

## Environmental Education for High School and Vocational School of Muhammadiyah City of Medan Based On Islam

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### Abstract

*High School Educational Institutions (SMA) and Vocational High Schools (SMK) should have the concept of introducing, maintaining and preserving ecological and environmental sustainability which is integrated in the curriculum applied in SMA and SMK Muhammadiyah Medan City. Environmental education so far still needs to be implemented in the model of education in schools, although in the school curriculum there are already learning objectives that contain about the environment. The results of initial observations in SMA, SMK Muhammadiyah are still many infind discrepancies between the provisions of environmental education policies and the appearance of the environmental situation contained in the SMA, SMK Muhammadiyah North Sumatra in general and the city of Medan in particular. So this study only examines in terms of: Availability of Environmental Education policies from aspects, Provision of clean water, waste water management, school waste management, and a Green school environment. The process of this research is to make observations related to the availability of Environmental Education policies and conduct an assessment and analysis of the data obtained related to the aspects studied. The results of this study are used as information material to explain the success that has been achieved bySMA, SMK Muhammadiyah related to the availability of Environmental Education policies from these aspects. At the same time, it is hoped that it can be used as reference material by decision makers in this case the relevant leaders in formulating appropriate environmental education provisions/policies.*

### Keywords

Education; environment; Islamic



## I. Introduction

Development is a systematic and continuous effort made to realize something that is aspired. Development is a change towards improvement. Changes towards improvement require the mobilization of all human resources and reason to realize what is aspired. In addition, development is also very dependent on the availability of natural resource wealth. The availability of natural resources is one of the keys to economic growth in an area. (Shah, M. et al. 2020)

Environmental problems become a very important theme in responding to various environmental problems which are increasingly facing damage. Human behavior that is not "friendly" to nature causes damage to the ecology and the surrounding natural environment. This can be seen from the behavior of everyday life ranging from waste problems (disposing of garbage), the use of plastic bags, waste, logging and forest exploitation, and others. These

various environmental phenomena can have an impact on environmental damage which results in the threat of the survival of living things.

To change this behavior requires a long process, especially regarding early environmental education. Environmental education is an activity that aims to provide teaching and educational values in building people who have awareness and concern for the environment and the problems that accompany it as a whole. Ahmad and Yulistianti (2021) the problem of bullying in the school environment should not escape the attention of administrators and regulators of educational institutions. The roles of social workers, such as consultants, advocates, mediators, and counselors, absolutely must be mastered by teachers outside the four basic competencies that have been regulated by law (pedagogic, personal, social, and professional). Environmental education is very important to teach students. The introduction of the environment for students aims to build awareness to pay more attention to the importance of education on the environment. In addition, it will bring students closer to the natural environment so that they interact more quickly, realizing that nature is so important for survival. The chosen scope is at the high school level, which is to better introduce students to the environment and natural diversity.

In developing an environmental education model, it is very important to look at the curriculum design that is applied in the form of indicators of learning achievement obtained by students. In designing the curriculum for Senior High School (SMA) or Vocational High School (SMK), students are not only expected to have linguistic intelligence, logic-mathematical intelligence, visual-spatial intelligence, musical intelligence, interpersonal intelligence, interpersonal intelligence, spiritual intelligence, and naturalist intelligence (love of beauty and nature). From the achievement of the ability of students' learning outcomes through the applied curriculum, the school should develop an environmental education model that is integrated in naturalist intelligence (love of beauty and nature). However, in fact, many senior high schools (SMA) or vocational high schools (SMK) do not fully implement this naturalist intelligence. This can be seen from the various behaviors of students and educators who do not have good environmental education knowledge, such as: throwing food waste out of place, not having a separate garbage disposal place between organic and non-organic, there is no organic waste management that can be used processed into compost, the lack of green open parks for high school (SMA) or vocational high school (SMK) environments, lack of knowledge about waste management, and others. Therefore, the Medan city Muhammadiyah Senior High School (SMA) or Vocational High School (SMK) can implement the policies that have been set in the master design of environmental education without violating the principles of education. This becomes a strategy in overcoming environmental problems that are faced around us. By introducing and implementing environmental education for students, it is hoped that students at the Muhammadiyah Senior High School (SMA) or Vocational High School (SMK) Medan City gain knowledge and instill attitudes, skills, motivation, and commitment to work individually and together to find solutions to the problems that currently arise while preventing new problems concerning the environment. This becomes a strategy in overcoming environmental problems that are faced around us. By introducing and implementing environmental education for students, it is hoped that students at the Muhammadiyah Senior High School (SMA) or Vocational High School (SMK) Medan City gain knowledge and instill attitudes,

skills, motivation, and commitment to work individually and together to find solutions to the problems that currently arise while preventing new problems concerning the environment.

Research on Environmental Education, one of which was carried out by Safrilisyah & Fitriani (2016), gave recommendations (1) it needs to be socialized to the Muslim community that the environment is also an important theme discussed in Islam, (2) it is necessary to promote environmental care programs such as mutual cooperation in cleaning the environment, (3) it is necessary to revitalize education by incorporating the theme of the environment in the curriculum, lectures so that religion can play a role in providing understanding to the community to protect the environment, (4) it is necessary to raise awareness of preserving the environment in the family.

In education, there are many educational programs that characterize the program itself. In other words, each educational program has its own characteristics. One of them is the environmental education policy program. Environmental education policy is a policy that aims to instill an attitude or character that cares about the environment (Nurlatifah, et al: 2015). The integration of environmental education in learning can be implemented through the integration of environmental education models in the learning system through certain subjects or activities that are fun. In this case, school policy as an educational institution is a driving force for every teacher in implementing a learning system in an effort to instill an attitude of love for the environment and at the same time teach character education through environmental education. To become a quality educational institution, schools should not only teach hard skills, but also teach soft skills. As stated by Agbenyega (2013) that a quality institution should have quality learning programs and teachers as well. Quality learning programs include: natural learning, thorough learning and understanding (not knowing). Schools should not only teach hard skills, but also teach soft skills. As stated by Agbenyega (2013) that a quality institution should have quality learning programs and teachers as well. Quality learning programs include: natural learning, thorough learning and understanding (not knowing). Schools should not only teach hard skills, but also teach soft skills. As stated by Agbenyega (2013) that a quality institution should have quality learning programs and teachers as well. Quality learning programs include: natural learning, thorough learning and understanding (not knowing).

To strengthen the application of environmental education to children so that it is not only a form of imagination and temporary in nature, it is necessary to take steps or stages in the learning process, as expressed by Soetantyo (2013) which includes: socialization, internalization, habituation and cultivation. The environment can be a major determinant of our health and well-being of our lives. The environment can affect our health through various channels, through physical, chemical and biological factors or by triggering various changes in our own behavior and the behavior of those around us. These effects can be direct (such as injury or death) or indirect (through changes in lifestyle and health behaviors). The environment has the potential to affect physical health (e.g., respiratory problems due to air pollution) and mental health (eg, poor mental health related to drought conditions). There is a paucity of data on exposure to environmental hazards and health outcomes, particularly at the local level. Thus, the health impacts of various environmental aspects have not been systematically evaluated (Peter Collins and David Kalisch, 2011).

In the journal *Environmental Health* Tom Calma said the need for support from the government in ensuring that all existing facilities in the community meet health service standards. In the United States of America, community-based environmental research is abbreviated as CBPR. The CBPR principles are a useful framework for building strong partnerships with the American academic community and society, because of the importance of public and academic relations in building environmental health (Tom Calma, 2008).

In order to provide information and communicate environmental health risks to the public, research scientists must communicate environmental health risks through environmental groups, websites and media that are easily accessible to the public (Haynes Erin N).

Therefore in Islam taught about health where to maintain health prioritized environmental cleanliness and sustainability. There is also taught about Islamic jurisprudence which in outline is how to manage the environment optimally for the long term for the benefit of the people in the future (Suwito, 2011). Ronald A. Simkins said that the relationship Between religion and the environment emerged as the relationship between religion and science (Ronald A. Simkins, 2008). According to Vasudha Narayan in Quddus, that religion has capital as a solution to environmental problems. According to Quddus, the concept of sustainable development based on modern science as a solution to the environmental crisis has a weakness because it only emphasizes the physical, economic, social, ecological dimensions and ignores the spiritual dimension of religion. Islam can contribute positively to the concept of sustainable principles sourced from ecotheology and cosmology with the principles of monotheism (unity of all creation), Amanah-Khalifah (trustworthiness and moral leadership), and Akhirah (responsibility). Second, as practical norms in the form of practical environmental ethics, both ethics towards animals, plants, and other creatures.

Islamic teachings can play a role or are closely related to health values. According to Riyadi, the emergence of various problems in the health sector in the community shows that the values of Islamic teachings and thoughts have not been fully implemented in the community. This is of course a challenge in itself and this situation is actually not in line with the main teachings and thoughts of Islam which are very much related and relevant to science in the field of health and universal health values.

In a book entitled Islam, an Environmentally Friendly Religion, Yusuf Qardhawi provides several environmental concepts that exist in Islam, namely: first; tree planting and reforestation, second; plowing and fertilization (reviving dead land), third; maintain cleanliness, fourth; safeguard natural resources, fifth; maintain human health, sixth; friendly to the environment, seventh; protect the environment from destruction, eighth; maintain environmental balance. From some of the descriptions above, we can see that laws that rely on Islamic law have concern for various environmental problems.

Muhammad Taufiq said that environmental education can be offered to educational institutions such as families, schools and communities. Education about the environment, basically, can be done early in the family. For example, by getting every family member to be positive about everything around them, love the environment and not destroy it. In schools, up to tertiary institutions, efforts are made to have fields of study on the environment, at least, fields of study that are related, earnestly endeavored to present them openly to study subjects/students (Muhammad Taufiq, 2007).

## **II. Research Methods**

This research was conducted at SMA Muhammadiyah 1 and SMK Muhammadiyah 8 in Medan City. This school is one of the best schools in Muhammadiyah in Medan City and has received many achievements and many of its students have entered state universities. This research uses the method descriptive Qualitative research is a type of research that seeks to describe the object or subject researched in accordance with what it is with the aim of describing systematic facts and characteristics of objects that are studied appropriately and understand each context of the phenomenon as a whole. According to Maleong (2016:121) that qualitative analysis is a process of organizing and according to data into patterns, categories and basic units of description so that themes can be put forward and in accordance with those suggested by the data.

### III. Results and Discussion

Improving the quality of schools is always associated with programs that have been carefully planned for the progress and smoothness of the teaching and learning process. It is also inseparable from the clean living environment that is applied in SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Medan and SMK Muhammadiyah 8 Medan. The development and improvement of the quality of school performance plays an important role in school progress.

The clean environment program at SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Medan and SMK Muhammadiyah 8 Medan is still not optimal in its implementation. This happens because there is no special learning for students or other programs implemented in schools on themes that are directly related to a clean living environment. This is as stated by the principal of SMK Muhammadiyah 8 Medan, namely Mr. Luliadi, explaining that:

“Education for a clean environment in schools is not included in special lessons, but is only explained in lessons such as chemistry or science. Because the lesson is also not a program from the regional education environment. However, this is only a school initiative so that a clean living environment is carried out.”

This is also the same as what was conveyed by the principal at SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Medan.

Clean environmental education in Islamic-based schools such as SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Medan and SMK Muhammadiyah 8 Medan is also implemented by teachers and delivered to students but not in a formal form or included in school regulations. Every school or other agency should implement a clean environment program, although in practice there are still many obstacles and the program of activities has not been implemented optimally.

One of the good judgments in schools or government agencies is how they are able to use the existing facilities as well as possible. This is inseparable from what is practiced by SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Medan and SMK Muhammadiyah 8 Medan. The use of facilities and infrastructure has been used to the maximum extent possible in an effort to provide services and teaching provided. The use of existing facilities, Muhammadiyah 8 Medan Vocational School is better in its use, that is, many use these facilities to make it more beautiful to look at and orderly. Of course, these two schools have made gradual physical improvements and changes assisted by the Muhammadiyah regional leadership, namely from the existing budget.

The completeness of an educational facility and others will provide satisfaction and comfort for those who live in that environment. This factor cannot be separated from how the school is able to regulate it all into things that can provide satisfaction for teachers, students, parents, and the community who see it. However, the thing that must be considered is how students are able to know about the importance of a clean living environment for their health and comfort.

The need for motivation is given to students in an effort to provide important lessons about the need to live clean in their environment. In general, we can know from social media, newspapers, news on television that Medan City is one of the cities in Indonesia that was named the dirtiest city by the Ministry of Environment in 2019. This condition is not an achievement that the people of Medan City can be proud of. , because this is something that can worsen and be viewed badly by other cities in Indonesia. In addition, there was a flower board sent to the mayor of Medan, in which the writing on the board stated that congratulations, Medan City is the worst (<https://medan.tribunnews.com>). As a metropolitan city and the third largest city in Indonesia, the people of Medan city should be ashamed and in the future must improve it all. Based on this, of course, SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Medan is



included in the Medan city area. The lack of awareness about the importance of a clean living environment in schools is a factor that cannot be ignored because it will also have an impact on health.

Panjaitan, et al (2016) stated that preserving the environment is a shared responsibility between the government and the community. The impact of a well-maintained environment includes the health of students and teachers in the school environment. The importance of a clean and Islamic environment in SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Medan and SMK Muhammadiyah 8 Medan still needs to be increased the level of awareness for students to maintain a clean environment, of course in an effort to develop the image of schools and the city of Medan again. These activities must be started from school by instilling in their students to make a clean living environment an important thing that must be considered in order to maintain survival and maintain health together.

In the Qur'an, Allah SWT commands humans to pay attention to their environment, such as the events of the earth, mountains and camels. The word of Allah SWT in Surah al-Ghasiah verses 17-20: meaning, (17) then do they not pay attention to the camel how he was created, (18) and the sky, how he was raised? (19), and how the mountains were set up? (20), and how was the earth spread out? For this reason, as humans, we should take care of the environment based on all of its creations

A comfortable environment cannot be separated from the existence of a green environment in an agency, so as not to feel bored and bored at work. Greening must be done to protect the environment and provide fresh air and provide good oxygen. Reforestation must be supported by the government and schools to restore the environment from air pollution. As stated by Harryanto (2017), community welfare can be achieved through the optimal role of the Regional Government with the business world, as well as community participation, supported by legislation in the economic and political fields, as well as technical regulations. The reforestation movement is a program that must be preserved in any environment and cannot be separated from the school environment. Greening in schools is still not optimal in its implementation, both at SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Medan and SMK Muhammadiyah 8 Medan. This happens because the condition of the school is not so wide and the utilization of the location has not been used as much as possible. This should be the leadership's commitment to explain and provide direction to every employee, teacher, and student to instill good values and the sustainability of a clean environment everywhere.

The above conditions show how the presence in schools is still not as expected. One of the clean school programs here is not only intended for schools, but actually the surrounding environment will enjoy it. Precisely because it should be a big concern for everyone in the school environment. For reforestation itself, SMK Muhammadiyah 8 Medan has carried out reforestation around the school and the front yard because of its location which is directly adjacent to the Elementary School. In stark contrast to SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Medan, it is still far from what it should be.

In this case, cleanliness is the most important thing in every activity in an agency. Cleanliness in SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Medan and SMK Muhammadiyah 8 Medan are quite clean with the help of the availability of trash cans, the availability of bathrooms (WC) for teachers and students and the presence of janitors who attend school every day. A clean school will provide comfort in the learning and teaching process, because this should be a concern for everyone. Dirty schools will reflect poor quality and low quality education. This will also have an impact on the services available in schools and become a bad value for the community. The existence of janitors is very helpful in maintaining cleanliness in the school environment, this can be proven directly in the field.

Good waste management is the absence of odors that spread in the school environment and the water flows well. Of course, this happens because of the management that is carried out in a good and right way. This condition also affects the clean and Islamic living environment, because it reflects actions that are included in virtue. Waste management which is organized by preparing each room with a special garbage disposal box, proves that the school protects the environment because then the garbage will be transported by garbage trucks. This policy is carried out so that the condition of the school is not polluted and friendly to the environment. This is what should be done in order to maintain health and comfort at work and in the teaching and learning process.

#### IV. Conclusion

Environmental education implemented in SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Medan and SMK Muhammadiyah 8 Medan has been going well, but there are still some things that need to be improved and renewed for the common good. A good school is to create a comfortable, peaceful, and clean and not dirty atmosphere. Environmental cleanliness is one of the supporting factors in advancing schools and the role of leadership is one of the factors driving the creation of a clean living environment. Thus, it takes leadership elements in moving the clean environment program for every employee, teacher, and student in its implementation.

The realization of the environment in schools is still not a program in general lessons, so there is still a lack of concern for it. Clean and Islamic environmental programs must include factors that are aware of the importance of health and sustainability. To realize this, an environmental program in schools must be made, so that its implementation can be carried out properly by employees, teachers, and students. SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Medan still has not implemented a clean environment program properly, in contrast to SMK Muhammadiyah 8 Medan which has been more advanced in this program. Although the environmental program lessons have not yet been made, some of them have been implemented well.

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