the benchmark is the morals of the Prophet Muhammad SAW and the basis for character formation is the Koran. But we must realize that no human being has the same morals as the Prophet Muhammad SAW. As in the hadith narrated by Muttafaq 'alaih, as follows:

(كان رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم احسن الناس خلقا (متفق عليه) :وعن انس رضي الله عنه قال

It means:

“Anas ra. Said, “The Messenger of Allah. is the person with the best character.” (Muttafaq 'alaih).

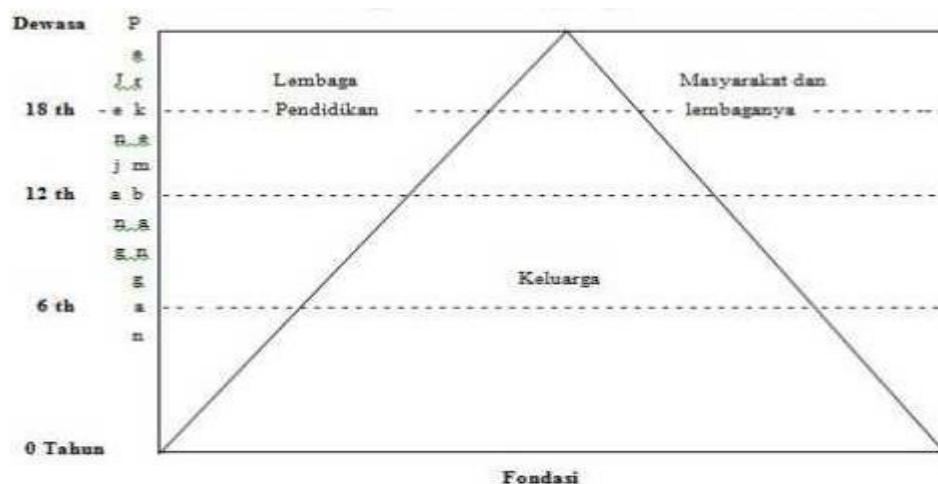
From this hadith, it is very clear that the Prophet's morals are proof that his morals were perfect. This hadith also strengthens the opinion of Bambang Q-Anees (2009) that the Prophet Muhammad Saw. is the Al-Quran in action, because in the Messenger of Allah there is the Al-Quran and he never once committed acts that were deviant and deviated from noble morals.

Character or disposition, a person's personal traits such as honesty, trustworthiness, etc. are the most basic things in Islamic education. Character can be interpreted as a life of good/virtuous behavior, namely behaving well towards other parties (God Almighty, humans and the universe) and towards oneself. Currently, the term integrity has emerged in government circles, such as signing integrity facts. This actually has to do with character. Integrity is a cognate word for integrity, namely: 1. Sincerity, honesty; 2. Integrity Integrity is a personality that displays a unity of commendable characteristics, especially emphasizing the characteristics of sincerity, honesty, truthfulness and trustworthiness as well as showing consistency.

Educator integrity, for example, means educators who display a complete personality containing positive traits in the form of sincerity, honesty, truth, objective, scientific, open/open minded, always willing to progress/idea of progress, fulfilling promises, discipline and trustworthiness. In the context of Islamic education, it is closely related to character education because the core of

Islamic education is the growth and development of divine values in children, namely the divine values of imaniah, ubudiyah and muamalah. All of these divine values will form personal traits or inner experiences that will lead to positive behavior.

In relation to character education, three pillars of education must play a role, of course starting with the family pillar, then society and educational institutions. Family education is the basis and foundation.



There are several strategies in family education to shape children's character, including:

Adult role model strategies in the household, how noble qualities such as honesty, trustworthiness, tabligh and fatanah continue to be exemplified in everyday life with children. The development of various commendable qualities must start from an early age, starting from the household or family. For this reason, family education plays a very important role. The qualities of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, honesty, courage, openness, attentiveness, integrity, diligence and statesmanship will grow and develop if they are instilled from childhood.

Habituation strategy, The habit of good behavior and good manners is the most important part of family education. Therefore, every family member, especially adults, must be accustomed to positive behavior. Rewards must be given to honest children. A child who is honest even though he gets low school grades is more valuable than a child who lies even though he gets high grades. The courage to be honest requires getting used to it.

Teaching strategy, namely giving instructions to children regarding something good that must be internalized and practiced in daily behavior, as well as pointing out something that is not good or right that must be avoided. Information and advice needs to be given continuously to children.

Differences in status in the family lead to differences in the functions that each person will play in everyday life. All of this is directly or indirectly perceived and internalized and will then enter the child's treasury of experience. Therefore, relationships within the family are very important to pay attention to. An inharmonious relationship between husband and wife will bring harm to the growth and education of children which ultimately leads to a decline in people's lives. Therefore, husband and wife as the right and left wings must work together to fly the plane of life towards its destination. To ensure harmony in the household, the duties and responsibilities of husband and wife must be carried out as well as possible, which are naturally different.

Based on the description of the research data and discussion that has been expressed, it can be concluded as follows:

1. The family has an important role in forming a child's character. Education in the family is the initial and main education for a human being. Family is the first influence on children. His personal formation at that time still accepted everything and was easily influenced by anything in this first environmental formation. So, the main key in forming a child's character is found in the family.
2. In order to create a generation that has strong character and strong faith and Islam, it is necessary to instill Islamic personality values in children. The material aspects that must be formed and instilled in children include: aspects of faith, worship, social, morals, feelings, physical, scientific, health and sexual.

Character education is an integrative and comprehensive education. The Qur'an and hadith have regulated character education, it's just a matter of how humans apply it in everyday life. Parents' duties include educating their children to become people with good character. Character education lasts a lifetime. Parents as the main teachers in the family must try to instill characters in the form of monotheism, morals and worship in their children, so that children become worthy human beings. To be able to implement character education well, parents in the family must collaborate with educators or teachers and the community, because all three are an educational trilogy.

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