

Islamic Boarding School Challenges for Alpha Generation Student

Qiyadah Robbaniyah, M.pd.I, Syaiful Anam, M.Pd, M.pdI

STITMA Yogyakarta

E,Mail :qrobbaniyah@gmail.com, anams9763@gmail.com

Abstract

Islamic boarding schools as Islamic educational institutions are serious in assisting the nation's children. So the researcher is interested in exploring the challenges of Islamic boarding schools for the alpha generation of students. With a place of research at the Islamic Center Bin Baz Islamic Boarding School in Yogyakarta. This research method is a qualitative method by collecting interview data, observation and documentation. The results of this study are; Generation Alpha is a term for people born in 2010 and after, this generation has advantages and characters that are different from the previous generation because they are very close to technology. Adolescence has a complete dynamic towards adulthood. ICBB Islamic Boarding School in facing the challenges of the alpha generation of students, namely; 1) Mission Crisis Youth; 2) Adolescents who do not know themselves, their roles and what their duties are; 3) the orderliness of Congregational Prayer Worship; 4) Trend and Youth Idol; 5) competent educators; 6) Emotional control; 7) Changes in community needs; 8) Fulfillment of Obligations on Property Issues.

Keywords: Generation Alpha, Islamic boarding school, Students, Challenge Teenager

INTRODUCTION

Islamic boarding school education is a means for parents to help shape individual behavior in accordance with religion, state and society (Fauzi et al., 2020). Islamic boarding schools are places for students to gain knowledge, get education, both general and religious

education. Currently, many parents choose pesantren education as a place for their children's education (Nuris Yuhbaba, 2019).

Now Islamic boarding schools have undergone many changes from time to time, pesantren have now transformed into educational institutions that have quality qualities to compete with public educational institutions. This is one of the responses in facing the era of disruption which is marked by changes in behavior in the millennial generation and other changes that are fast, massive, and have a big impact on future developments. Islamic boarding school educational institutions in this digital era will certainly continue to strive to exist by providing an education system that is able to produce superior human resources, have global insight, have good morals, and be able to compete in subsequent eras while maintaining identity as a pesantren (Kholifah, 2022).

The development of the current era is a challenge for the world of education today, including Islamic education. Teachers inevitably prepare themselves to face increasingly complex challenges. The complexity of these challenges must be accompanied by adequate capabilities possessed by teachers and all components of society (Rohimin et al., 2020) Modernization affects aspects of values, attitudes, behavior, personality, morals and norms. Regarding modern humans, they are characterized by several characters such as; looking for something on their own (individualistic), like looking for something different because they want to prove their existence, a luxurious lifestyle that overrides the values and norms of life, also with sophisticated technology makes it easy to access the world only with a small cell phone but contains all the life of the world . Thus causing deviant behaviors that occur in this modernization era. Both children, teenagers, adults and even the elderly cannot be separated from the influence of modernization. Especially the adolescent phase, which in its development is at a potential period in terms of cognitive, emotional and behavioral aspects (Fauzi et al., 2020).

A professional teacher in the millennial era or the Alpha Generation, is not enough to only master the four teacher competencies, namely professional and social personality pedagogic competencies. The rapid development of information technology requires a teacher to be part of this technological progress (Setyo Widodo & Sita Rofiqoh, 2020)

Bin Baz Islamic Center Islamic Boarding School as a salaf Islamic boarding school which has more than 5,000 (five thousand) students (Robbaniyah & Lina, 2022). Seeing this phenomenon, the authors are interested in doing more in-depth research regarding the challenges of boarding schools for alpha generation students who take place at the Islamic Center Bin Baz Islamic Boarding School in Yogyakarta.

RESEARCH METHOD

The research method used is qualitative, namely narrating and describing the findings in the study. This type of research is a field study, where the researcher takes all matters relating to the research theme from phenomenology, circumstances, places, expert opinions and all matters relating to the research theme (Robbaniyah, Lina, Anggita, et al., 2022). Data collection was carried out by interviewing the boarding school management team, observation and documentation were carried out both directly at the boarding school and online media on the web, tv, social media, etc.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Teen Generation Alpha

Generation Alpha is a term given by social researcher Mark McCrindle to the category of people born in 2010 and after (Erfan Gazali, 2018). Even so, they are considered to have deficiencies, such as: bossy, dominant, and controlling; do not like to share; not wanting to follow the rules; technology becomes part of their life, and would not know the world without social networks; and the ability to communicate directly is much reduced. On the other hand, digital media offers broad opportunities and provides positive benefits, in addition to digital risks. (Setyo Widodo & Sita Rofiqoh, 2020)

The word youth comes from the Latin word *adolescere* which means to grow or grow into adulthood. This term has a broader meaning which includes mental, emotional, social, and physical maturity. Adolescence shows clearly the nature of transition or transition because adolescents have not yet obtained adult status and no longer have child status. (Putri et al., 2016). Adolescence is a period of transition from children to adults, who are experiencing the peak of growth both physically and psychologically (Makmum, 2017). Ideally, a teenager can know himself well (Robbaniyah, Lina, & Falensyana, 2022).

Behavioral and personal characteristics in adolescence are divided into two groups, namely early adolescents (11-15 years) and late adolescents (15-20 years). covers aspects:

- a. Physical The rate of development in general takes place rapidly, the proportion of height, body weight is often unbalanced and the emergence of secondary characteristics.
- b. Psychomotor Movements appear awkward and less coordinated and active in various types of games.
- c. Language Development of the use of coded language and becoming interested in learning foreign languages, fond of literature that breathes and contains erotic, fantastic, and aesthetic aspects.
- d. Social The desire to be alone and socialize with many friends but is temporary, and there is a strong dependence on peer groups accompanied by a high spirit of conformity.
- e. Cognitive behavior changes occur:

- 1) The thinking process is capable of operating abstract formal logical rules (association, differentiation, comparison, causality), although relatively limited.
 - 2) Basic intellectual skills undergo the fastest rate of development.
 - 3) Special basic skills (talent) begin to show clearer tendencies.
- f. Morality
- 1) There is ambivalence between free will from dominating parental influence and the need and help from parents.
 - 2) His attitude and critical way of thinking begins to test ethical principles or value systems in reality in the daily behavior of his supporters.
 - 3) Identifying with morality figures who are seen as appropriate with their idol type.
- g. Religious Behavior
- 1) Concerning the existence and nature of God's mercy and justice began to be questioned critically and skeptically.
 - 2) Still looking and trying to find a grip on life.
 - 3) Appreciation of daily religious life is carried out on the consideration that there is some sort of compelling demand from outside himself.
- h. Personality covers
- 1) The five basic needs (physiological, security, affection, self-esteem, and self-actualization) indicate the direction of the trend.
 - 2) His reactions and emotional expressions are still unstable and uncontrollable, such as statements of anger, joy or sadness that can still change and take turns.
 - 3) It is a critical period in order to deal with his identity crisis which is heavily influenced by his psychosocial condition, which will shape his personality.
 - 4) The tendency towards value attitudes begins to appear (theoretical, economic, aesthetic, social, political and religious), although it is still at the stage of exploration and experimentation. The character and behavior carried out by adolescents is inseparable from the role of knowledge which will shape the nature of this behavior (Makmum, 2017)

Challenges Faced by Islamic Boarding Schools in Accompanying Alpha Generation Santri

ICBB Islamic Boarding School in facing the challenges of the alpha generation of students and the strategies carried out by the pesantren, several points were obtained, namely:

a. Mission Crisis Adolescents

At this time, many teenagers who are experiencing a crisis feel valued and feel worthless. This crisis can be overcome by strengthening faith, because the motivation of

human life is to worship Allah. Of the three pillars of worship (khawf, rajaa, mahabbah) it must be applied in everyday life, where mahabbah, khawf, and rajaa are important components in all deeds. Khawf and rajaa can be applied with the terms reward and punishment, in education it is important to introduce these two components thoroughly. In cultivating love for Allah, appropriate rewards and punishments must be given. Especially at the age of junior high and high school, where even though they can think abstractly, they still need real rewards. Therefore, in all activities, a real reward system must be provided so that children can simulate the afterlife. The children's future vision must also be considered, so that they can answer questions about what my role will be and what my duties will be.

b. Adolescents who do not know themselves, their roles and what their duties are

There are three points that must be understood by Santri, namely who he is, what is his role, and what are his duties in the future. This can be understood through the various programs presented in pesantren. By understanding his position, Santri can understand his life motivation, which is to worship Allah. At every level of education, Santri must continue to strengthen their life motivation to worship and recognize their roles and duties in order to achieve happiness and provide benefits to others.

The difference in education between men and women should be recognized because it is related to the nature of each. The nature of women tends to be more trained in educating because in the future they will become mothers who will take care of the children. Therefore, women tend to memorize many things from A to Z because their nature directs them to prepare themselves for their role as educators. On the other hand, men are usually more focused on making a living and socializing with other people, and their brains tend to prioritize information that is important to their job. However, this does not mean that men must be equated with women in terms of education. If men later choose the profession of being educators, then their education can be adjusted just like education in Akhwat. However, if men choose other professions, there is no need to force education like women's education. Therefore, among the Ikhwan, it is necessary to classify education according to the needs and future careers of students. For example, if students are shown to have talent as ustadz or teachers, then their education should be tailored to their needs and future careers. However, if students have talent in other areas, then their education should be tailored to suit their needs and future careers. In this case, the Ikhwan must pay attention to the natural needs and challenges of students' lives to prepare for their lives in the future, not try to force education for boys as it does for women's education. Therefore, male education must consider physical education such as involving children in manual labor and cultivating strong characters so that they can face life's challenges in the future.

Of course, every santri has different potential and characteristics, so the approach used in their education must also be adjusted. However, the important thing is to pay attention to the needs and challenges of life that will be faced by these students in the future, so that the education provided can provide maximum benefits for their lives in the future.

Education in brothers has a different approach from education in brothers. Education in ikhwan places more emphasis on physical education and developing character according to male nature, while education in akhwat places more emphasis on spiritual and intellectual education which is in accordance with female nature.

Islamic boarding school programs implemented to help students' personal development, such as Leadership and Public Speaking programs. However, programs such as Negotiation and Financial Science will still be initiated at a later stage. Obstacles in the implementation of these programs, such as the lack of special training to hone negotiation skills, or the lack of identification of students who have the potential to become vocals. However, this can be overcome by finding the right solution to overcome these obstacles.

The strategy adopted by the ICBB Islamic Boarding School in dealing with these obstacles is to improve eating habits. Eating is an extraordinary process, and when the eating habits are followed properly, it has a great effect. Meal etiquette involves many aspects, such as public speaking and negotiations. When someone orders food, he can demonstrate public speaking and negotiation skills by speaking politely, clearly and effectively. In this case, eating habits can help improve one's communication skills. Meal etiquette can also help develop financial management skills and help build strong social relationships within the family or community. Shared meals can help strengthen relationships and strengthen bonds between individuals in a family or community. Therefore, it is important to learn and practice good eating habits in everyday life.

c. Congregational Prayer Worship

Congregational prayers and worship are part of a religious program related to the Al-Qur'an, As-Sunnah, and worship. Understanding the Qur'an, As-Sunnah, and worship is a beneficial practice of knowledge, which can help a person get closer to Allah. The approach used in the program is to know God.

Worship is very closely related to takdzim, namely respect for those who call. If a child is called by a caretaker or ustadzah and comes, but does not come when called by a junior ustadzah, it shows a lack of respect for Allah. Therefore, it is important for children to have a good understanding of Allah, such as Ma'rifatullah, who is Allah Ar-Rahman, Ar-Rahim, Al-Malik, Al-Quddus. In the program organized by the ustadzah team, materials on

Asmaul Husna and its verses are conveyed to the children. Apart from that, they also work together in Tahfidz and Tadabbur Ayat activities. The approach used is to introduce God first so that children understand the meaning and significance of the verses read. This program has only been running for one month and is still in the introduction stage, but it is hoped that it can be practiced and applied to students. The biggest homework in children's education is teacher consistency, which is not enough just to provide additional knowledge but also to provide concrete examples in daily actions.

d. Trend and Teen Idol

Today, many children are experiencing a crisis of feeling valued or unappreciated, because of a culture that values someone based on material things, fame, and beauty. This has an impact on the idol crisis which can affect the way children think. Therefore, it is important to refocus on our main idol, namely the Prophet Muhammad. This is a long task and requires limiting reading, watching, and bad association to prevent slander and doubt.

The challenge facing Islamic boarding schools is that they must be popular and famous to keep up with the times. Therefore, the war is being waged by competing to become more popular among children today. Example; children at this time see which is more popular, whether nasyid or ordinary songs. If the Koran and nasyid are popular, they will follow, but privately, a more personal awareness and approach is needed. However, it does not require a big program because teenagers are easily influenced by emotions and follow trends. Therefore, the more creative and innovative the teacher is in making trending things, the more they will enter the trending community. The strategy is so that they don't trend with bad things, but with good things, so that they still have prestige and exist.

Assistance related to awareness is still being carried out, not because it is trendy, but because of God. However, to change something big, it cannot only be done with personal approaches, but requires a big program. The current trend is to make personal assistance. Personal assistance is to provide useful knowledge to children. However, just imparting knowledge is not enough, because knowledge will only be beneficial if we supervise its practice. Although not 100%, at least 30% of knowledge practice must be completed. In addition, the style of practice between sons and daughters is also different. For men, knowledge can be imparted and supervision carried out individually because they already have a mind that is more responsible and will automatically think how to prioritize their lives in accordance with men's basics. If they feel that something is not necessary, they will not exercise control over it. This method has been tried many times among the Brotherhood and has proven to be useful.

Today, we are facing a war of thought between educators and children that can influence society's standards of right and wrong. Therefore, it is necessary to limit things that are not good and always refer to the Al-Qur'an and As-Sunnah to determine the standard of truth and error.

e. Competent educator

Educators are needed not only in terms of quality and quantity, but also must have criteria that are familiar and close to the students. This is important so that the values instilled in students can be well received, because currently students trust their friends more than their teachers. As a teacher, especially one in charge of nurturing, one must not only be good but also be able to be close to the students. However, this should not reduce the firmness in teaching."

f. Emotional control

The ability to recognize emotions is important to introduce to elementary school students, while junior and senior high school students need to learn how to regulate emotions. Most cases of bullying are caused by a child's inability to regulate emotions. Therefore, the ICBB Islamic Boarding School plans to provide training on emotional management and good parenting to teachers and students. After the training is completed, it is hoped that there will be no more involvement in disturbing emotions, be it those of friends or oneself. That way, students can focus on themselves without being distracted by other people's emotions. If you are still busy with other people's emotions, then the focus of the santri will change.

g. Changing societal needs

Changes in people's current needs tend to be more towards living facilities, such as food, internet access, entertainment, and others, whereas in the past basic needs were more on clothing, boards and food. This change also affects the world of education. Therefore, education must adapt to the times without having to be excessive or too conservative. Today's children pay more attention to skincare and snacks, whereas in the past they paid more attention to clothes and shoes. This change is an obvious fact.

h. Fulfillment of Obligations on Property Issues

The last problem that must be fixed is the problem of assets, from the focus on fulfilling parents to their children's payment obligations at Islamic boarding schools, everything is fixed, it turns out that the effect on children and parents is very good. The monthly alms program which is routinely carried out by santri has formed a habit of infaq and

that, thank God, children are rarely seriously ill. Diseases that were once common are now rarely reported, such as smallpox being an epidemic. The effect of this routine almsgiving is felt in real terms, and this program has been continued until now.

CONCLUSION

Generation Alpha is a term for people born in 2010 and after, this generation has advantages and characters that are different from the previous generation because they are very close to technology. Adolescence has a complete dynamic towards adulthood. ICBB Islamic Boarding School in facing the challenges of the alpha generation of students, namely; 1) Mission Crisis Youth; 2) Adolescents who do not know themselves, their roles and what their duties are; 3) the orderliness of Congregational Prayer Worship; 4) Trend and Youth Idol; 5) competent educators; 6) Emotional control; 7) Changes in community needs; 8) Fulfillment of Obligations on Property Issues.

REFERENCE

- Erfan G. (2018). Pesantren Di Antara Generasi Alfa Dan Tantangan Dunia Pendidikan Era Revolusi Industri 4.0. *OASIS : Jurnal Ilmiah Kajian Islam*, 2(2), 94–109.
- Fauzi, A., Indriyani, L., & . W. (2020). Peran Pendidikan Pesantren Salafi Dalam Membentuk Perilaku Remaja Di Era Modernisasi. *Jurnal IKA PGSD (Ikatan Alumni PGSD) UNARS*, 8(1), 179. <https://doi.org/10.36841/pgsdunars.v8i1.596>
- Kholifah, A. (2022). Strategi Pendidikan Pesantren Menjawab Tantangan Sosial di Era Digital. *Jurnal Basicedu*, 6(3), 4967–4978. <https://doi.org/10.31004/basicedu.v6i3.2811>
- Maksum, A. S. (2017). Karakteristik Perilaku dan Kepribadian pada Masa Remaja. *Jurnal Penelitian Guru Indonesia*, 2(2), 17–23. <https://jurnal.iicet.org/index.php/jpgi/article/view/220>
- Nuris Yuhbaba, Z. (2019). Eksplorasi Perilaku Bullying Di Pesantren. *Jurnal Kesehatan Dr. Soebandi*, 7(1), 63–71. <https://doi.org/10.36858/jkds.v7i1.143>
- Putri, W. S. R., Nurwati, N., & S., M. B. (2016). Pengaruh Media Sosial Terhadap Perilaku Remaja. *Prosiding Penelitian Dan Pengabdian Kepada Masyarakat*, 3(1). <https://doi.org/10.24198/jppm.v3i1.13625>
- Robbaniyah, Q., & Lina, R. (2022). Eksplorasi Strategi Kontra Radikalisme pada Santri di Pondok Pesantren Islamic Center Bin Baz Yogyakarta. *X(X)*, 1–10.
- Robbaniyah, Q., Lina, R., Anggita, P., Indah, N., & Agni, N. (2022). Analisis manajemen sumber daya pembiayaan sekolah dasar (sd) islam Yogyakarta. *At Turots : Jurnal Pendidikan Islam*, 4(2), 258–268.



- Robbaniyah, Q., Lina, R., & Falensyana, A. (2022). At Turots : Jurnal Pendidikan Islam Studi Kasus Santriwati Halaqoh Khotm Islamic Center Bin Baz dalam Memilih Jurusan Kuliah Case study of Student Halaqah Khotm Islamic Center Bin Baz in choosing college majors. 4(1), 11–22.
- Rohimin, R., Fadlurrohman, I., Husein, A., Yulia, L., Wibowo, H., Raharjo, S. T., Wicaksono, D. S., Kasmantoni, & Walid, A. (2020). Memahami Perkembangan Anak Generasi Alfa Di Era Industri 4.0. Focus: Jurnal Pekerjaan Sosial, 2(2), 178–186. <https://doi.org/10.24198/focus.v2i2.26235>
- Setyo Widodo, G., & Sita Rofiqoh, K. (2020). Pengembangan Guru Profesional Menghadapi Generasi Alpha. Jurnal Ilmiah Pendidikan Citra Bakti, 7(1), 13–22. <https://doi.org/10.38048/jipcb.v7i1.67>

