Moral Education in Early Childhood: The Existence of TPA Darul Amin in Urban Communities

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Abstract
Moral education is not only carried out through formal education, but can also be carried out through non-formal channels, one of which is through TPA (Al-Qur'an Education Park). This research wants to explore the methods of forming children's attitudes and the efforts made by teachers/ustadz in forming children's attitudes. This research was compiled using a descriptive qualitative approach and is located at TPA Darul Amin Palangka Raya. Collecting data through observation, interviews, and documentation. The research was carried out from October to November 2022, by being directly involved in TPA learning 3 times a week. Data validation using triangulation of data sources was analyzed through four stages, namely data collection, data reduction, data presentation and drawing conclusions. The results of this study indicate that the methods used include habituation methods, exemplary methods, story methods and singing methods, and the ustaz's efforts in shaping the child's attitude are greeting, getting used to praying after and before learning, using learning methods, giving advice and examples, supervising and getting used to speaking well, providing motivation and getting used to discipline.

Keywords: moral education; early childhood; existence tpa

Introduction
Education is a process or activity of teaching students to know themselves that they have potential within themselves (Neolaka & Grace, 2017). Education is also very important because having education can help in life, especially for children who must have education so they don't get into things that can harm themselves. Besides that, there is also formal and non-formal education. Formal education is a structured and tiered educational path consisting of early childhood education (TK/RA), basic education (SD/MI), secondary education (SMP/MTs and SMA/MA), and higher education (university). Formal education consists of formal education with state status and formal education with private status. The so-called non-formal education is an educational pathway outside of formal education that can be carried out in a structured and tiered manner (Jumhuri, 2015; Akbar, 2020).

The results of non-formal education can be appreciated with the results of formal education programs after going through an equalization assessment process by an institution appointed by the Government or local government with reference to national education standards. Like institutions courses and training, study groups, studios, places of recitation and others (Wibowo, 2016; Darmadi, 2019). Non-formal education is also very necessary in the
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community with non-formal education can help the community, especially for children because it is not only in formal education to gain knowledge but by attending education it will also help to add other knowledge that can be useful for everyone.

One of the functions of non-formal education is as a place for the community to add knowledge or insight other than what is obtained in formal education. Non-formal education in the community is the Al-Qur'an Education Park (TPA) which is carried out to instill religious values. Non-formal education can also help in the formation of morals because it is very important to instill good morals in someone. In addition, the formation of morals is not only obtained from formal education, but non-formal education can also be obtained (Junaedi, 2018; Kautsar, 2009). Although the internalization process can be carried out in non-formal education, it also requires the role of the school environment, peer groups, social organizations, religious organizations, and others (Surawan, 2019). Morals are a reflection of a person's faith; good and bad morals are a strong indicator of his faith. The better a person's morals, the better his faith, and vice versa. The Prophet Muhammad really emphasized the importance of nobility to his companions, and he instilled it incessantly morals to strengthen bonds of friendship and mutual love of fellow friends (Setiawan, 2019). Moral education is an integral part of the national education system, in which an education should be able to reach and be accessed and enjoyed by all levels of education, which does not see any exceptions either in terms of social, physical or economic limitations, and certain strata.

The inculcation of religion is intended to shape students to become human beings who believe in and fear God Almighty and have noble character as well as increase spiritual potential. Noble characters include ethics, manners, and morals as the embodiment of religious education (Kurniawati, 2017). Inculcating morals for everyone is very important, especially since instilling religious values is carried out at an early age. Instilling good morals can be done by participating in positive activities, one of which is studying at Al-Qur'an Education Park (TPA). TPA is very useful for children, so they can learn about religion, get to know the letters of the Qur'an, know how to read good and correct verses of the Qur'an. Nonaddition, one of the functions of non-formal education, such as TPA, is as a medium or means for the community to gain knowledge or insight. TPA is also a means in the process of instilling religious values. Because actually non-formal education can also help in the formation of morals because it is very important to instill good morals in someone. In addition, the formation of morals is not only obtained from formal education, but non-formal education can also be obtained.

Morals and manners have a very important role in human life. It is a concept about the rules of human behavior in establishing life together. It can come from religion or other sources of value that are agreed upon by a group of people (Endah & Surawan, 2022). Good character and character will distinguish humans as the most perfect creatures compared to other creatures (Kutsiyyah, 2017). Good morals and manners this is what controls human behavior and actions so that they always act in a noble direction. Without good morals and character, you can imagine how damaged life on this earth will be (Widiyastuti, 2010: 1). Al-Qur'an Education Park (TPA) is a place to study religious sciences. TPA will form good morals because it will study religious knowledge and deepen matters related to religion (Bhidju, 2020; Faliyandra, 2019). Apart from learning about the Qur'an, children will also meet new friends, have friends, stay in touch with friends who initially don't know each other, become close friends, play, and much more that can be obtained from participating in activities at the TPA. With TPA, children are given education in religious sciences, so it is hoped that children can practice their religion as well as possible.

Methodology

In this study, we are using descriptive qualitative methods approaches to describe events in the field based on existing data. After that, an analysis was carried out and concluded either written or oral data from certain people. The researcher attempts to describe the
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Application of the method of forming children's morals at TPA Darul Amin Palangka Raya City (Sugiyono, 2017). The subjects in the study were ustadz who taught at TPA Darul Amin Palangka Raya. The research was carried out from October to November 2022, by being directly involved in TPA learning 3 times a week. While the object is the application of the method of forming children's morals at TPA Darul Amin in Palangka Raya. Collecting data by means of interviews, observation, and documentation. The data validation technique is source triangulation. While analyzed by collecting data, reducing data, presenting data and drawing conclusions (Fadhalli, 2020). Research design presented in Figure 1.

Result and Discussion

Application of Methods for Forming Children's Morals at TPA Darul Amin

The application of the method of forming children's morals is one of the most important activities to be carried out from an early age in accordance with the vision and mission of TPA Darul Amin in Palangka Raya City, namely to form a generation of Muslims who are fluent in reading the Qur'an and knowledgeable, inculcating the basics of faith and piety to Allah and His Messenger. Before carrying out teaching a teacher must have methods that must be used because without a method, a teacher will have difficulty in the teaching and learning process. The methods used by the ustadz who teaches at TPA Darul Amin are: 1. the habituation method; 2. exemplary method; 3. story method; 4. singing method. The most visible methods used by ustdaz who teach at TPA Darul Amin analysis researchers are as follows:

Habitation Method

The habituation method can be interpreted as a teacher's way of getting his students used to doing something good and leaving something bad behind (Arifin, 2017). As the method used by the teacher or ustadz at TPA Darul Amin every day familiarizes his students and is done repeatedly, then there are certain emphases on materials that are considered important in habituation. The application of the habituation method taught at TPA Darul Amin always accustoms children to be kind from an early age. Providing learning about good values and instilling good habits in children. Ustadz at TPA Darul Amin carry out habituation every day, of course it is intended to become habituation by acting and it is not felt at all by the children because it is done repeatedly and under teacher guidance (Muslimah, 2015).

The habituation method is considered effective when applied to children. This is because children have strong memory records and immature personality conditions, so children are easy to manage with the various habits they carry out every day. That is why the habituation method is an effective way to optimize the development of religious and moral
values at an early age. The habituation method is an activity to do the same thing, repeatedly in earnest with the aim of strengthening an association or perfecting a skill to become accustomed. In other words, the habituation method is a way of educating children by planting the habituation process. This is intended so that children can familiarize themselves with doing good deeds by norms, religion and applicable law. The purpose of this method is that children are accustomed to doing routine actions (Surawan & Mazrur, 2020: 43-44). Parents at TPA Darul Amin who get used to children reading prayers before eating and so on.

The application of the habituation method carried out at TPA Darul Amin is suitable for forming morals because this method can help, namely getting used to children's good behavior. Children must be taught from childhood good behavior. From the interviews that the researchers also conducted at TPA Darul Amin the children were taught how to read prayers from intention to the end, short surahs, and prayers. Ustadz teaches it not just one meeting but is done repeatedly and there is an emphasis so that children can easily understand the material being taught (Afifudin, 2019: 34). Children also get guidance, they are not left to do it alone, there is special guidance given by the ustadz to help children memorize it, so this kind of habit is good to apply from a young age so that children grow up with good personalities and have good morals. courtesy towards others. The application of the habituation method is an important method of forming morals, especially for children. Children can comply with the rules by getting used to doing good deeds, at TPA Darul Amin the ustadz provides habituation to children by teaching them about reading prayers, short surahs and prayers. As stated by ustadz M that:

"The application of the habituation method is one of the ways or methods used in providing learning about good values to children through repetition and emphasis on children. The habit that is taught to the children at Darul Amin TPA is about reciting prayers from the intention of takbiratul ihram to the end, namely greetings. Apart from that, children are also accustomed to memorizing short surahs and prayers. This is done for the good of children so that they can practice it in everyday life" (Interview with ustadz M, October 20, 2022, 15.30 WIB).

Exemplary Method

This exemplary method is an educational and teaching method by means of educators providing good examples for children to emulate (Mulyasa, 2020). The exemplary method applied by the ustadz at TPA Darul Amin is by giving good examples to children in behaving in everyday life. The children were given an example by the ustadz when meeting people, they should be greeted and say hello. Exemplary is an effective and convincing method because the ustadz is the best figure in the eyes of the child and he will imitate everything. Zakiah Daradjat in her book Islamic Education in Families and Schools, argues that "the child's tendency to imitate and the identification element in the child's soul will lead him to imitate the ustadz and even the child may join in praying together just to imitate the movements of saying the words thayyibah or prayers and reading short letters of the Qur'an (Muslimah, 2015).

The exemplary method taught at TPA Darul Amin is good. The ustadz always gives an example of how to behave well towards people, is polite towards parents, because the ustadz is an example for children studying at TPA Darul Amin so it is the duty of a teacher as the second parent of children to provide teaching about morals the good one. Children at TPA Darul Amin always apply what the ustadz teaches them in their daily lives. The children were given an example when before leaving home they had to say goodbye first and say hello. The example of the ustadz described above is one of the effective implementations in directly forming children's morals. The children at TPA Darul Amin always apply what the ustadz exemplifies in their daily lives. As well as the researcher's interview with the Darul Amin L TPA students, he said:
“I apply what the ustaz teaches me when I meet friends or ustaz I greet them and when I want to leave, I always say goodbye to my parents and always kiss their hands. I always apply what the ustaz has taught me in my daily life” (Interview with santri L, October 23, 2022, 16.00 WIB).

**Story Method**

The story method is one of the best methods, because this story can touch the soul if it is based on deep sincerity. As with the story method applied by the ustaz at Darul Amin TPA when the ustaz learning process inserts it by telling stories about Islamic values that can instill moral, social, religious values or messages contained in a story, this is in accordance with the opinion (Parapat, 2020). This story method can shape children's morals by telling stories that learning becomes more fun. The researcher also observed that during the learning process with this method when telling a story, the children were very enthusiastic to listen to it, the children were very happy when the ustaz told the story of the Prophet because learning when interspersed with storytelling would be easier and the children would not get bored easily in learning. Moreover, at TPA Darul Amin, when telling a story, the ustaz sometimes imitates his voice so that it makes the children happy and understand the material being taught more quickly.

The story method also makes children happy in the learning process because children don't get bored quickly in participating in the teaching and learning process because there are lots of good values in storytelling. The children at TPA Darul Ilmi were also very happy and enthusiastic when listening to the ustaz tell stories because it could make the learning atmosphere does not get bored quickly and the stories that the ustaz gave were also fun and made the children happy and they wanted the ustaz to tell me about something else. As the interview conducted by the researcher with the students of TPA Darul Ilmi, he said:

“I am very happy if the ustaz tells stories about the Prophet the ustaz also imitates his voice which makes me happy and not bored in learning we want the ustaz to tell me something else because we really enjoy listening to stories from the ustaz” (Interview with student N, November 4, 2022, at 16.00 WIB).

The story method can be used as an effort to optimize the development of children's religious and moral values. Educators can take various stories about the Prophet, about the courage and generosity of the Prophet's companions, about important events experienced by the Prophets and companions, stories about the wisdom and intelligence of Islamic figures such as Umar bin Khattab, Saladin al-Ayubi, Ibn Sina and others (Afriantoni, 2015; Hawassy, 2020). Stories from the Archipelago can also be given to children as long as there are positive values in the story, for example the story about Maling Kundang who is disobedient to his mother, the story about Batu Crying and the story about Timun Mas. Educators must be effective in choosing stories to give to children because there are stories that look good but actually have bad content, for example about the mouse deer (Surawan & Mazrur, 2020).

**Singing Method**

The singing method is one of the techniques used in conveying learning material. By singing means creating and managing learning by using the poems that are performed (Astuti, 2018). As the singing method taught by the ustaz at TPA Darul Amin about songs that are Islamic in nature so that by singing it will make it easier for children to absorb the material presented, motivate children to learn, the learning process becomes fun, difficult lessons become easy. The singing method is an effective method used with this method which also makes children happy and excited (Muthahhrah, 2017; Sary, 2019). Not only that, but this method can also help make the teaching-learning process easier. The learning atmosphere is also fun, especially when small children prefer to sing and clap. TPA Darul Amin teaches
Islamic songs such as about Asmaul Husna, the names of the Prophets and the clapping of pious children by singing them faster for children to memorize and remember them. Children are happy when they sing and don't get bored easily in the learning process. This is evidenced from the researcher's interview with students R, he said:

“Yes, I’m glad that the ustadz always invites us to sing songs, the names of the Prophet and the applause of my pious children, I don’t get tired of learning quickly. I really enjoy singing and while clapping, we sing together”. (Interview with student R, on October 25, 2022, 16.00 WIB).

It can be said that learning with song techniques can create fun learning and have many benefits, besides that it is hoped that the material taught to children will be more easily understood by children, and learning will be more effective for instilling religious values. Such as introducing ablution movements, pillars of Islam, introducing the names of the Prophets, Asmaul Husna, in introducing prayers and many more (Astuti, 2018).

**Efforts in Forming Children’s Morals at TPA Darul Amin**

In overcoming the problem, it is necessary to make serious efforts, so that cases of declining children's moral behavior can be suppressed and ways to find a way out so as not to fall into negative things that can damage morals and morals that are prolonged (Yunus & Jaya, 2020: 10). In fact, the internalization of moral or religious values should be done in various ways (Sanusi, Hamdanah & Surawan, 2021; Jennah, Mazrur & Rahmaniati, 2023). One way that can be done by the school is to rearrange or reconstruct various activities in the school, including the learning process. This reconstruction is expected to be able to lead to the formation of a culture of noble character (character building) for students. The effort to build the realization of noble character is to get used to behaving well in everyday life by setting a good example for children (Widiasworo, 2020: 26). The efforts made by TPA Darul Amin are: get used to greetings, read the prayer before and after studying, using learning methods, always give advice and role models, supervising and getting used to communicating in a good way, provide motivation, and get used to being disciplined. The explanation of the efforts made are as follows:

**Get used to Greetings**

Children at TPA Darul Amin are taught to get used to greeting before entering and leaving, this is a good thing to do especially in shaping children's morals. The Ustadz who teaches at TPA Darul Amin also explained that when someone says greetings to us, we are obliged to answer them because as Muslims it is obligatory to say hello. Saying greetings in the Qur'an means safety (Nasution & Nasution, 2017: 58). The efforts made by TPA Darul Amin in forming morals by getting used to children always greeting when entering and leaving class even when they want to leave the house are good because since childhood they have been accustomed to be kind, by doing this it is hoped that they can shape children's morals become a good person again. Since childhood, positive things have been taught so that children get used to it and become provisions when they become adults. The children at the TPA Darul Amin have also applied what is taught in their daily lives. The children are used to saying greetings when leaving the house and even arriving at the TPA when they want to enter class because greetings are a sign of respect for other people. and is part of security.

**Reading Prayers Before and After Learning**

TPA Darul Amin makes it a habit for children to always read a prayer when they start an activity, they have to read a prayer first. Prayer is a means to communicate between the servant and Allah (Mursalim, 2011: 64). Before starting school, the children at Darul Amin TPA read a prayer together before studying and vice versa when they want to go home, they pray again. TPA Darul Amin also makes efforts by teaching children to always read prayers
before and after studying. The children at TPA Darul Amin are good. activities that we do can run smoothly and blessings. TPA Darul Amin makes this effort so that children always pray before carrying out their activities. They are also instructed to memorize prayers before studying and after studying so that good morals can be formed by being taught to read prayers. This is also a good effort to do for children.

**Using Learning Methods**
Learning methods are needed in the learning process, especially learning in the classroom. As the efforts made by TPA Darul Amin in learning by choosing a method that suits the needs of children with the methods used in learning can help children to more easily understand the material being taught (Hawassy, 2020; Kautsar, 2009). TPA Darul Amin does not only use one method but uses a variety of methods. The methods used at TPA Darul Amin are the habituation method, the story method, the exemplary method and the singing method. Nasution, (2017: 9) argues that the more precise the methods used by teachers in teaching, it is hoped that the more effective the achievement of learning objectives will be. The efforts made by TPA Darul Amin are by using the learning method because the method can help the learning process with the method also learning will run smoothly according to the goals to be achieved. Using the right method by the teacher is a good thing as well as in the formation of children's morals, there must be a method that must be used to assist in shaping children's morals (Oktiani, 2017). TPA Darul Amin the methods used in learning are good and suitable according to the needs of children who are still at an early age.

**Provide Advice and Example**
Educating by example is an Islamic education that is very effectively applied by a teacher in the educational process because exemplary education will affect individuals in habits, behavior, and attitudes (Mustofa, 2020: 24). As in TPA Darul Amin, children are always given good advice and examples. TPA Darul Amin gives advice to children to always be enthusiastic about learning and going down to TPA Darul Amin. Not only that, but the children are also taught how to be polite to anyone. TPA Darul Amin provides a good example for children so they can emulate and apply it in their daily lives. TPA Darul Amin often gives advice and examples to children. Efforts made like this are good for shaping children's morals because children must always be given good examples so they can imitate them. By setting a good example, children will get used to doing it and the children will surely imitate the attitude exemplified by their parents or ustadz who teach at TPA Darul Amin. Children also often get advice from TPA Darul Amin so that children are always aware of the behavior they are doing. As educators must always advise children to manifest good morals for children. While educating with advice can open children's eyes which will encourage them to be noble, with this advice children will feel the love of their parents. The advice is conveyed with tenderness and affection (Ismail, 2016: 84).

**Supervise and Get used to Communicating in a Good Way**
In supervising and getting used to communicating in a good way towards children studying at TPA Darul Amin children are always supervised during learning when the ustadz while explaining in front must pay close attention. Likewise, when communicating children are also supervised so that they get used to always communicating using good language. Moreover, especially for young children who do not really understand how to speak politely and cannot distinguish what is good to do and what is not good to do. Meanwhile, in addition to supervision, there is also habituation, namely in educating children when they are growing up, namely, to find pure monotheism, virtues of character, spiritual and straight religious ethics (Ismail, 2016: 83). Supervision and habituation carried out by TPA Darul Amin is good because it always supervises children during the learning process or when they are communicating with fellow friends. The habituation carried out by Darul Amin TPA is also
very good, since childhood it is accustomed to good behavior. Positive things are always taught to the children at Darul Amin TPA. They always make it a habit when they make a mistake they have to apologize. When the ustaz explained that when a child was chatting, the other child immediately warned him to pay attention.

Motivating Children

Providing motivation to children is to build enthusiasm within children. With the enthusiasm given, children will feel motivated to do something good (Marisa, 2019; Muthahhrah, 2017; Warasto, 2018). TPA Darul always encourages children to study and in learning they must also be enthusiastic. Motivation is the process of providing enthusiasm, direction, and persistence of behavior. That is, motivated behavior is behavior that is full of energy, directed and long lasting. TPA Darul Amin always motivates children to always be enthusiastic in studying. This is done by TPA Darul Amin so that children are always enthusiastic about doing anything, encouraged and supported to develop their achievements. Before going home, the ustaz always gave motivations to raise the spirit of the children.

Get used to being disciplined

TPA Darul Amin accustoms children to be disciplined, be it disciplined in dressing, speaking, studying, with respect to time and so on because discipline is one aspect that supports success in the learning process to achieve educational goals. Children who are accustomed to always being disciplined from an early age are something good to do that can shape morals. Children at TPA Darul Amin are always accustomed to being disciplined even though there are still children who are not disciplined but the efforts made by TPA Darul Amin by getting used to being disciplined have been well done because children have been taught to be disciplined one of the disciplinary attitudes found in TPA Darul Amin, that is, they must be disciplined when the children must come on time to TPA Darul Amin. time often comes late but this can be overcome by being guided and advised (Darmadi, 2019).

Conclusion

The conclusion from the results and the dampening in this study, as the end of all the descriptions that have been put forward by the researcher, the following conclusions can be drawn 1) The application of the method used at TPA Darul Amin in the formation of children's morals is as follows: habituation method, exemplary method, story method and Singing method. 2) While the efforts made by TPA Darul Amin in shaping children's morals include getting used to greetings, reading prayers before and after learning, using learning methods, giving advice and examples, supervising, and getting used to communicating well, motivating children, and getting used to discipline

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