

The Concept of Learning Motivation in Islamic Religious Education

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi konsep motivasi belajar dalam pendidikan agama Islam. Memanfaatkan metode penelitian kepustakaan dengan pendekatan penelitian kualitatif, temuan penelitian mengungkapkan bahwa konsep motivasi belajar dalam perspektif Al-Qur'an meliputi rasa ingin tahu, bertanya, perhatian, percaya diri, dan harapan. Faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi motivasi belajar diidentifikasi sebagai faktor internal, faktor eksternal, faktor budaya dan sosial, dan faktor ekonomi. Studi ini juga menyoroti pentingnya interaksi dengan individu yang termotivasi dan komunitas belajar sebagai strategi untuk meningkatkan motivasi.

Kata kunci: *Konsep, Motivasi Belajar, Pendidikan Agama Islam*

Abstract

This study aims to identify the concept of learning motivation within Islamic religious education. Utilizing a library research method with a qualitative research approach, the findings reveal that the concept of learning motivation from the perspective of the Qur'an includes curiosity, questioning, attentiveness, self-confidence, and hope. Factors influencing learning motivation are identified as internal factors, external factors, cultural and social factors, and economic factors. The study also highlights the importance of interaction with motivated individuals and learning communities as a strategy to enhance motivation.

Keywords: *Concept, Learning Motivation, Islamic Religious Education*

INTRODUCTION

Islamic religious education involves teaching, guidance, and imparting understanding about Islam. It aims for students to comprehend, live by, and practice Islam, making it a lifestyle in both personal and societal contexts. Islamic education is foundational in developing knowledge, rooted in the Qur'an and the Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad SAW. Islamic education begins from the Islamic perspective on human beings. The Qur'an explains that humans are creatures with two functions, encompassing two primary tasks simultaneously.

It is evident that the primary concern is that Islamic religious education in educational institutions influences the formation of students' character. This endeavor requires an understanding of the learning process, given the importance of understanding the material of Islamic religious education. This must be supported by strong learning motivation. Student learning motivation can stimulate a desire to understand better. Motivation is the internal force within a person that drives them to engage in specific activities to achieve desired goals.

From these objectives, learning motivation involves elements of both the psyche and physical body, encompassing factors from within as well as external factors. Learning would

never occur without a strong impetus, whether primarily internal or alternatively from external sources, which are equally crucial.

Learning motivation plays a pivotal role in the educational process, significantly influencing student success. In the context of Islamic Religious Education (PAI), learning motivation impacts not only academic achievement but also shapes students' character and nurtures their spiritual development. PAI aims nobly to cultivate individuals who are not only intellectually adept but also morally upright and devout. However, numerous studies indicate that students' motivation in PAI subjects is often lower compared to other subjects. This could be attributed to various factors such as less engaging teaching methods, lack of relevance of the material to daily life, and insufficient support from family and the community.

To address this issue, it is important to understand the concepts of learning motivation and the factors influencing students' learning motivation in Islamic Religious Education (PAI). Several factors that can affect learning motivation include innovative teaching methods, the use of technology in learning, contextual approaches that connect material to real-life situations, and support from parents and the surrounding environment. This research aims to explore these factors and provide practical recommendations to enhance students' learning motivation in PAI. By understanding and overcoming existing barriers, it is hoped that the PAI learning process can become more effective and capable of producing a generation that is not only academically proficient but also possesses good morals and ethics.

This background outlines the importance of learning motivation in PAI, identifies existing issues, and presents the research objectives to explore the factors influencing students' learning motivation.

1. Understanding Learning Motivation

Motif originates from the Latin word "movere," which means to move. Motif, termed as needs, is a drive that is inherently tied to a goal (Ahmadi, 1999). Human behavior is always underpinned by motives and motivation. According to Sudarwan (2002:2). Learning motivation is a crucial factor in the learning process because it drives individuals to have enthusiasm and determination in achieving their goals. Motivation plays a significant role in determining human behavior, providing direction, enthusiasm, and perseverance needed to achieve academic accomplishments and personal objectives. Efforts to motivate will be more effective if the goals are clear and acknowledged by the individuals who are being motivated, and if they align with their needs.

So, learning motivation refers to internal or external drives that push someone to initiate, continue, and achieve goals in the learning process. This motivation can be in the form of needs, desires, aspirations, or pressures that actively drive individuals to acquire knowledge, skills, and understanding. Learning motivation is important because it directly influences the level of engagement, perseverance, and learning outcomes of students.

2. The Definition of Islamic Religious Education

Islamic Religious Education, or in Arabic terms "al-Tarbiyyah al-Islamiyah," is education based on Islam, guidance given by one person to another to develop them maximally with teaching materials or guidance towards becoming a Muslim to the fullest extent possible, forming Muslim personalities, an effort that includes teaching, guidance, and nurturing children based on the concepts of the Qur'an and Hadith.

In conclusion, Islamic Religious Education is a learning process aimed at developing understanding, appreciation, and practice of Islamic teachings in daily life. This education encompasses aspects of faith (aqidah), worship (religious practices), morals and ethics (akhlak), as well as social interactions (muamalah). The primary goal of Islamic Religious Education is to shape individuals with strong faith, noble character, and the ability to apply Islamic values in all aspects of life. Additionally, Islamic Religious Education aims to foster love and respect for Islamic teachings and enhance knowledge of Islamic history, culture, and civilization.

METHOD

This study employed a qualitative approach as the framework, guideline, direction, or reference. Qualitative approach is a type of research approach that generates findings which cannot be achieved through statistical procedures. The data used in this research are qualitative data. The data collection technique utilized was literature study, which involved books and other sources such as articles, journals, or previous studies related to the research topic.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Concept of Learning Motivation in Islamic Religious Education

Learning motivation in Islamic education is a crucial aspect, as education is considered an obligation for every Muslim. Islamic education is not limited to worldly knowledge but also encompasses spiritual and moral aspects. The motivation to learn in Islamic education is very strong because it is based on teachings that regard knowledge as highly valuable and noble. By emphasizing the importance of sincere intentions, the virtues of knowledge, the use of intellect, and the support of a positive environment, Islam provides a strong foundation for its followers to pursue lifelong learning. Among the concepts of learning motivation in Islamic education, many are closely related to perspectives found in the Qur'an.

a. Curiosity

In the Qur'an, the story of Prophet Musa (Moses) and Khidr begins with Prophet Musa's interest in Khidr and his confusion about Khidr's actions. This is depicted in the verses of the Qur'an in Surah Al-Kahf. Islam encourages its followers to have curiosity about knowledge, as Allah has created various means for humans to learn, whether through intellect, heart, or observation of the universe. This is also emphasized in Surah Ali Imran, verse 190.

b. Asking Questions

Verses in Surah Al-Anbiya (21:7) and Surah An-Nahl (16:43) depict situations where Allah sent His messengers among humans to guide them to the right path. However, some polytheists, with their superficial knowledge and understanding, often opposed and denied the truth of the messengers. They used various fabricated excuses, such as doubting why Allah would send humans as His messengers, claiming that humans cannot directly communicate with the source of revelation (Allah SWT). Additionally, they lacked a deep understanding of prophetic and apostolic news and had a limited comprehension of the divine attributes of God.

c. Attention

According to Quraish Shihab in his *Tafsir Al-Misbah* on Surah An-Najm, verse 39, this verse explains that a person will not bear the sin or loss caused by the actions of others, nor will they gain benefit from others' good deeds. Each individual is responsible for their own actions and will be rewarded or punished accordingly.

d. Self-Confidence

Self-confidence is a key element in students' character that plays a significant role in realizing their potential. Having adequate self-confidence is crucial for students as it affects how they face challenges, take initiative in learning, and interact with their surroundings. A lack of self-confidence can lead to various issues that hinder their development. Conversely, students with self-confidence tend to be more comfortable expressing themselves without feeling the need to highlight their strengths or hide their weaknesses because they have a good understanding of themselves and accept their current conditions.

e. Relevance

Surah An-Nahl, verses 125-126, contain important wisdom and lessons. These verses emphasize the importance of inviting others to the way of Allah with good and gentle methods, without hurting their feelings, and tailoring the approach to their abilities. When there is rejection or objection to our call, we are taught to respond with kindness

and courtesy. In the context of dawah (preaching), this implies that we need to be responsive to their objections without provoking anger.

f. Hope

Qur'anic verses instill the belief that changing one's destiny for the better depends on individual effort, but this does not guarantee that every effort will succeed as hoped. In this context, while a person's behavior and efforts play a crucial role, other factors such as luck, economic conditions, social circumstances, and the environment also influence the outcomes of these efforts. Thus, although the Qur'an encourages striving diligently, the reality is that not all efforts will result in the desired change according to individual expectations.

Factors Influencing Learning Motivation

Student motivation to learn is influenced by various factors, which can be categorized into internal and external factors. Here are some key factors that affect learning motivation:

a. Internal Factors

- 1) **Interest and Talent:** Personal interest in a particular subject or topic can significantly enhance learning motivation. Having talent in a specific area can also influence motivation positively.
- 2) **Personal Goals:** Clear and specific goals, such as achieving high grades or mastering particular skills, can boost motivation.
- 3) **Self-Confidence:** Belief in one's own ability to understand and complete learning tasks can greatly impact motivation.
- 4) **Physical and Mental Health:** Good health, both physical and mental, can affect an individual's ability to learn effectively.

b. External Factors

- 1) **Learning Environment:** A comfortable, quiet, and distraction-free learning environment can enhance concentration and learning motivation.
- 2) **Social Support:** Support from family, friends, and teachers can provide additional encouragement for students to engage in learning activities.
- 3) **Teaching Methods:** Engaging and varied teaching methods can increase motivation to learn. The use of technology and innovative learning tools also plays a significant role.
- 4) **Feedback and Rewards:** Positive feedback and rewards for effort and achievements can boost motivation.
- 5) **Opportunities for Achievement:** Opportunities to demonstrate achievements and receive recognition can be a strong motivator.

c. Cultural and Social Factors:

- 1) **Cultural Values and Norms:** Cultural values and norms that emphasize the importance of education can influence learning motivation.
- 2) **Social Expectations:** Expectations from parents, the community, and the surrounding environment regarding academic performance can impact motivation.

d. Economics Factors

- 1) **Family Economic Conditions:** A favorable economic condition can provide resources and facilities that support the learning process, such as books, stationery, and supporting technology.
- 2) **Scholarships and Financial Aid:** Opportunities to obtain scholarships or financial assistance can serve as motivators for students to study more diligently.

By understanding and managing these factors, both individuals and educational institutions can work towards enhancing learning motivation and achieving better educational outcomes.

Learning motivation will not emerge if someone lacks desires, aspirations, or awareness of the benefits of learning for themselves. Therefore, specific conditions are needed for anyone who wants to cultivate a passion for learning. Here are tips to enhance students' learning motivation:

a. Associate with people who enjoy learning

Associating with people who are enthusiastic about learning and achieving can inspire us to enjoy learning as well. Additionally, try to find individuals or communities known for their good study habits. Ask about experiences from people who have pursued higher education, received scholarships to study abroad, or been recognized for their achievements. Their habits and enthusiasm will be contagious. It's like the analogy of someone who befriends a blacksmith or a perfumer: if we associate with a blacksmith, we'll smell like burnt iron, and if we associate with a perfumer, we'll smell fragrant like perfume.

b. Learn Anything

The concept of learning here encompasses a wide range, both formal and informal. We can learn various skills such as assembling computers, writing, filmmaking, and entrepreneurship.

c. Learn from the Internet

We can utilize the internet to join groups of people who enjoy learning. One of the mailing lists can serve as a place to exchange opinions, ideas, and self-motivation. For example, if you want to be motivated to learn English, you can join a mailing list focused on that topic.

d. Socialize with Optimistic and Positive-Minded People

In this world, there are people who always appear optimistic despite facing various challenges. If we frequently socialize with them or are part of such a community, their enthusiasm, passion, and optimism will rub off on us. Conversely, if we associate with pessimistic individuals, we might also be influenced by their negative views.

e. Find Motivators

Sometimes, a person needs someone else as a catalyst or mentor in life. For instance, a friend, romantic partner, or life partner. We can also do the same by seeking out someone or a community that can help guide or motivate us to learn and achieve success.

CONCLUSION

Learning motivation is a crucial factor influencing an individual's academic success. This motivation can be influenced by various internal and external factors. Internal factors include interests, personal goals, self-confidence, and health conditions. External factors encompass learning environment, social support, teaching methods, feedback, rewards, and economic conditions. Socializing with individuals who enjoy learning and achieving can enhance learning motivation through the transmission of enthusiasm and positive habits. Additionally, using technology and the internet to join learning communities can provide additional motivation. The importance of mentors or communities in providing guidance and motivation is also recognized as an effective strategy to nurture and enhance learning motivation. By understanding and managing these factors, both individuals and educational institutions can create a conducive learning environment, thereby helping learners achieve optimal educational outcomes.

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