

The Role of Parents in Teaching Islamic Values

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Abstract

The Role of Parents in Teaching Islamic Values to Children Parents play a very important role in educating and shaping children's character. Through the teaching of Islamic values carried out from an early age, parents can help children understand religious teachings and build a noble personality. The role of parents is not only as providers of physical needs but also as the main educators in shaping children's morals. By getting used to religious practices at home, such as performing *ṣalāh* (prayer), reading the Qur'an, making *du'ā'* (supplication), and demonstrating noble morals, parents can teach positive habits to their children. Through consistent examples, children will imitate these behaviors and understand the importance of Islamic values in daily life. According to several sources, the teaching of Islamic values carried out by parents from an early age will have a positive impact on the development of children's character. This also helps children understand the basic principles of Islam, such as honesty, concern for others, and respect for the commands of Allah SWT. In addition, good communication between parents and children is also an important means of this teaching. Parents need to listen to their children's concerns, discuss daily life, and provide simple but meaningful explanations of religious principles.

INTRODUCTION

Islamic education is an effort to teach or instill the teachings of Islam so that they may be used as a way of life (views and attitudes toward life) for an individual. Uhbiyati (1999:12) defines Islamic education as an education system that covers all aspects of life needed by every servant of Allah. This definition emphasizes that Islamic education does not only focus on the spiritual aspect but also on the formation of noble morals and readiness to carry out human duties as caliphs on earth, as affirmed in QS. Az-Zariyat, verse 56: “And I did not create the jinn and mankind except that they should serve Me.”

Along with the progression of time, Islamic education must transform by keeping pace with contemporary developments. At present, Indonesia, as a country where the majority of the population embraces Islam, positions Islamic education as one of the important elements in the curriculum aimed at building the next generation of Muslims (Akrim 2022; Mujahid 2021). Therefore, the role of related parties—especially parents as the first educators—is crucial to ensure that Islamic education can be applied effectively in shaping a generation of believers with strong moral character (Hijriyah et al. 2024; Ismet et al. 2025; Nudin 2020).

Parents are the first and most responsible parties in educating their children and in introducing them to religious, moral, and social values. The role of parents is essential in the process of supporting their children's education at school, ensuring the maintenance of good academic performance, and monitoring their overall development (Mujahid 2021; Nguyen et

al. 2021; Yigzaw 2019). Parents should not completely relinquish educational responsibility to schools as formal institutions; rather, they must ensure that positive values are practiced consistently. In this way, synergy between education at school and at home can be maximized (Diadha, 2015).

Supervision of children is a crucial aspect of parental responsibility in education. In the collaborative relationship between schools and parents, parents ensure that the lessons learned at school are practiced properly, especially outside academic settings. Ensuring that children practice values aligned with Islamic teachings is a parental role that cannot be replaced (Mujib and Mudzakkir, 2019).

There have been many recent phenomena indicating a growing distance between parents and children. To educate children in developing a proper understanding of religion, a close relationship between parents and children is essential. This enables parents to teach foundational religious practices such as prayer procedures, reading iqra, and reciting the Qur'an, as well as cultivating good manners and increasing religious discussions at home (Hanafi et al. 2024; Izzatunnisa et al. 2024). Through these activities, it is hoped that children will develop a strong interest in their religion and establish a solid spiritual foundation (Zakariyah and Hamid, 2020).

The consistency of parents in instilling and teaching Islamic religious education to their children is also a key point of discussion in this article. Many incidents show parental neglect leading children into delinquency or criminal behavior, particularly during adolescence (Bland et al. 2018; Cinini et al. 2023; Jones et al. 2021). Religious activities carried out at home must be consistent, such as reading the Qur'an. Reading the Qur'an together, interspersed with religious discussions, is an effective approach to educating children because these activities successfully instill religious values. The Qur'an contains many references to moral prohibitions; by providing understanding through its teachings and engaging in discussions, children can develop awareness and self-regulation in their actions (Musyahdah, 2020).

The Qur'an also highlights one of the most important roles of parents: as those primarily obligated to advise their children, since parents will be held accountable for their children's behavior in the hereafter. This is affirmed in QS. At-Tahrim, verse 6: "O you who believe, protect yourselves and your families from the fire of Hell..." Based on this verse, it can be concluded that every parent is obliged to protect their family, especially their children. One of the ways to protect children from the torment of Hellfire is by providing correct religious education, which guides them away from actions that distance them from Allah SWT.

The responsibility of parents in Islamic religious education is profound and extends into the hereafter. The Prophet (PBUH) said: "Each of you is a leader, and every leader will be held accountable for his leadership. A husband is the leader of his family, and he will be held accountable for his family..." (HR. Bukhari No. 893 and Muslim No. 1829).

In this era of globalization and rapid technological advancement, parents face numerous challenges. These changes significantly influence children's thinking patterns and behavior. Social media, as a medium of interaction unrestricted by space and time, can introduce influences that contradict Islamic teachings. Diverse social environments may pressure children to conform to values that are inconsistent with their religion. Additionally, gaps in

parents' religious understanding can become a major challenge, sometimes leading them to delegate full responsibility for education to formal institutions (Maussen et al. 2015; Pusztai et al. 2024; Vestenskov et al. 2018). Limited time and daily busyness further complicate this issue. Therefore, parents must take proactive steps, such as allocating quality time, creating a religious home environment through activities like reading the Qur'an together, engaging in discussions, and maintaining communication with schools to monitor children's development. Strong collaboration between parents, schools, and the community can help nurture children into individuals with noble character who are prepared to face modern challenges (Iksal et al. 2024; Sumar et al. 2025).

The role of parents in shaping Islamic character in children has become a topic of discussion among academics. Nurdiana (2023) emphasizes the primary role of parents in enhancing Islamic religious education in children. Parents have a significant influence in shaping children's understanding of religion, values, and Islamic principles. This research highlights three main aspects of parental roles: modeling behavior, supporting learning, and creating a conducive environment. Mudzakkir (2019) discusses the collaboration between formal institutions and family education in creating a strong Islamic generation. In general, academic research tends to focus on the relationship between formal education and family roles. However, these studies have not sufficiently explored the central role of parents as primary educators, particularly in teaching Islamic values in the context of modern challenges such as social media and globalization.

These studies provide important insights into the role of parents in Islamic religious education. Although their focus varies, most emphasize collaboration with formal institutions or the general influence of technology. This indicates a gap for more in-depth research on the direct role of parents as role models in shaping children's Islamic education, especially in the face of evolving modern challenges.

Based on the discussion above, it is evident that parents play a highly significant role in building children's character. Therefore, this article focuses on emphasizing the role of parents in teaching Islamic values, particularly as supervisors of children outside the school environment and as facilitators ensuring that Islamic teachings learned at school are practiced in real-life contexts amid the challenges of the digital and modernization era.

Based on this background, this study aims to analyze the role of parents in teaching Islamic values to children, particularly within the context of modern challenges such as technological development and social change. This research focuses on how parents function as role models, supervisors, and primary educators in ensuring the internalization of Islamic values in children's daily lives. The benefits of this study are both theoretical and practical. Theoretically, it contributes to the development of Islamic education studies by offering deeper insights into the role of parents as primary educators within the family environment. Practically, it is expected to serve as a reference for parents in implementing effective strategies for teaching Islamic values, especially in addressing contemporary challenges. Additionally, the findings may assist educators and policymakers in strengthening collaboration between families and formal educational institutions to cultivate a generation with strong Islamic character and moral integrity.

METHOD

This research used a qualitative approach with a literature review method. It constituted a study that included a summary, analysis, and discussion of the topic under investigation. The purpose of the literature review was to provide a clear overview of previous research. The sources for this study were obtained from relevant articles and books aligned with the research topic.

The relevant sources were derived from previous studies published within the last five years and from books published within the last ten years, through an analysis of Islamic education literature. It was expected that this approach would ensure the continued relevance of the research and allow it to serve as a reference for future studies.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Teaching Islamic values

The teaching of Islamic values is the process of educating individuals to understand, and practice Islamic principles in daily life. This process includes not only knowledge of religious teachings, but also the practice of morals and ethics in accordance with Islamic values. Islamic religious education aims to develop an individual's spiritual, moral, and ethical awareness, as well as provide guidelines for action based on Islamic teachings. This education includes teaching about monotheism, faith, worship, and morals, as well as how these values are relevant in modern life (Romadana, 2024).

Effective teaching of Islamic values occurs when a person provides a real example of good deeds according to Islamic values, both in interaction with children and others. Children tend to imitate their role models. Because it is important for parents to have a deep understanding of Islamic values before educating their children. By being an example for children, it is hoped that parents can form the next generation who are blessed and obedient to Islamic teachings (Romlah and Rusdi, 2023).

In the digital era, the challenges in teaching Islamic values are quite complex, especially in the midst of rapid social and cultural changes. One of the main challenges is the influence of globalization and technology, which brings external values that sometimes contradict the teachings of Islam. Negative content from social media and the internet can affect children's mindset and behavior, making it difficult for them to internalize Islamic values consistently. In addition, the lack of role models from parents, teachers, or community leaders is also an obstacle, because Islamic values are more effectively taught through real examples. A teaching approach that only focuses on memorization without application in daily life can actually make children lose interest in deepening religious teachings.

To overcome this challenge, a solution strategy is needed such as strengthening the role of the family as the first environment in the formation of Islamic character. Parents need to set a real example in practicing Islamic values, such as monotheism, speaking polite and courteous, and practicing tolerance in daily life. In addition, increasing the involvement of other parties who play the role of educational institutions, such as mosques or religious organizations, can support the process of educating Islamic values in children.

Teaching Islamic Values (Tauhidan, Speaking Polite and Polite Words) Tatauhidan as the Foundation for Teaching Islamic Values

The discussion of teaching Islamic values through the role of parents starts from basic

things. In Islam, monotheism is a fundamental aspect and basic thing that must be possessed by all Muslims around the world. This is inseparable from the words of Allah SWT contained in Q.S. Al-Baqarah (2:163)

"Your Lord is the One God, there is no God but He, the Most Merciful and the Most Merciful." This verse is proof of the entity and oneness of Allah SWT as the only god who created everything in this world. By teaching children about the oneness of Allah SWT, they will grow the feeling to love their religion and god. It is hoped that by fostering children's feelings to love their religion, the entire process of implementing worship will be carried out by their children with a sense of sincerity and without coercion in their hearts. By teaching monotheism to children, the next steps such as loving the Prophet, Islam as a religion of rahmatan lil alamin, loving oneself, and loving the Quran as a guide to life, can flow without obstacles (Agus, 2019).

In fact, the purpose of man was created is to worship Allah SWT, as explained in Q.S Adz-Zariyat (52:56) I did not create jinn and humans except to worship Me. Parents need to teach and ensure that throughout life must be lived with the intention of worshipping Allah SWT, so that in the future the child will always be consistent in practicing his religion and not get lost on the wrong path.

Speak polite and polite words

Language is an individual's ability to communicate with others. Language is an essential factor that humans have to distinguish them from animals. The relationship between language is very closely related to the development of individual thinking skills, especially in the development of children's growth. Language development in children is very important because through language, children can express thoughts, so that others can understand them and create a social relationship. So, it is not surprising that language is considered one of the indicators of a child's growth success (Nukman.et al,2023)

In Islam, the ability to speak and speak well is very important, because through one's speech, we can see how a person behaves. In the current era of digitalization, which is characterized by very rapid technological advancements, it has various impacts. One of the significant impacts is the availability of various learning media through various streaming media on the internet, but not all technological media have a good impact on humans, especially children. The use of technology media, especially watch-based learning media by children without being supervised by the elderly, will have a bad impact, one of which is that children will know and practice the language they get from the content they enjoy.

It should be noted that the use of slang speech is a good virtue. There are many phenomenons of children using very bad or toxic words in the past, and most of the reasons are the lack of parental attention to the use of gadgets by their children, causing them to fall into a bad friendship environment. Parents in this case should ensure that their children do not fall into the use of disrespectful speech, as the hadith of the prophet reads "A servant's faith will not be upright until his heart is straight, and his heart will not be upright until his speech is straight."

(HR. Ahmad). As explained by the oral hadith or good speech is a reflection of a good heart as well. Therefore, parents need to educate their children in speaking good and polite words, with direct practice by parents When interacting with using good and polite speech, it is hoped that their children will imitate and practice.

The Role of Parents in Teaching Islamic Values

Parents as role models

From the relevant literature review, it can be found that parents play an important role in instilling morals and character in accordance with the teachings of Islam. This is in line with research conducted by Nurdiana (2023) which shows that children have a tendency to imitate their parents' behaviors and actions, both positive and negative. With the practice of good Islamic religious teachings, positive values can be realized, this is in line with the view of Samol (2024), who states that good morals come from the practice of religious values.

Based on these statements we can conclude that parents in addition to teaching good moral values such as honesty, good manners, trust, etc., They must also practice the teachings of Islam well such as praying on time, sharing often, reading the Quran, etc. The hope is that children will imitate and practice what they observe from their parents, so that positive values will continue to be inherited.

In the context of Islamic religious education, the role of parents as role models has great implications in the formation of children's religious understanding, This means that parents are the first and foremost model for their children in terms of religious practices and beliefs. This means that children often imitate what they see from their parents in terms of worship, morality, and daily behavior that reflects Islamic values. It is important to understand that children learn from what they observe around them. Parents who are active and consistent in their Islamic religious practices set a strong example for their children. When children see their parents diligently performing prayers, reading the Quran, and behaving in accordance with Islamic ethics, they tend to practice these values naturally. They see their parents as trustworthy role models in understanding and practicing religious teachings Islam.

Application of Islamic Values

The application of Islamic values through parents is that parents practice Islamic values in their daily activities. The application of Islamic values through parents plays an important role, especially in shaping children's character and personality. Parents as the first educator for children are obliged to instill Islamic principles in daily life, both through example and advice. Familiarize yourself with the characteristics of Islamic teachings in daily life. For example, parents can teach their children the importance of honesty by showing honesty in their every action. In addition, the habit of worship such as prayer, reading the Qur'an, and praying together. It is hoped that activities that contain worship are carried out together can create a conducive environment for children to understand the values of Islamic teachings. Parents are also required to provide an understanding of noble morals, such as affection, tolerance, and mutual respect, which can be realized through daily interactions at home.

Parents should strive to always act in accordance with religious values in their interactions with others. These include behaviors such as honesty, compassion, friendliness, and fairness. When children see their parents practicing this behavior consistently, they will understand the importance of ethics and morals in Islam.

The application of Islamic values through parents is an important foundation in shaping children's character and personality. It is hoped that by practicing Islamic values in their daily activities, parents will not only become good role models, but also create a conducive environment for children to understand and appreciate Islamic teachings. The habit of shared

worship, such as prayer, reciting the Qur'an, and praying, as well as the application of commendable qualities such as honesty, compassion, tolerance, and mutual respect, will inculcate the principles of Islam deeply in the lives of children. When children see their parents practicing Islamic behavior, they will understand better the importance of ethics and morals according to religious teachings. Parents also need to instill awareness in their children to stay away from acts that are contrary to Islam, so that children can grow up to be individuals with noble character and spiritual responsibility. Through this approach, Islamic values can become a solid guide for future generations.

Parents as nature educators

Parents have a very important role as the first educator in a child's life. As natural educators, parents are responsible for providing moral guidance, education, and emotional support to children from an early age. This includes habituating religious values, character development, and instilling positive habits that will form the basis of a child's personality. Research by Yusnita and Octafiana (2021) shows that the family is the first and main environment that influences children's development and growth, where interactions in the family play a big role in forming habits and behaviors that eventually become part of the child's character

The importance of parental involvement in the child's formal education should be seen. In academic activities, parents need to support their children's learning process through mentoring, create a conducive learning environment, and maintain a balance between learning and play activities. According to Rahmadiani (2020), the family environment, including the interaction between parents and children, is a factor that greatly affects the overall development of children. Parental involvement is very important to the development of children. By providing support and a conducive environment, it is hoped that it can build a better quality of children's education.

The Importance of Consistency

Consistency in religious practice is very important in the teaching of Islamic values. Inconsistencies or behaviors that are contrary to the teachings of Islam can create confusion in children and undermine their understanding of religion. Therefore, parents must maintain consistency in religious practices and daily behavior that are in line with Islamic values.

In daily life, parents may sometimes be faced with challenging situations, where they have to make decisions that affect their religious practices. Parents should strive to ensure that such decisions are in line with Islamic teachings and do not conflict with religious values. Inconsistencies in religious behavior can create doubt and confusion in children. They may wonder why their parents would do something that goes against what they were taught about religion. Providing a supportive environment for religious discussions, such as providing Islamic books or presenting a religious teacher, can help children to increase their knowledge and strengthen their beliefs.

CONCLUSION

The role of parents in teaching Islamic values highlights their primary responsibility in guiding children to understand and practice Islamic teachings through consistent role modeling, such as demonstrating honesty, compassion, and discipline. Early religious education, delivered both through direct instruction and daily habits, plays a crucial role in shaping children's character, while a harmonious and supportive family environment

strengthens the internalization of these values through communication, shared worship, and everyday practice. Parents are also encouraged to actively support children in seeking both formal and non-formal religious knowledge so they can grow into pious individuals capable of navigating modern challenges with Islamic principles as their guide. To enhance these outcomes, parents should increase their involvement by fostering effective communication, supervising children's use of technology, and creating a conducive Islamic home environment, alongside strengthening collaboration with schools and community institutions. Future research is recommended to adopt empirical methods and explore broader social and technological contexts to develop more effective and contextually relevant strategies for teaching Islamic values in the modern era.

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