

# DIGITALIZATION OF ISLAMIC BOARDING SCHOOLS

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## DIGITALIZATION OF ISLAMIC BOARDING SCHOOLS: INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA INNOVATION BASED ON ICT IN ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT NURUL HARAMAIN ISLAMIC BOARDING SCHOOL NARMADA WEST LOMBOK

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### ABSTRACT

The Industrial Revolution 4.0 marked by the era of globalization has affected all people's lives internationally including Indonesia. Currently, the big problem faced in the development of educational progress in Indonesia is that it has not been balanced with the equitable quality of teacher resources and digital-based instructional media. Especially these problems that often occur in Islamic Religious Education teachers in Islamic boarding schools who occupy a strategic position in determining the flow of progress of the times in accordance with the values of Islamic teachings. This study aims to explore the form of digital media for PAI learning and find teacher competencies in the implementation of ICT-based PAI instructional media at the Nurul Haramain Narmada Islamic Boarding School in Narmada West Lombok. This research uses a qualitative-descriptive approach with data collection techniques from interview, observation and documentation. There are three activities in qualitative data analysis, namely Data Condensation, Data Display and Drawing and Verifying Conclusions. In this study, researcher found forms of digital media for PAI at the Nurul Haramain Narmada Islamic Boarding School in West Lombok, Based on the policies of the cottage leaders and principals through several programs, namely Tugu Sasak program, CBT (Computer Base Test) program, CBC (Computer Base Classes) program, PBT (Paper Based Test) program, LAC (language Advisory Council) program, HMC (Haramain Media Center) program and IT department program of students organization with several supporting facilities are computer laboratories, language laboratories, multimedia classes, data base centers, work programs of students organization, language development centers, digital libraries, art creativity centers and eco-theology of pesantren. The competence of PAI teachers at the Nurul Haramain Narmada Islamic Boarding School West Lombok in implementation of instructional media based on ICT is to have pedagogic competence, namely the interaction between teachers and students well with relevant learning models and methods.

**KEYWORDS:** Digitalization of Islamic Boarding Schools, Instructional Media Innovation, Islamic Religious Education, ICT



## 1. INTRODUCTION

On October 16, 2022, the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China opened at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. General Secretary Xi Jinping made a report to the congress on behalf of the 19th Central Committee. On the basis of reviewing the past ten years of changes in the new era, the report plans the goals, tasks and major policies for the development of the party and the country in the next five years or even longer. Among them, the relevant statement on the housing market is "insist on the positioning that houses are for living in, not for speculation, and accelerate the establishment of a housing system with multi-subject supply, multi-channel security, and simultaneous rental and purchase."

The era of the Industrial Revolution 4.0 was marked by the era of globalization which has affected all people's lives internationally, including Indonesia. At present, the big problem faced in the development of educational progress in Indonesia is that it has not been matched by the even distribution of the quality of teacher resources and digital-based learning media. Especially these problems often occur in Islamic Religious Education teachers in Islamic boarding schools who occupy a strategic position in determining the current progress of the times in accordance with the values of Islamic teachings.

Azhar Arsyad revealed that the development of science and technology is increasingly encouraging renewal or innovation efforts in the use of technological results in the learning process. teachers are required to be able to use the tools that can be provided by the school and do not rule out that these tools are by the developments and demands of the times (Arsyad, 2009).

Miftachul Ulum and Abdul Mun'im's research reveals that Islamic boarding schools are also faced with conditions of ever-evolving technological growth and development. Fast information services that are connected to cyberspace cannot be stopped, and changes in people's mindsets are also experiencing a shift (Miftachul Ulum and Abdul Mun'im, 2018). The shift raises a stigma in Islamic boarding schools to be able to adapt to social changes in society. Islamic boarding schools continue to experience changes form in adopting technological developments but still do not change the culture of the previous pesantren. The emergence of modern Islamic boarding schools is part of how to adopt current technological changes. The presence of modern pesantren (khalafiyah) is a response to adopting the concept of virtual education which means learning Islam together.

Thus, from the explanation above, of course, the challenges of Islamic boarding school education are very complex; this is in line with the dynamics of the development of science and technology so that in Islamic boarding school education innovations are needed, especially in the learning process, namely using learning media as a tool to support learning achievement. Namely a learning innovation from conventional media to learn media based on information and communication technology.

The problems caused by the Industrial Revolution 4.0 were responded to quickly by Islamic boarding schools in Indonesia, which totaled 28,149 institutions. As stated by the Chairman of the Nahdlatul Ulama Organization (PBNU), Sulton Fathoni, that Industry 4.0 is currently oriented towards developing existing materials. Namely, the digitization of pesantren materials which is more oriented toward the 'enhancement' of existing materials. Sulton gave an example of digitization carried out in Islamic boarding schools, such as learning tools that have been properly applied. Purchasing goods digitally has occurred among students (Wazis, 2020). Thus, the ability of Islamic boarding schools to respond to the dynamics of the times that are so fast makes the position of Islamic boarding school objects an interesting reality to be studied scientifically. First, Islamic boarding schools as institutions that communicate messages of Islamic teachings have a great influence on societal changes in various fields, be it education, economics, politics, society, culture, and information technology. The role of pesantren which is so strong is confirmed in Law Number 18 of 2019 concerning Islamic Boarding Schools which states that the scope of pesantren functions is education, preaching, and community empowerment. Second, Islamic boarding schools can play themselves as bastions of national morality by preparing human resources for students who are ready to face the globalization of the times by instilling generational morals. The ability of pesantren as a force for morality is supported by the increasing number of Islamic boarding schools in Indonesia that teach *Islam rahmatan lil alamin*.

The era of the industrial revolution 4.0 also had an impact on the use of digital technology in the learning process, completing various assignments, and increasing teacher competence, which cannot be separated from the flow of information and technology development. Facing these challenges, teachers at the forefront of the world of education are required to be ready to change and adapt. The role of the teacher will not be replaced by any sophisticated machine. This is because teachers are needed to shape the character of the nation's children with manners, tolerance, and good values.

Innovation in the form of using instructional media is very possible as an effort to maximize the learning process in the classroom which is more directed at the cognitive dimension, namely mastery and understanding of PAI material, especially in the current era of rapid advances in information and communication technology (Nurhidin, 2017). This is intended so that students are more interested and motivated in participating in PAI learning in class because the use of media can help and make it easier for teachers to package material to be more interactive, attract students' interest and motivation so that the material being taught is easily absorbed and understood.

This is in line with what was explained by Elfridawati explaining that before entering the digital era as it is today, the media in the learning process is used by teachers or teaching staff only as a tool in conveying learning, but at this time learning media has been packaged in digital form. So that the impression of appearance in providing information to students or students can attract their attention. The use of media is considered important in supporting the learning process. Entering the 4.0 era, where the space for information and communication is massively open, requires teaching staff to be able to effectively use learning media, both conventional learning media and dominant in digital

learning media. The dominance of the use of digital learning media is because the utilization of media is currently centered on the use of technology and information (Dhuhani and Rajab, 2020).

The innovation of instructional media PAI learning media is something that cannot be avoided in the learning process, given the increasingly complex problems of the PAI learning system. If the practice of learning PAI in schools or madrasas still uses traditional learning models and media, where students only listen to the teacher, students will increasingly lose interest in studying PAI. Therefore, one of the alternatives to improve the quality of PAI learning and become a serious study in this study is to utilize digital-based learning media.

1 Pondok Pesantren Nurul Haramain Narmada West Lombok 4 is one of the Islamic boarding schools in West Nusa Tenggara which was awarded the Best Islamic Boarding School Nomination in the Field of Islamic Boarding School Digitalization in 2021 in the 2021 Islamic Boarding School Independence Nomination which was awarded by the Office of the Ministry of Religion of West Nusa Tenggara Province. Islamic boarding schools as educational institutions are recognized as having a significant contribution to raising and developing the world of education and can also be trusted as an alternative for solving various educational problems that occur at this time.

The data is in accordance with the Ministry of Religion's national policy and strategy directions for 2020-2024 the strategy is used to carry out each priority activity which is then translated into national priority projects including improving the quality of teaching and learning through strengthening early grade literacy education and new literacy (digital, data and social literacy) with effective and targeted teaching strategies; and increasing the competence and professionalism of educators (Ministry of Religion, 2020).

From these data, it is clear that the existence of the Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School has innovations in responding to the challenges of the times in the era of the industrial revolution 4.0 from various aspects such as the economic aspects of Islamic boarding schools, aspects of da'wah and including aspects of educational development. This has become a researcher's interest in special research on digital-based learning media innovations that require special competence in implementing Islamic teaching and learning process. Based on the identification of the problems above, the formulation of the problem in this study is How instructional media in PAI based on ICT at Pondok Pesantren Nurul Haramain Narmada West Lombok.

## METHODS

This study uses a qualitative-descriptive approach. Which means that the data collected comes from interview data, observation, and documentation. The use of a qualitative research approach in this study aims to describe and analyze phenomena, events, social activities, attitudes of belief, and perceptions of people's thinking individually and in groups about the digitization of Islamic boarding schools in Islamic Islamic education learning innovation at the Nurul Haramain Narmada Islamic



Boarding School, West Lombok. Meanwhile, data analysis uses several steps according to Miles and Huberman. Activities in qualitative data analysis are carried out interactively and continuously until complete so that the data is saturated. There are three kinds of activities in qualitative data analysis, namely; (1) Data Condensation, (2) Data Display, and (3) Drawing and Verifying Conclusions.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Development of the Nurul Haramain Narmada Islamic Boarding School in the Revolutionary Era 4.0

Referring to the mandate of Law Number 18 of 2019 concerning Islamic Boarding Schools states that to increase faith and piety as well as noble character, Islamic Boarding Schools that grow and develop in a society with their particular characteristics have made an important contribution in realizing Islam that is *rahmatan lil'alam* by giving birth to believers with good character, love the motherland and progress and are proven to have a real role both in the movement and struggle for independence and national development within the framework of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.

According to Zamakhsyari Dofier about future Islamic boarding schools with the addition of Islamic boarding schools in Indonesia, Islamic boarding schools can make a variety of changes more freely, from those that rely heavily on the tradition to those that can integrate educational modernity as broad and high as possible. The attitude of the Kyai is increasingly broad in implementing the modernization of Islamic boarding schools in the midst of the rapid changes in Indonesian society. They are also not hampered by debates for and against defending the positive aspects of the Islamic education system. The pressure has led to efforts to serve needs that benefit the Muslim community. The belief that changes must be made without destroying the positive aspects of rural life is made possible by technological developments and the increasing availability of educational resources via the internet.

The implementation of Islamic boarding schools has certain peculiarities or uniqueness in managing Islamic boarding schools as referred to in Article 18 paragraph (1), namely regarding the management of Islamic boarding schools while maintaining certain characteristics or uniqueness that reflect traditions, desires, and ideals as well as the variety and character of Islamic boarding schools. Thus, the uniqueness or uniqueness of the pesantren is directed at the development of (1) studies, (2) knowledge, and (3) expertise and skills (Regulation of the Minister of Religion of the Republic of Indonesia, 2020).

### Digitalization of Islamic Boarding Schools in Management of Education and Learning at Nurul Haramain Narmada, West Lombok

Integrated boarding school curriculum (Depag, Gontor, NW)

Islamic boarding schools as educational institutions are recognized as having a sizable contribution to raising and developing the world of education and can also be trusted as an alternative for solving various educational problems that occur at this time, especially in the use of technology in the 4.0 revolution era. So, with the persistence and policy of the pesantren leadership and the entire extended

family of the Nurul Haramain Islamic boarding school, the Ministry of Religion of West Nusa Tenggara Province in 2021 was awarded the Best Islamic Boarding School Nomination in the Field of Digitalization. Because Pondok Pesantren Nurul Haramain took part in developing the management of ICT-based education and learning.

Digitalization policy (The Rising Years, Nurul Haramain Untuk Bangsa, Haramain For The World) At Pondok Pesantren Nurul Haramain, a digital learning system has been realized, which of course has various weaknesses including HR factors, supporting tools, and so on, but with the existence of these learning tools, it really helps students to study better, and learn in class or at school. Multimedia classes are more effective, efficient, and interactive.

The development of ICT in the last few decades has been running very fast in line with developments in telecommunications technology, including computer networks. Various supporting technologies and applications have also been developed in an effort to support and facilitate human and organizational life activities, including teaching and learning activities in the world of education. In response to the development and progress of ICT, lecturers, and teachers are required to master technology (ICT) in order to be able to develop ICT-based learning materials and utilize ICT as a learning medium (Hilir, 2019).

Several Policy Directions and the Ministry of Religion's National Strategy in the Ministry of Religion's 2020-2024 Strategic Plan. The strategies used to carry out each Priority Activity which is then translated into national priority projects include Improving the quality of teaching and learning, among others through increasing the use of ICT in learning, especially in synergizing distance learning models with online learning systems and improving the quality of religious education, including education in Islamic boarding schools (Ministry of Religion, 2020).

#### **Teacher creativity in designing learning books/modules**

In the implementation of education in learning at Nurul Haramain, ICT has been integrated into learning, which has a positive impact on Islamic Education Learning, including the existence of ICT-based media that can increase the achievements of Islamic Education Learning, especially in PAI learning, digital-based learning can also increase the effectiveness of teaching with various media which is already available in the cottage environment.

As a manifestation of the pesantren digitalization policy which has been held in the study room between; Multimedia classes, Presentation slides, Computerization in learning evaluation, learning science, and digital books.

#### **Instructional Media in PAI at the Nurul Haramain Narmada Islamic Boarding School**

At the Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School, various efforts have been made in facing the era of the industrial revolution 4.0 as an effort to provide digital-based learning to students and female



students, with the aim that the learning media used by teachers is not monotonous and boring in the learning process and makes learning more enjoyable and attract the attention and motivation of students.

The data is by the Ministry of Religion's national policy and strategy directions for 2020-2024 the strategy is used to carry out each priority activity which is then translated into national priority projects including improving the quality of teaching and learning through strengthening early grade literacy education and new literacy (digital, data and social literacy) with effective and targeted teaching strategies; and increasing the competence and professionalism of educators (Ministry of Religion, 2020).

The existence and development of digital technology is the thing that most influences the education and learning management system in the world today. This is due to aspects of effectiveness, efficiency, and attractiveness through digital technology-based learning. As a form of supporting the digitalization of learning at the Nurul Haramain Narmada Islamic Boarding School. Among others; Computer Laboratories, Language Laboratories, Santri Organizational Roles, LAC and CLI Roles, ICT-based Literacy, Digital Library databases and Digital Art Studios such as Haramain Studio, Calligraphy, Publishing Section, and in collaboration with other sections.

The realization of PAI learning media that has been developed by teachers as a support for the learning process to accelerate the knowledge of students at the Nurul Haramain Narmada Islamic boarding school so that teachers can also provide good learning and attract the attention of students because PAI materials can be designed and implemented in the process digital or computerized-based learning such as presentation slides, learning videos and so on.

In the current era of globalization, teachers at Nurul Haramain Narmada always develop learning media well and apply it in classrooms, both multimedia classes as an innovation in utilizing digital media. This is in line with what Prof. Dr. Azhar Arsyad that the development of science and technology is increasingly encouraging efforts to renew or innovate in the use of technological results in the learning process that teachers are required to be able to use tools that can be provided by schools and do not rule out that these tools are appropriate with the developments and demands of the times (Arsyad, 2009).

## CONCLUSION

In developing the digitization of learning at Islamic boarding schools, Nurul Haramain Islamic Boarding School has had creative ideas from caregivers and leadership policies since several years ago with the title "TUGU SASAK (Satu Guru, Satu Santri, Satu Komputer)", it mean that the one of digitalization program ini at Nurul Haramain is One Teacher, One Santri ad One Computer. The general view is that this program is expected to accelerate all other activities in the development of the



Indonesian nation's human resources. This program focuses on the use of computers as a means of transforming knowledge, where every student and teacher must have a computer

In accordance with the direction of the Ministry of Religion's national policy and strategy for 2020-2024 that the strategy is used to carry out each priority activity which is then translated into a national priority project, including improving the quality of teaching and learning through strengthening early grade literacy education and new literacy (digital literacy). , data, and social) with effective and targeted teaching strategies; and increasing the competence and professionalism of educators.

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Pondok Pesantren Nurul Haramain as an educational institution is recognized as having a significant contribution to raising and developing the world of education and can also be trusted as an alternative for solving various educational problems that occur at this time, especially in the use of technology in the 4.0 revolution era. So, with the persistence and policy of the pesantren leadership and the entire extended family of the Nurul Haramain Islamic boarding school, the Ministry of Religion of West Nusa Tenggara Province in 2021 was awarded the Best Islamic Boarding School Nomination in the Field of Digitalization.

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