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# Optimizing The Use Of Information Technology In Islamic Religious Education

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The use of information technology in learning can certainly be done with various educational programs. As is the case in learning Islamic Religious Education, where in this case the role of media technology is also needed to get new learning and insights for students. However, this also needs to be juxtaposed with the participation of teachers or lecturers who assist students in using information technology media as an effective learning medium. Especially with the increasing ease of obtaining information and communicating which will have an impact on religious differences that can trigger differences in understanding for every world community. Thus, the role of teachers or lecturers has an important role in the use of information technology for learning activities. Where the abilities and expertise of a teacher or lecturer need to be optimized in the use of information technology as an effective learning medium for students. In this regard, the author would like to elaborate a discussion related to the optimal use of information technology in Islamic Religious Education learning activities through the approach of literature study research methods and descriptive methods. With research that discusses this matter, it is hoped that it can help and make it easier for teachers to direct students in achieving learning goals.

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#### A. Introduction

The era of globalization which is growing rapidly presents technological developments that provide various changes in various aspects of life. The development



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of technology has become a very big influence on the entire world community, especially in the field of education (Faqihuddin, 2021). The presence of technological advances has both positive and negative impacts in implementing education. Information technology has made it easy for educators, students and education providers to carry out educational activities at the school and university levels (Setiawan, 2020). This is because information technology is used as an appropriate alternative for media and learning resources for related parties. In fact, there are several researchers who show that the use of information technology media in learning is an effective strategy, both in traditional and conventional learning (Ketut Sudarsana et al., 2019).

The use of information technology in learning can certainly be done with various educational programs. As is the case in learning Islamic Religious Education, where in this case the role of technological media is also needed to gain new learning and insights for students. However, this also needs to be coupled with the role of the teacher or lecturer who assists students in using information technology media as an effective learning medium. Moreover, the easier information and communication will have an impact on religious differences which can trigger differences of understanding for every community in the world. It can be seen that the role of a teacher or lecturer is the main and starting point of the framework of an educational process, where the progress of all aspects of education requires the role of the teacher's ability to optimize his creativity.

Every progress achieved by humans always involves creativity (Munandar, 2000). Creative teachers or lecturers will bring enthusiasm and motivation to students in increasing their curiosity in seeking new knowledge and insights, and can develop their creativity to carry out learning with innovative results. Thus, the role of the teacher or lecturer has an important role in the use of information technology for learning activities (Hidayat et al., 2022). Where the abilities and expertise of a teacher or lecturer need to be optimized in the use of information technology as an effective learning medium for students.



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In this regard, the authors would like to elaborate on the discussion regarding the optimal use of information technology in Islamic Religious Education learning activities. With the discussion regarding this matter, it is hoped that it can help and facilitate teachers to direct students in achieving learning goals.

#### B. Methods

In accordance with the nature of the problems studied, the authors used literature study research methods and descriptive methods in completing this research.

The research method used in the literature study is where the author collects data from various scientific works to produce information and achieve the objectives of this research. The expected goal of using the case study method in itself is to discuss various topics from previous studies, such as scientific journal works and also to recommend redevelopment of related research in accordance with the goals to be achieved.

Then, the use of descriptive methods in this study is also expected to be able to explain complex discussions, where in this study there are data in the form of information that will be studied for development in the future.

#### C. Result and Discussion

Information technology is a method of using electronic equipment, such as the use of computer media to store, analyze, and distribute any information obtained. Information technology is a medium that can be used in processing data, especially for processing, obtaining, compiling, and storing data with relevant, accurate and precise results. The use of information technology can be done by two methods, namely hardware and software (Setiawan, 2021). The role of the use of information technology can certainly have an impact on all aspects of human life. With the existence of information technology, it can provide benefits in terms of data processing and network systems that are used to connect one media to another according to the needs so that data can be distributed or accessed globally.



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Information technology includes various systems used by humans in communicating, such as computers, television, video, and the internet. Where all methods of using information technology can be used as a medium to produce a number of useful data and information for its users (Muthuprasad et al., 2021).

It can be seen that information technology has a principle that refers to the rapid developments that occur in various aspects of technology to provide convenience to the public in obtaining information. This situation requires adaptation for the world community, especially in various aspects of life, where all of these aspects must constantly be side by side with the technological media around us. As is the case, aspects of education that are already using even already require the role of the surrounding technology media. This is certainly something that needs attention, where it is the responsibility of educators, students and education providers to assist and adapt to information technology so that the use of the media can be creative, effective and innovative. Likewise in carrying out Islamic Religious Education learning, where there will be many disputes with the existence of religious differences from various regions around the world. Thus, it is necessary to instill moral values in students that refer to the internalization of the mission of the Qur'an and Sunnah.

The role of the teachers is something that will really help students or social life, especially as a Muslim. Where the nature and behavior of children can influence various aspects around them, especially in carrying out community life. If there are human individuals who show negative attitudes and behavior towards Islam caused by the surrounding environment, then this can become an obstacle for these individuals which results in rejection of Islamic life and will result in failure of integration with the Islamic community. Thus, the role of a teacher is needed in the presence of information technology for learning activities for students, especially in setting the right strategy as an effort to help the process of forming character and knowledge for each individual student.



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Optimizing this needs to be done with teachers who have broad knowledge, as well as the existence of a basic religious knowledge that can provide sufficient for teachers to avoid mistakes or failure of strategies in providing learning activities for students. Then, sufficient time allocation can also be made so that it can provide opportunities for students to interact, as well as teach Islamic traits and behavior by implementing this through their daily behavior.

Information technology, such as computer media, television, and video, is a medium that can be used in learning activities effectively. The use of information technology in learning activities is certainly not limited. The media can continue to be used as an effort to improve the abilities and skills of each individual student, especially in conducting learning at school. Information technology can be used to provide innovation that generates creativity from each student in carrying out learning by counting and memorizing. This can provide new experiences and opportunities for each individual student to explore learning concepts in depth.

The use of information technology in the learning of Islamic Religious Education can be grouped into three functions, namely; (1) independent learning media, (2) learning aids, (3) learning resources. The presence of information technology can provide various influences on students, as well as in helping to motivate the learning process in a more creative and innovative way. Through the media provided in information technology it can also make it easier for students to learn the material that has been delivered where they can return to repeat the material at home or anywhere and anytime until they really understand the material. Students will also of course be more trained with the opportunity for them to seek new knowledge related to material that has not been or has not been conveyed by the teacher, so that they can be more active and independent in seeking discoveries.

According to Tajul Ariffin, the existence of technological media such as computers or other media can influence the development of Islamic Religious Education



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learning, as well as students who will increasingly have broad relations with the scope of Islamic education, whether in Islamic countries or not. Technology-based modern education will also be increasingly applied and implemented in other related fields, such as science, social, economics, and others. All forms of information obtained positively in the use of technological media will certainly provide benefits to students to make Islamic education the basis for studying an educational science or other science. The role of technology which makes it easier for students will later be useful in carrying out learning according to the existing curriculum and can realize a series of Islamic education in accordance with existing provisions (Setiawan & Masitah, 2018). The presence of information technology media also implements the concept of monotheism in science which means that the technology around us can provide information that the knowledge we get in one field and another has the nature of one unit, which of course becomes progress in building Islamic civilization.

Thus, the use of information technology in the learning process of Islamic Religious Education has a very good role and provides various benefits to students.

The era of information technology with the presence of digital media has various impacts on human life, these impacts can be positive or negative. With the ease of communication media, of course, it becomes a point that can have an impact on a new meeting or even lead to disputes regarding the existence of various differences for every individual in society throughout the world, including with differences in religion. Society as individual humans basically has different mindsets and opinions, so this often creates disputes that are carried out online through every social media they have. Information technology media that can be accessed publicly by all people of the world is the biggest reason why disputes from differences can occur. For example, there is someone who discusses an issue with the opinion expressed on personal social media that is owned, then there are other people who feel that the opinion is wrong, but the rejection of that person's opinion uses the wrong words and causes misunderstanding. Then, this problem became a hot discussion that eventually spread to all social media.



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Where these problems will later have an impact on a community group related to the emergence of the same feelings or opinions towards one of the camps of the dispute.

If these problems continue, it can have a negative impact on the unity of the entire world community. The dispute that is most likely to impact is over religious differences around the world. With the existence of new problems that occur in an information system related to religious differences, it will later have a major impact on the destruction of world peace. Thus, things that are considered trivial or small in information technology media can have a big impact and affect the human life system as a society. Therefore, guidance on information technology media that has been side by side with all aspects of human life needs to be considered in various fields of learning. As is the case with moral education guidance in learning Islamic Religious Education for participants, especially in countries with a majority Muslim population. Where later the teacher has a role to instill positive moral values towards Islam. The inculcation of these values can be applied to students who will later influence social life within the family, school and society in general. Of course, these things need to be done by teachers in accordance with Islamic law with reference to the internalization of the mission of the Qur'an and Sunnah.

The role of parents in this case is also very important to help educators such as teachers or lecturers in instilling traits and behavior that are in accordance with religious law. In this case, parents have a role to regulate all forms of strategy as an effort to facilitate the process of character formation or the nature and behavior of students.

Basically, all religious activities in human life will definitely require the role of the community around each individual human being. As is the case with students who study Islamic Religious Education by being taught by teachers and also guided by parents or family. Bahlan, the role of the community in the surrounding environment will also affect the process of understanding each individual student of the beliefs they have.



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With advances in information technology, the learning of Islamic Religious Education is easier to reach with a wider scope. Every community, including students, will find it easier to access information related to Islamic Religious Education. Where this will certainly affect the beliefs and understanding of each individual student regarding the information obtained. The surrounding community such as teachers, parents, family, school friends, and others can be very influential in providing an understanding of Islamic Religious Education. Thus, guidance is needed in using information technology as a learning medium for Islamic Religious Education by people around the students. Especially for parents and teachers who have the highest position in guiding students to learn and implement all the positive things contained in learning Islamic Religious Education.

#### D. Conclusion

Information technology is a medium that can be used in processing data, especially for processing, obtaining, compiling, and storing data with relevant, accurate and precise results. It can be seen that information technology has a principle that refers to the rapid developments that occur in various aspects of technology to provide convenience to the public in obtaining information. This situation requires adaptation for the world community, especially in various aspects of life, where all of these aspects must constantly be side by side with the technological media around us. As is the case, aspects of education that are already using even already require the role of the surrounding technology media. This is certainly something that needs attention, where it is the responsibility of educators, students and education providers to assist and adapt to information technology so that the use of the media can be creative, effective and innovative. Likewise in carrying out Islamic Religious Education learning, where there will be many disputes with the existence of religious differences from various regions around the world.



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