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Improving Students' Understanding of Funeral Procedures Through a Demonstration of Fardhu Kifayah at SMAIT Nurul Ilmi Tenggara

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Abstract

This study aims to determine the improvement in students' understanding of the procedures for handling corpses through demonstrations of Fardhu Kifayah (obligatory duties) at SMAIT Nurul Ilmi Tenggara. The study used a descriptive qualitative approach in the form of Community Service (PKM). The subjects were male and female students in grades 10 and 11. Data collection techniques were conducted through observation, documentation, and direct observation during the activity. The activity was carried out through material delivery, demonstrations, and direct practice of handling corpses, including washing, shrouding, and praying for the body. The results showed that the demonstration method was able to improve students' understanding, attention, and participation in the practical learning of Fardhu Kifayah. The demonstration method was deemed effective because it provided students with a direct learning experience.

Keywords: Demonstration Method, Fardhu Kifayah, Handling Corpses

Abstract

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui peningkatan pemahaman siswa mengenai tata cara pengurusan jenazah melalui demonstrasi Fardhu Kifayah di SMAIT Nurul Ilmi Tenggara. Penelitian menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif dalam bentuk Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat (PKM). Subjek penelitian adalah siswa kelas X dan XI putra maupun putri. Teknik pengumpulan data dilakukan melalui observasi, dokumentasi, dan pengamatan langsung selama kegiatan berlangsung. Kegiatan dilaksanakan melalui penyampaian materi, demonstrasi, dan praktik langsung pengurusan jenazah yang meliputi memandikan, mengafani, dan menyolatkan jenazah. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa metode demonstrasi mampu meningkatkan pemahaman, perhatian, dan partisipasi siswa dalam pembelajaran praktik Fardhu

Kifayah. Metode demonstrasi dinilai efektif karena memberikan pengalaman belajar secara langsung kepada siswa.

Kata kunci: Metode Demonstrasi, Fardhu Kifayah, Pengurusan Jenazah

Introduction

Islamic Religious Education plays a crucial role in shaping students' understanding, attitudes, and skills in practicing Islamic teachings comprehensively. One of the key topics in Islamic Religious Education is the procedures for handling a corpse, which is part of the obligatory duty fardhu kifayah (Cara & Jenazah, 2021). This material emphasizes not only theory but also requires practical skills to enable students to understand and carry out the funeral process according to Islamic law. Therefore, effective learning is essential for students to understand the material more deeply and apply it effectively.

In reality, students' understanding of funeral procedures remains relatively low. Many students only know the basic theory without understanding the practical steps, such as washing, shrouding, praying, and burying the body. This is due to the lecture-based teaching method, which tends to discourage students from actively participating in the learning process. Consequently, the material presented does not provide students with real-world experiences in understanding the implementation of fardhu kifayah (Rohmah & Dasar, 2017).

The demonstration method is an alternative learning method that can improve students' understanding of religious practice material (Studi & Edukatif, 2025). Through demonstrations, students can directly observe the stages of funeral processing, making the learning process more concrete, engaging, and understandable. Furthermore, the demonstration method provides opportunities for students to actively participate in practical activities, allowing for the balanced development of cognitive, affective, and psychomotor skills.

At SMAIT Nurul Ilmi Tenggara, teaching the subject of fardhu kifayah (obligatory religious duties) is a crucial part of developing students' religious character. The school emphasizes not only theoretical understanding but also practical religious skills that can be applied in community life. Therefore, a funeral service demonstration was conducted to enhance students' understanding of the correct procedures for carrying out fardhu kifayah, in accordance with Islamic teachings. This study aims to determine the improvement in students' understanding of the procedures for handling corpses through demonstrations of fardhu kifayah (obligatory duties) at SMAIT Nurul Ilmi Tenggara. Furthermore, this study also aims to determine the effectiveness of the demonstration method in improving students' skills and participation during the learning process. The results are expected to serve as a reference for Islamic Religious Education teachers in selecting appropriate learning methods, particularly for the material on worship practices and fardhu kifayah (Al-abshor et al., 2024).

Literature Review

Islamic Religious Education (IS) learning emphasizes not only theoretical mastery but also the ability of students to practice Islamic teachings in their daily lives. One important topic for students to understand is the procedures for handling a corpse,

which is part of the obligation of obedience to God. This topic holds significant social and religious value as it relates to the obligations of Muslims towards fellow Muslims who have died (Ishak, 2021).

Students' understanding of funeral procedures is a crucial aspect of Islamic Religious Education (IS) learning. Understanding refers to students' ability to receive, comprehend, and re-explain the material they have learned. In the context of learning, understanding is demonstrated not only through memorization but also through students' ability to apply that material in practice. Therefore, appropriate learning methods are necessary to enable students to understand and practice funeral procedures properly and correctly (Bakhruddin, 2021).

One effective method used in practical learning is the demonstration method. The demonstration method is a way of delivering material by directly demonstrating a process or activity so that students can see the stages of implementation in action. Using the demonstration method can help students understand practical material because they gain direct learning experience. Furthermore, the demonstration method can increase students' attention, interest, and active participation in learning (Endayani et al., 2020).

In teaching funeral procedures, demonstration plays a crucial role because the material requires procedural understanding and practical skills. Teachers can demonstrate the stages of funeral preparation, from bathing and shrouding to praying for the deceased, to burying the body. Through these demonstrations, students can understand the sequence and procedures more clearly than through lectures alone (Buchori et al., 2021).

Several previous studies have shown that the demonstration method can improve student learning outcomes and understanding in Islamic Religious Education. Practice-based learning makes it easier for students to grasp the material because they are directly involved in the learning process. Furthermore, the demonstration method can also improve students' skills in carrying out worship practices and other religious activities (Muhoyidin, 2021).

Based on this description, it can be understood that the use of the demonstration method for *fardhu kifayah* in teaching procedures for handling corpses has a positive influence on improving student understanding. The demonstration method helps students understand the learning material through direct practice (Winata et al., 2024). Through hands-on practice, students not only gain theoretical knowledge but also gain real-life experience in handling a corpse according to Islamic law. Therefore, the demonstration method is considered appropriate for teaching corpse handling procedures at SMAIT Nurul Ilmi Tenggara.

Method

This research uses a qualitative descriptive approach in the form of Community Service (PKM)(Mustafa, 2023). This approach is used to describe the implementation of

the Fardu Kifayah education program and its impact on students' understanding of the procedures for handling corpses at SMAIT Nurul Ilmi Tenggara.

The subjects of this activity were 10th and 11th grade male and female students from SMAIT Nurul Ilmi Tenggara who participated in a demonstration on handling corpses. The activity was carried out by Field Experience Practice (PPL) students in collaboration with lecturers from the Faculty of Islamic Studies at Kutai Kartanegara University as the main speakers.

Data collection techniques included observation, documentation, and direct observation during the activities. Observations were conducted to assess students' level of participation, enthusiasm, and understanding of the material and practices of funeral management. Documentation included collecting photos of activities and program implementation notes to support the research.

The activity was carried out through several stages, namely preparation, implementation, and evaluation. During the preparation stage, students coordinated with the school, compiled activity materials, and prepared tools and practical materials. During the implementation stage, the presenter explained the concept of Fardu Kifayah and procedures for handling corpses according to Islamic law, followed by a demonstration and hands-on practice of washing, shrouding, and praying for the corpse. During the evaluation stage, observations were made on students' involvement and understanding during the activity.

The data obtained were analyzed using qualitative descriptive analysis techniques, namely by describing the results of observations and student responses during the activity (Nursyam, 2019). The results of the analysis were used to determine the effectiveness of the Fardu Kifayah demonstration program in increasing students' understanding of the procedures for handling corpses according to Islamic law.

Result and Discussion

Implementation of Fardhu Kifayah Demonstration Activities

Community Service (PKM) activities in the form of demonstrations of Fardhu Kifayah in the procedures for handling corpses were carried out at SMAIT Nurul Ilmi Tenggara by involving male and female class X and XI students as participants in the activity. This program is implemented as a form of religious education aimed at improving students' understanding and skills in carrying out funeral procedures according to Islamic law. Furthermore, this activity is part of efforts to strengthen religious character education within the school environment.

The activity was carried out with lecturers from the Faculty of Islamic Studies, Kutai Kartanegara University, as the main speakers, accompanied by Field Experience Practice (PPL) students. Prior to the activity, the PPL students coordinated with the school regarding the schedule, participants, and facilities and infrastructure needed for the event. Preparation of tools and materials was carried out optimally to ensure the demonstration ran smoothly and effectively.

In the initial stage of the activity, the presenter explained the meaning of Fardhu Kifayah and the importance of funeral arrangements in the lives of Muslims. The presenter explained that funeral arrangements are a collective obligation that every Muslim must understand and apply in their social lives. The presentation was communicative and interactive, making it easier for students to understand.

Following the presentation, the event continued with a live demonstration of the procedures for handling a corpse. The demonstration was conducted in stages, starting with the procedures for washing the corpse, shrouding it, and performing the funeral prayer. During the washing stage, the presenter demonstrated the steps for cleansing the corpse according to Islamic law, starting with the intention, cleaning the body parts, and maintaining the dignity of the corpse during the process. The presenter then demonstrated the correct procedures for shrouding the corpse, including the use of a shroud and the procedure for wrapping the body according to Islamic law. The activity then continued with a practical demonstration of the funeral prayer, covering the standing procedure, the number of takbirs, the recitations during the funeral prayer, and the prayers recited. During the demonstration, students were given the opportunity to directly observe each step demonstrated by the presenter. They were also given the opportunity to ask questions about any unclear aspects of the funeral procedure.



Figure 1&2. Implementation of Fardhu Kifayah Demonstration Activities.

Source: Author's Documentation, 2026.

Students' Understanding of Funeral Procedures

Based on the results of observations during the activity, the Fardhu Kifayah demonstration activity had a positive influence on students' understanding of procedures for handling corpses. Prior to the activity, most students only knew the basic theory of funeral arrangements without understanding the practical application. Some even admitted to having never witnessed a funeral process before.

After participating in the demonstration, students began to understand the stages of funeral arrangements more clearly and in a structured manner. This understanding was evident in their ability to reiterate the sequence of funeral procedures and their ability to participate in hands-on practice. They also began to understand the importance of adhering to etiquette and Islamic law in the funeral process.

Hands-on practical activities provide a different learning experience for students than classroom theory. By observing and participating in live demonstrations, students more easily grasp practical and procedural material. This demonstrates that the demonstration method can help students grasp learning material in a more concrete and tangible way.

Furthermore, this activity also boosted students' confidence in understanding religious practices. Some students, who initially felt afraid and embarrassed to participate in the practice, began to bravely try the stages of funeral arrangements with guidance from the presenters and student trainees. This demonstrates that direct student involvement in the learning process can increase their courage and participation during the activity.

The Effectiveness of Demonstration Method in Learning

The demonstration method used in this activity has proven effective in increasing students' attention, interest, and understanding of the learning material.

This was evident in the students' enthusiasm throughout the activity. Most paid close attention to the speaker's explanation and showed a keen curiosity about the funeral process.

The use of demonstration methods makes the learning process more engaging and less monotonous. Students not only listen to theoretical explanations but also directly observe the stages of funeral handling as demonstrated by the presenter. This provides a more realistic and meaningful learning experience.

In addition to enhancing student understanding, the demonstration method also increased student engagement during the activity. Several students were seen actively asking questions regarding the proper procedures for handling a corpse according to Islamic law. Students also showed interest in practicing the steps demonstrated.

This kind of hands-on learning helps students understand the material more easily because they are directly involved in the learning process. This direct involvement allows students to focus better and retain the material more easily. Therefore, the demonstration method is considered highly appropriate for use in Islamic Religious Education lessons related to worship practices and other religious activities.

Obstacles in Implementing Activities

Although the activity ran smoothly, several challenges were encountered during its implementation. One particularly noticeable obstacle was the lack of engagement and confidence among some students when asked to participate in hands-on practice.

Some students appeared embarrassed and afraid of making mistakes due to their lack of prior experience with funeral handling. Furthermore, several students lacked focus during the activity, requiring further attention and guidance from the internship students and the presenters.

The varying levels of student understanding also pose a challenge in carrying out the activities. Some students grasp the material quickly, while others require repeated explanations to better understand each stage of the funeral process.

In addition to internal student factors, time constraints also hampered the practical learning process. Limited time required the instructors to adapt their presentations to ensure all stages of the demonstration were carried out effectively. Nevertheless, the PPL students and instructors endeavored to provide maximum support and guidance to all participants.

To overcome these obstacles, the internship students took a personal approach to students who appeared less engaged. The instructors also provided motivation and gradual explanations to help students better understand the material and feel more confident in participating in the practicals.

Impact of Activities on Students

The Fardhu Kifayah demonstration activity had a positive impact on improving students' knowledge, understanding, and skills regarding the procedures for handling corpses according to Islamic law. Through this activity, students gained not only theoretical knowledge but also practical experience that can be applied in their daily lives and in the community.

This activity also helps foster a sense of social awareness and responsibility among students towards fellow Muslims. Students begin to understand that funeral arrangements are an important Islamic obligation that must be learned and properly implemented.

Furthermore, this activity provides a more meaningful learning experience because students are directly involved in the practical process. This experience makes it easier for them to understand the material and prepare them for when they need to be involved in funeral arrangements in the community.

Overall, the Fardhu Kifayah demonstration program at SMAIT Nurul Ilmi Tenggara went well and yielded positive results in improving students' understanding of funeral procedures. The demonstration method was deemed effective in helping students grasp the practical learning material in a clearer, more interactive, and applicable way, making this activity worthy of continued development as part of Islamic Religious Education (IS) instruction in schools.

Conclusion

Based on the results of the Community Service (PKM) activities conducted at SMAIT Nurul Ilmi Tenggara, it can be concluded that the Fardhu Kifayah demonstration method is effective in improving students' understanding of the procedures for handling a corpse according to Islamic law. Through demonstrations and hands-on practice, students gained a better understanding of the stages of corpse management, from bathing and shrouding to offering prayers. The use of demonstration methods provides a more concrete and meaningful learning experience than lecture-only instruction. Students not only gain theoretical knowledge but also practical skills that can be applied in social life. Furthermore, these activities increase student attention, interest, and participation throughout the learning process. Despite some challenges, such as a lack of self-confidence and inactivity on the part of some students, the activity proceeded smoothly thanks to the guidance and direction of the presenters and the student teachers. Overall, the Fardhu Kifayah demonstration program had a positive impact on improving students' knowledge, skills, and developing their religious character. Thus, the demonstration method can be used as an effective alternative learning method in Islamic Religious Education, particularly for practical topics such as funeral arrangements. It is hoped that this activity can continue to be developed as an effort to improve the quality of religious education in schools.

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