The Role of Islamic Boarding Schools as Character Building in Facing the Challenges of Modern Life (case study in al barokah boarding school, tunggak crème village, wonomerto district, probolinggo regency)

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to determine the extent of the role of islamic boarding school education as character building in facing modern life especially the Al Barokah boarding school. This research is structured with a qualitative approach with data collection techniques in the form of interview, documentation, and observation. The analysis technique using reflective thinking is to combine deductive and inductive ways of thinking and then draw conclusion. Based on the analysis of the data in this study, it can be concluded that the method used by the Al Barokah Islamic Boarding School in Tunggak Cerme Village Wonomerto District Probolinggo Regency, is to improve the character of the student and their female student, by revamping the curriculum and updating management. This can be seen from the number of qualified and competent alumni in all fields, both in the religious and general fields

Keywords: Education, Islamic Boarding School, Character

INTRODUCTION

In the reform era, the vision of the development of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia is directed at the realization of an Indonesian society that is just, peaceful, democratic, competitive, advanced and prosperous. Of course, this requires individuals who are qualified, faithful, devoted, have noble character, love the homeland, are healthy, independent, aware of the law, the environment, have a work ethic, master science and technology, and are highly disciplined, especially in the era of globalization that adapts to the development of relevant information technology.

The embodiment of quality individuals is the responsibility of educational institutions, in order to be able to prepare students with good character as subjects who play a role in displaying their strong, creative, independent and professional advantages in their respective fields. One of the educational institutions that is the foundation in shaping the character of society in Indonesia is the Islamic boarding school.

Islamic boarding schools are recognized as having a significant role in raising and developing the world of education. Islamic boarding school educational institutions as a reinforcement in shaping individual characters that have an impact on the development of science that are able to compete in responding to the

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challenges of modern life which are required to be proficient in various competitive efforts at the national and even international level. In addition, pesantren is also an alternative for solving various educational problems that occur in the current era of globalization. Individuals who are able to compete in the progress of an institution must be ready to become pioneers and have talent in the challenges of the modern era of life and adapt to the times².

Departing from this problem then in 2000 H. Muhammad Hasan Siddiq then founded a boarding school The Al Barokah Islamic Boarding School he cares for can become a forum that can answer the challenges of today’s era. This Islamic boarding school is located in Tunggak Mirror Village, precisely in the hamlet of Bindung Rt. 003 Rw. 001 Tunggak Cerme Village, Wonomerto District, Probolinggo Regency.

The boarding school in question can be said to be quite strategic because it is located in the middle of the village. This Islamic boarding school is flanked by 4 villages from two sub-districts, namely in the west bordering the village of Jreben, Wonomerto sub-district, in the east bordering the village of Tempuran, Bantaran sub-district, in the north bordering the village of Pohsangit Tengah, Wonomerto sub-district and in the south bordering the village of Wonorejo. Wonomerto District.

In the development of this Islamic Boarding School, which initially had around 20 students, in the 2021/2022 academic year the Al Barokah Islamic Boarding School already has around 200 female students and female students from various parts of the region, including from Jember, Lumajang and various other regions. In its development this Islamic Boarding School not only teaches religious knowledge but also teaches general education. This is evidenced by the existence of formal education in the form of the Aliyah Al Barokah madrasa which was founded in 2018.

This is done by the caregivers with the aim that the community paradigm, especially in the village of Tunggak cerme, Wonomerto Probolinggo sub-district, that Islamic boarding schools are only institutions that teach religious materials can be refuted, that Islamic boarding schools are no longer a classical educational institution that only learns about books. classic books but can also provide general material to students and female students so that the output of the Al Barokah Islamic boarding school in particular can compete in people's lives in this era of globalization.

In addition to incorporating general subject curriculum into this Islamic boarding school institution, there are several excellent programs carried out by this institution, including:

a) Development of qiroatul qur'an
b) Scout development
c) Lifeskill development
d) Martial arts development (IPSNU Pagar Nusa)
e) Self-development through PMR activities

With the innovations made by these caregivers, the enthusiasm of the people in the Tunggak cerme village towards the Al Barokah Islamic boarding school has increased significantly. This is shown by the number of people who have started to house their sons and daughters in this Islamic boarding school.

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The problem raised by the researchers in this journal is the extent to which the educational role of the Al Barokah Tunggak cerme Islamic boarding school in Wonomerto Probolinggo district is as a forum for character building in facing the challenges of modern life. And The purpose of this study is to provide a description of the educational role of the Al Barokah Tunggak cerme Islamic boarding school in Wonomerto Probolinggo district as a forum for character building in facing the challenges of modern life.

DISCUSSION
The Role of Islamic Boarding School Education as a Vehicle for Character Building in Facing the Challenges of Modern Life

As one of the oldest educational institutions in Indonesia, Islamic boarding schools certainly have a very significant role in shaping the character of society in Indonesia. We cannot deny that the Islamic boarding school is an educational institution that teaches its students various kinds of knowledge with the aim that the students in the Islamic boarding school are not only skilled and expert in the field of religion but are also expected to become a human being who can contribute in spreading goodness in each other.

Along with the times, Islamic boarding schools in Indonesia have produced various cadres who have character and have competent knowledge competencies, so that the alumni of Islamic boarding schools today occupy many important positions in the government order. Coupled with the current of globalization, Islamic boarding schools are one of the places that can shape the character of their students in order to filter out all forms of modernization that can damage the morals and ethics of society. Character education plays a very important role in life, because it can give birth to individuals who are superior in terms of cognitive so that they can support the success of students and students.

Interaction is one of the most important components of learning. Educators with good and positive behavior generally have high achieving students and positive skills in carrying out their duties.

In addition to good character, Islamic Education institutions also create a militant character. This character is actually the basic foundation of economic development in Islamic educational institutions. While other educational institutions professionally pay their employees to manage their business units, Islamic educational institutions, such as pesantren, assign their 'santri' to manage the business unit without pay. While other educational institutions spend a lot of money on teacher salaries, educational institutions such as Islamic boarding schools spend less without compromising the rights and welfare of teachers. Teachers' teaching orientation is worship without demanding anything big from the institutions they serve. There is a saying in pesantren as "think about what you have given to pesantren, not what pesantren has given you."

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There are several reasons why character education should be given to santriwan and santriwati of Islamic boarding schools. According to Supriyanto in his scientific journal there are several reasons the need for character education, namely:

1. The best efforts ensure students to become good individuals in life;
2. Efforts in increasing speculative success;
3. In other places some students cannot form a strong character for it;
4. You can live in various communities and preparation for students to respect other parts or people;
5. Get out of the root of problems related to moral and social problems, such as frequent lying, uncertainty, violation of sexual activity, violence and low learning ethos;
6. Better preparation for welcoming work behavior;
7. Studying cultural values which are part of the work of civilization.

From the statement above, the author then conducted research in this case focused on the Al Barokah Tunggak cerme Islamic boarding school institution, Wonomerto sub-district, Probolinggo district in order to get results to what extent the role of Islamic boarding school education in character building in the modern era as it is today.

According to H. Muhammad Hasan Sidik as the caretaker of the Al Barokah Islamic boarding school, he stated that the ways used by Islamic boarding schools in shaping the character of students were by promoting various life skills and self-discipline in students. In addition to requiring academic knowledge, it is very important to provide relevant skills through program activities such as scouting education and mental formation and child discipline through religious activities and PMR. So that they can work directly according to the skills they can, which is called life-based education.

Based on the results of research conducted by the author at the Al Barokah Tunggak cerme Islamic Boarding School, Wonomerto District, Probolinggo Regency, there are several steps for character building in this institution that the author can describe, including:

1. **Improving the curriculum of Islamic boarding schools**

   According to H. Muhammad Hasan Sidiq as the caretaker of the boarding school, the curriculum of the Al Barokah Tunggak cerme Islamic boarding school was originally a self-taught curriculum or curriculum that was compiled based on the knowledge of the teaching staff in this institution and was only focused on classical book material that generally taught in salafiyah Islamic boarding schools. Furthermore, according to him, as time goes by and the demands of the times, the leaders of Islamic boarding schools innovate by forming a curriculum that refers more to modern learning. To increase sales of the value and quality of graduates to be competitive at the education level, Islamic boarding schools also apply the national curriculum. Not only providing Islamic educational materials, but also combining them with general material to add information to children. The result will be able to integrate Islamic scientists with science and technology developed quickly.

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This is evidenced by the existence of a formal educational institution in this Islamic boarding school, namely Madrasah Aliyah Al Barokah.

The same thing was said by the head of Madrasah Aliyah Al Barokah, that with the existence of formal education in the cottage environment, it is necessary to have a curriculum revamping system, from what was initially only self-taught and classical in nature to a complex curriculum in accordance with the demands of the globalization era such as this era. As one of the efforts to improve the quality of students at the Al Barokah Tunggak Cerme Islamic Boarding School, Wonomerto sub-district, Probolinggo district, the curriculum is understood as a series of subjects in school, which must be taken to get a diploma or level, so now understanding is trying to be expanded. The curriculum, what is understood is everything that the Islamic Boarding School has gone through to influence learning, both happening in the classroom and in the classroom. The Islamic boarding school curriculum in the plan then always refers to a broad understanding, so that students can include intra-curricular or extra-curricular activities. In addition to the activities that are played by the students, they are also played by the caregivers or asatidz.

With the existence of formal educational institutions in this Islamic boarding school, character education in this institution is more realized and in accordance with current conditions. From the results of interviews and observations made by the author at this institution, there are several activities that are included in the pesantren curriculum which are the foundation for the formation of the character of students and female students, including:

a) Development of qiroatul qur'an
b) Scout development
c) Lifeskill development
d) Self-defense development (IPSNU Pagar Nusa)
e) Self-development through PMR activities

In addition to the above activities, activities that already exist in Islamic boarding schools such as isthigosah habituation, night prayers, dhuha prayers, recitation of the yellow book and others are still being carried out at this institution. It is intended that the students and female students in this institution not only have a strong religious character but also have a high national, state, discipline and social character. So that the purpose of this institution to produce Islamic cadres who have competence in terms of science and technology and IMTAQ can be realized.

2. Management of Islamic Boarding Schools

As we all know that in an Islamic boarding school educational institution there are stakeholders, namely: (1) there are caregivers, (2) there are students, (3) there are places of worship, (4) there are cottages, and (5) there are book teachings. However, in its development in the education of Islamic boarding schools, especially the Al Barokah Tunggak Cerme Islamic boarding school institution, Wonomerto District, Probolinggo Regency, there are also stakeholders who take care of formal education at the institution.

According to Ustadz Hizbullah Huda as one of the management board of Al Islamic boarding schools Barokah is currently using one of the managements to improve the quality of the character of santri, this is what then encourages boarding school caregivers and foundation administrators to form formal-based education. The formal education held at this Islamic boarding school is Madrasah Aliyah. This is
done because it is at the Ibtidaiyah Madrasah level. and Madrasah Tsanawiyah are already in around the boarding school.

Of course, with the existence of formal institutions in this institution, there will be reforms that occur in the Islamic boarding school environment. Based on the observations made by the author, there are several updates that have been made, including:

a) Renewal of learning methods

Learning in Islamic boarding schools was initially popular with didactic methods in the form of halaqah, sorogan, bandongan, and memorized. However, at the Al Barokah Tunggak Islamic Boarding School, Wonomerto, Probolinggo, from the sorogan scheme it turned into a classical system, not only that, some skill education has also begun to enter, such as handicrafts, animal husbandry, and farming, starting to become familiar in the daily lives of students.

According to Ustadz Fathurrozi Amin, M.Pd.I as the deputy head of the curriculum, in this era the Sorogan learning method is no longer efficient because in this Islamic boarding school there are already formal educational institutions, it is necessary to renew learning methods. Based on the survey results, the survey report of the Indonesian education sector said that education in Indonesia only emphasizes skills and routine memorization. Simply put, education in Indonesia is still struggling with aspects of mechanical procedures. In addition, it seems that education in Indonesia always prioritizes theoretically which tends to make students bored because there is no practical application in learning. Through innovative learning methods coupled with practice, it is also expected to produce students who are responsible and can apply the knowledge learned in everyday life. With the inclusion of formal education in this institution, national and social character education is also given to female students such as Scouts, PMR, self-defense and so on. This is intended to develop information about the santri or the orientation of the vision of life that always looks ukhrawi, so that it is balanced with the life of the world.

b) Curriculum renewal

Further was said by Ustadz Fathurrozi Amin presides as in the general curriculum that schools as institutions Pondok Pesantren Al Barokah, Islam lessons prioritize learning materials derived from classic books, such as tradition, monotheism, tafsir, jurisprudence and the like. The curriculum is based on the level of ease and complexity of the books studied, starting from the initial, intermediate and advanced levels. Good learning will provide learning outcomes in accordance with what is expected. This can be related to the conclusion from the research that the learning process provides a space for students to interact and socialize with one another. Learning places students not only as objects but also as subjects, so that the learning substance is truly alive.

Then in early 2018 the Al Barokah Islamic Boarding School's curriculum was updated when it entered general education in the pesantren curriculum, and if the percentage of the curriculum at the Al Barokah Islamic Boarding School was 60% religious curriculum and 40% general curriculum.

c) The renewal of the evaluation is

Santri Skills generally evaluated by the success of their teaching books. If the audience is satisfied, it is considered as the student concerned passed. Legalization
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for obtaining a diploma is the kiai's blessing that students are allowed to move to study other books of a higher level and can teach the books they master to others.

"The Al Barokah Islamic Boarding School is an Islamic boarding school that has adopted curriculum reforms, both those referring to the Ministry of Religion and the Ministry of National Education, which have clearly abandoned this evaluation model. The madras / classical evaluation model uses an official exam by providing graduation numbers and graduation marks such as a diploma like madrasas in general," said H. Muhammad Sidiq.

According to Mr. Nantu Hermanto as one of the guardians and also an alumni of the Al Barokah Islamic boarding school, he explained that the assessment system carried out by the Al Barokah Islamic boarding school is currently more measurable and systematic than when he was a student of the institution. This has caused the progress of the current Al Barokah Islamic boarding school to be very large and has received sympathy from the community. This is evidenced by the increasing public interest in housing their children in this institution.

d) Reforming the management of Islamic boarding schools

Furthermore, H. Muhammad Hasan Sidiq then explained that in the context of management reform, although the role of the kyai is always considered important, the kyai is not placed in the sole decision-making position of policy. From there, work begins with the distribution of work units in the order determined by the leadership of the Pesantren. This means that the power of the kyai has been distributed to other people who trust the task, the work mechanism is also directed according to the vision and mission of the Pesantren. Initially, it was sometimes acknowledged that the pattern of planning for pesantren was always relatively simple, often short-term, medium-term and long-term plans seemed to overlap. As a result, these programs are difficult to measure attainment levels.

For this reason, it is necessary to reform the management of Islamic boarding schools which were originally arrogant and turned into classics so that the programs of this institution can be achieved, both short-term, medium-term and long-term programs. And it is hoped that with the renewal of the management of this cottage, the programs in question can be realized systematically and efficiently. So that the purpose of Islamic boarding school education to become a forum for character building in its students can be realized. And also Islamic boarding schools can also compete with general educational institutions in output or graduates from these institutions.

With the steps as described by the author above, the role of Islamic boarding school education in character building in the modern era is clearly very visible in the Al Barokah Islamic Boarding School. This is proven after the author conducted interviews and observations to several elements of society and stakeholders in this institution who stated that the output produced by this institution was not only competent in religious matters but also able to compete in worldly or state life.

There are so many alumni from this Islamic boarding school who have important roles in government and also become educational staff and many are successful Islamic entrepreneurs.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research and discussion conducted by the author, it can be concluded that the method used by the Al Barokah Islamic Boarding School
in Tunggak Cerme Village, Wonomerto District, Probolinggo Regency, was to improve the character of the students and their female students, by revamping the curriculum of the Islamic boarding school which was originally only instilling religious education. The development of this institution also includes a general curriculum and skills in teaching and learning activities as well as reforms in the management of Islamic boarding schools, including: reforms in the field of learning methods, renewal in the field of curriculum, renewal in the field of evaluation and renewal in the field of management of Islamic boarding schools. This can be related to the conclusion from the research that the learning process provides a space for students to interact and socialize with one another. From this renewal, the role of Islamic boarding school education in character building in the modern era, especially in the al Barokah Islamic boarding school is very clearly visible. This can be seen by the number of qualified and competent alumni in all fields, both in the religious and general fields. Basically all learning activity programs, ranging from learning to Islamic boarding schools, madrasas and formal education have been planned with the aim of educating, directing, fostering, developing and making children's attitudes become independent.

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