

Edutainment In Empowering Islamic Religious Education Learning.

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ABSTRACT

To renew the discourse on empowering Islamic religious education, an appropriate method is needed, namely the edutainment method (a combined method between education and entertainment), for example, music, fairy tales, magic poetry, etc. The research method is library research (library research), the conclusion is that edutainment is a method that is in line with the needs of students, society and the government and also in accordance with the demands of the times, namely the renewal of the scientific discourse of Islamic religious education that creates and innovates between education and entertainment.

1. Introduction

Education should enlighten its students, encouraging them to be enthusiastic about their learning activities. However, recently, the world of education has been in a difficult state. We face various problems, such as crime in schools, student reluctance to participate in learning activities, etc.

Citing Mommies Daily, here are the causes of laziness in children and tips for parents to overcome their laziness: Causes of Laziness in Children: Lessons That Are Less Relevant. Lessons that are less relevant to children's lives are the primary cause of their lack of motivation to learn. As a result, children feel they are not finding value in their learning. (DetikEdu.:2023).

Inappropriate Learning Methods: Children have different learning styles (visual, auditory, kinesthetic). Inappropriate methods can make children uninterested in learning. (DetikEdu.:2023).

This was also conveyed by Bakhrudin All Habsy et al., who stated in their research that teaching methods that are not suited to students' learning styles can lead to reluctance to learn. Teachers who are unable to adapt their approach to students' needs risk making students feel uncomfortable, unmotivated, and ultimately reluctant to participate in lessons. (Bakhrudin All Habsy et al., 2023).

This was also mentioned by Rifki Setiadi. In a case study written by Rifki, students showed reluctance to learn because the teacher did not provide easy-to-understand explanations and provided insufficient relevant exercises. When teachers are unable to build good emotional and pedagogical connections, students tend to be passive and disinterested. (Rifki Setiadi, 2024).

Cherish Academy, in its article, emphasizes that students' reluctance to learn can be caused by a lack of motivation, inappropriate teaching methods, and an unsupportive classroom atmosphere. Teachers who fail to create a safe and enjoyable learning environment can potentially alienate students from the learning process. (Cherish Academy: 2023).

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Given the issues facing the world of education, the author proposes a solution to the stigma inherent in these educational environments by reforming teachers' teaching methods, namely by using edutainment methods. This will be discussed in the intellectual space in the discussion section.

2. Literature Review

Hamid explained that edutainment comes from a combination of the words "education" and "entertainment," and has begun to be applied in learning through media familiar to students, such as games, music, films, and multimedia. He emphasized that edutainment is not simply entertainment, but rather a strategy to strengthen understanding and create close interactions between teachers and students. (Hamid, Moh. Sholeh: 2011).

Edi Suharto states that empowerment is the process of giving power or ability to individuals or groups to do something they were previously unable to do. (Edi Suharto,: 2005) According to the fourth edition of the Great Dictionary of the Indonesian Language:

Learning is the process, method, or act of enabling people or living beings to learn. (Great Dictionary of the Indonesian Language, Fourth Edition: 2005).

Islamic religious education is the guidance and care provided to students so that, upon completion of their education, they can understand and practice Islamic teachings and adopt them as a way of life. Islamic religious education is education implemented based on Islamic teachings. (stitmakrifatulilmi.ac.i,:2021)

3. Methodology

The research method is library research. Mestika Zed states that library research is research conducted through data collection activities or scientific papers that aim to solve a problem that is basically based on a critical and in-depth review of relevant library materials. (Mestika Zed: 2014)

4. Results and Discussion

LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA NUMBER 20 OF 2003 CONCERNING THE NATIONAL EDUCATION SYSTEM states that:

1. Education is a conscious and planned effort to create a learning atmosphere and process so that students actively develop their potential to possess spiritual and religious strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character, and the skills needed by themselves, society, the nation, and the state.
2. National education is education based on Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, rooted in religious values and Indonesian national culture, and responsive to the demands of changing times.
3. Educators are educational personnel who are qualified as teachers, lecturers, counselors, learning facilitators, widyaiswara, tutors, instructors, facilitators, and other titles that are appropriate to their specializations, and participate in organizing education. As for the Principles of Implementing National Education According to Law No. 20 of 2003, in more detail, this law also regulates the principles of organizing education in Indonesia that apply nationally, including the following 6 points:
 1. Education is conducted democratically, fairly, and non-discriminatory, upholding human rights, religious values, cultural values, and national diversity.
 2. Education is organized as a systemic whole with an open and multi-meaning system.
 3. Education is organized as a lifelong process of cultivating and empowering students.
 4. Education is organized by providing role models, building willpower, and developing students' creativity in the learning process.
 5. Education is organized by developing a culture of reading, writing, and arithmetic for all members of society.
 6. Education is organized by empowering all components of society through their participation in the implementation and quality control of educational services.

The above principles must be applied in the implementation of the national education system in Indonesia in order to achieve the goal of educating the nation, as mandated in the preamble to the 1945 Constitution. (International Quality)

Meanwhile, M. Amin Abdullah developed an integrative-interconnective approach in response to the dichotomy between religious and general knowledge. He emphasized the importance of various disciplines to make Islamic education more relevant and contextual.

Main Ideas:

- Overcoming the dichotomy between religious and general knowledge: Religious knowledge and general knowledge should not be separated.

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- The "Spider Web" Model: Knowledge is defined as an interconnected network.
- Multi-, inter-, and transdisciplinary approach: Combining social sciences, humanities, science, and religion.
- Main foundation: The Qur'an and Sunnah as the meeting point for scientific integration. (M. Amin Abdullah, et al., 2014), Tatag explained that edutainment began to be formally recognized in the 1980s as a response to learning that was considered scary and boring. He said that the concept of edutainment was born from the need to create a fun and stress-free learning atmosphere, by combining education and entertainment harmoniously. (Praja: 2017, Tatag Satria Praja: 2017). Ika Nur'Aini stated that the urgency of edutainment lies in the ability to create a comfortable, stress-free, and fun learning atmosphere. This is important to increase students' interest in learning and prevent boredom in the learning process. Methods such as role play, intensification, and educational games are effective tools in this approach. (Ika Nur'Aini: 2022), Ulil Albab stated that edutainment is an approach that combines education and entertainment to actualize conventional learning objectives while exploring the hidden potential of students. In the context of Islamic education, edutainment provides freedom for students to explore knowledge from various sources and strengthen character and spiritual values. (Ulil Albab: 2019), Hamid emphasized that edutainment can make students feel happy, strengthen understanding of the material, and create close communication between teachers and students. He also mentioned that edutainment-based learning can be done through songs, games, experiments, and other interactive methods. (Hamid: 2011),

According to Hamruni in the book by M. Fadlillah, edutainment is a learning process that combines education and entertainment harmoniously. The main requirement is that learning must be fun, without eliminating the essence of education. The methods used can be humor, games, role play, and coercion. (M. Fadlillah: 2014), Suyanto, Emphasizes that edutainment is not just entertainment, but an effective pedagogical strategy for building 21st century skills. (Suyanto). Rini Handayani, Describes how the edutainment approach can be integrated into thematic and project-based learning. (Rini Handayani: 2018), Thus, edutainment is a method to refresh the thinking space of teachers to be more creative and innovative in formulating their teaching methods. As for the example as a solution in empowering Islamic religious education learning. The following is an example of edutainment in Islamic religious education: Ulil Albab analyzes that in the context of religious education, edutainment can be in the form of worship simulations, Islamic quiz games, or short dramas about the stories of the prophets. This provides space for students to explore knowledge actively and enjoyably. He also stated that Edutainment helps students explore hidden potential and strengthen spiritual values and character. (Ulil Albab: 2016), Shodiqin stated that edutainment can be implemented through media such as educational videos, computer games, music, and outdoor activities. For example, science lessons involve visiting a zoo to learn about animal habitats firsthand. He then stated that edutainment makes learning more dynamic and in line with developments in information technology. (Rahmat Shodiqin: 2016)

Fadlillah explained that edutainment can be implemented through activities such as role-playing, educational games, humor in learning, and drills. For example, teachers might invite children to play "shop" to introduce the concepts of buying and selling and simple mathematics. He also explained that edutainment is a learning process that harmoniously combines education and entertainment so that children learn with enjoyment. (M. Fadlillah: 2014).

Examples of edutainment include:

- 1. Hand Puppets: Hand puppets as a medium for teaching storytelling have been proven valid, practical, and effective for elementary school students. For example, hand puppets are used in teaching folk tales in fourth grade. (Wafiq Nur Fadilla, Misdalina, Putri Dewi Nurhasana: 2022).
- 2. Magic: Voice magic with muppets is used to increase children's interest in learning through an edutainment approach. For example, a voice magic show using vocal and breathing techniques. (Kalijaga Study: 2020).
- 3. Fairy Tales: Fairy tales are used as an educational recreation medium to enhance children's cognitive abilities. For example, the Kabayan folk tale uses hand puppets. (Prabandari et al.: 2023), and in this case, poetry. Thus, the edutainment method is a form of teacher teaching activity that is relevant to the burning and blazing spirit of Islam to foster students' interest and enthusiasm in the learning process, especially in Islamic religious education.

5. Conclusion

that edutainment is a method that is in line with the needs of students, society and the government and also in accordance with the demands of the times, namely the renewal of Islamic religious education discourse that creates and innovates between education and entertainment.

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