



The Influence of Qira'atul Qur'an Habituation in Forming the Religious Character of Students at SMKN 1 Puloampel

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ABSTRACT. This study aims to analyze the implementation of the habituation of the Qur'anic recitation in shaping the religious character of students at State Vocational High School 1 Puloampel. Religious character is an important foundation in shaping the personality of students with noble morals. The research method used is descriptive qualitative with a case study approach. Data collection techniques through observation, in-depth interviews, and documentation. The research subjects consisted of the principal, Islamic religious education teachers, and students of State Vocational High School 1 Puloampel. The results of the study indicate that the implementation of the habituation of the Qur'anic recitation is carried out through routine activities of reading the Qur'an before the start of learning, the tahfidz program, and spiritual extracurricular activities. The positive impacts seen are an increase in student discipline, honesty, tolerance, and piety. However, there are still obstacles such as limited time and variations in students' ability to read the Qur'an. The conclusion of this study shows that the habituation of the Qur'anic recitation is effective in shaping the religious character of students when carried out consistently and supported by the entire school community.

Keywords: *Habituation, Character, Religious, Qira'atul, Al-Qur'an.*

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INTRODUCTION

Religious character gives birth to education that emphasizes religious values, such as the value of worship, the value of jihad, the value of trust, the value of sincerity, morals and discipline as well as exemplary behavior. (Syahputra, 2020). Religious character generally includes a person's thoughts, words, and actions. (Purwati, P., & Faiz, 2023) which is always sought to be based on divine values or religious teachings. For Muslims, the formation of religious character cannot be separated from the Qur'an as the primary source of Islamic teachings. (Pardede, L., Pasaribu, KM, Siahaan, MM, Sinaga, AMSB, Tinambunan, A., & Safitri, 2022) Qira'atul Qur'an or reading the Qur'an is an effective method for internalizing Islamic values to students. (Reisa, I., Wasehudin, W., & Anshori, 2022).

Habituation of reciting the Qur'an in the context of formal education has a strategic role in shaping students' personalities. (Assaffa, PA, Muksin, U., & Saepulrohimi, 2024). The activity of reading the Qur'an regularly not only provides spiritual rewards, but also forms positive character traits such as discipline, patience, and piety. (Anshori, I., & Wasehudin, 2024). The aim of the Quran recitation activity is also to ensure that students develop the habit of reading, internalizing,

and deepening the contents and content of the Quran.(Anshori, I., Syafe'i, I., & Zahrotunnisa, 2024)This is in line with the word of Allah SWT in Surah Al-Isra verse 9 which states that the Qur'an provides guidance to the straightest path.

Puloampel 1 State Vocational High School, as a vocational educational institution, has implemented a Quranic recitation habituation program to foster students' religious character. The school recognizes that vocational high school graduates must possess not only technical competencies but also strong character to face the challenges of the professional world. The implementation of Quranic recitation habituation is expected to provide a spiritual foundation that strengthens students' character. The phenomenon of moral degradation among adolescents is currently increasingly worrying (Anshori, I., Husaini, U. M., Nurhidayati, D., & Fidiyani, 2025).

Data from the Indonesian Child Protection Commission shows that in 2022 there were 226 cases of juvenile delinquency, in the form of physical violence, psychological violence, and bullying.(Awwaliyah, FA, & Arcana, 2020)The Indonesian Child Protection Commission assesses that child delinquency often stems from a lack of optimal care at the family level, especially by parents.(Kholis, FN, & Gunarto, 2025)Lack of attention and guidance from parents can cause children to seek attention through negative behavior in their social environment.(Asfiah, W., & Ilham, 2019). Furthermore, data from the Indonesian Child Protection Commission (KPAI) in 2023 showed a significant increase in bullying cases in schools over the past five years. Most of these cases stem from adolescents' inability to manage their emotions, lack of empathy, and inability to resolve social conflicts peacefully.(Assaffa, PA, Muksin, U., & Saepulrohimi, 2024)The rise in juvenile delinquency, including brawls, drug use, and other immoral behavior, demands that educational institutions be more serious about implementing character education, particularly religious character as a bulwark against students' morals (Faizudin, F., Khairat, A., Anshori, I., Munji, A., Washudin, W., Alfurqan, A., & Fuaddin, 2025).

This study aims to analyze the influence of the Qira'atul Qur'an habituation program on the formation of religious character of students at State Vocational High School 1 Puloampel. The Qira'atul Qur'an habituation activity is part of the effort to internalize religious values in the school environment which is expected to be able to form positive behavior, spiritual discipline, and strengthen students' religious identity in a sustainable manner.(Anshori, I., Putri, AS, Qonitah, A., & Ramadhan, 2024) This study aims to empirically examine how the implementation of Qira'atul Qur'an activities is designed and implemented in daily school education, and to identify how much influence these activities have on the dimensions of students' religious character, such as religious discipline, honesty, responsibility, and tolerance.

Research related to the formation of students' religious character through religious activities in schools has been widely conducted in various educational contexts, especially at the elementary and junior high school levels (Mustonah, 2016). Several previous studies have focused more on the effectiveness of Islamic religious education in general, the role of Islamic religious education teachers in instilling religious values, or the influence of religious extracurricular activities on student behavior. However, there are still limited studies that specifically examine the habituation of Qira'atul Qur'an as a structured habituation approach to shaping students' religious character, particularly in vocational high schools.

Most previous studies have also not examined the institutional context of vocational high schools, which have characteristics and school cultures that differ from those of general high schools (Sulaiman, M. A., Nisoh, A., Anshori, I., Kahfi, A., & Mohamoud, 2025), primarily due to the focus of vocational education, which places greater emphasis on work skills (Anshori, I., Islam, N. N., & Husaini, 2025). This presents a unique challenge in shaping students' religious character amidst an educational orientation that tends to be technical and pragmatic. Furthermore, previous studies generally used a descriptive approach without quantitative or mixed-methods testing of the actual impact of Qira'atul Qur'an habituation on student character formation.

Thus, this study makes an important contribution in filling a gap in research that has not been widely explored, namely by specifically examining the influence of the Qira'atul Qur'an habituation program on the religious character of students at State Vocational High School 1 Puloamel through a measurable and contextual approach. This research is also expected to enrich the literature on religious-based character education in the realm of vocational education, which has so far been relatively limited.

METHOD

This research uses a qualitative method with a descriptive approach. A qualitative approach is one used to understand and explore social, cultural, or psychological phenomena through in-depth and contextual exploration. (Anshori, I., Setiaji, H., & Anita, 2023). The main objective of qualitative research is to explore the meaning and interpretation of the experiences, views, and perspectives of the research subjects. Qualitative research was chosen because this study aims to understand the phenomenon in depth regarding the implementation of the habituation of the Qur'anic recitation in shaping the religious character of students. Case studies are used as a research strategy to intensively explore the implementation of the program at SMKN 1 Puloampel. The total research subjects were 21 people selected using a purposive sampling technique based on the criteria of involvement in the habituation of the Qur'anic recitation program.

The data collection technique was carried out through three events, namely, first, Participatory Observation Observation was conducted to directly observe the implementation of the habituation of Qira'atul Qur'an in schools. Aspects observed included the implementation process, student participation, and visible impacts. Second, In-depth interviews, semi-structured interviews were conducted with research subjects to obtain in-depth information about the program implementation, perceived impacts, and obstacles faced. And third, documentation was conducted to collect supporting data in the form of activity photos, program documents, activity schedules, and student data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Result

SMKN 1 Puloampel is a state vocational high school located at Jalan Raya Bojonegara No. 14. Kp. Mekarsari RT. 14 RW. 05 Ds. Margasari Puloampel District, Serang Regency. SMK Negeri 1 Puloampel was established on July 16, 2007, located on the campus of SDN Buah Gede Puloampel District. At that time, it was still a fostered school of SMKN2 Serang which was led by Mr. Drs. Afandi. He also gave direct trust to Mr. Salamun Papud Setyadi, S.Pd as Acting Principal of SMKN 1 Puloampel.

This school offers seven programs: Industrial Mechanical Engineering, Welding Engineering, Software Engineering, Electrical Power Installation Engineering, Office Management, Industrial Chemistry, and Institutional Financial Accounting. The total number of students at State Vocational High School 1 Puloampel is 1,213, consisting of 958 boys and 255 girls. This situation is a supporting factor in the implementation of the Qur'an recitation habituation program at the school. Based on the results of observations and interviews, the implementation of the habituation of the Qur'anic recitation at Puloampel 1 State Vocational School was carried out through several programs, including:

Table 3. Student Habituation Program

Program	Time
<i>Qira'atu</i> Morning Quran	Cultivate morning enthusiasm before starting the learning process
<i>Khotmil Qur'an</i>	Cultivate students' memory power
Islamic Spiritual Activities	Cultivating the spiritual aspect of students

Discussion

The habituation of morning Quranic recitation to the religious character of students at State Vocational High School 1 Puloampel has a significant impact on improving discipline. Observation results show an increase in student discipline after the implementation of the morning Quranic recitation program. Student tardiness data decreased from 15% to 8% in one semester. The Vice Principal of Student Affairs stated that since the morning Quranic recitation program was implemented, students have become more disciplined because they know they must arrive on time to participate in the activity. This has a positive impact on overall discipline. On the other hand The development of noble character requires guidance and counseling teachers to report a 25% decrease in school discipline violations after the Quranic recitation habituation program was intensified. Cases such as lying, cheating, and conflicts between students have decreased significantly. A 12th-grade Office Management student (Putri Aulia Ningsih) said: "After regularly reading the Quran, I feel calmer and less angry. My relationships with my friends have also improved.

Regarding increased awareness of worship, interview data shows that 85% of students reported being more diligent in performing the five daily prayers after participating in the Qur'an recitation habituation program. Student participation in congregational prayers at school also increased from 60% to 78%. Mark Tolerance and inclusiveness; although the majority of students are Muslim, this program does not foster exclusivity. Non-Muslim students are respected and provided with alternative activities such as tutoring and literacy activities. A non-Muslim student in grade 11 stated, "I don't feel excluded. In fact, my Muslim friends are more respectful of differences after they regularly study religion."

Several obstacles in implementing the habituation of Quranic recitation at State Vocational High School 1 Puloampel include the heterogeneity of student abilities. Students' Quranic recitation abilities vary widely. Approximately 30% of students are still not fluent in reading the Quran, requiring special guidance. In this regard, the Islamic religious education teacher explained that the biggest challenge is the differences in student abilities. Some have already memorized several surahs, while others are still learning the hijaiyah. We must be patient and provide individual attention. Then, regarding the aspect of time constraints, the 15 minutes for morning Quranic recitation is felt to be less than optimal. Several teachers complained about the time cut off from other subjects. Asek, teacher commitments vary; so not all teachers share the same commitment to assisting Quranic recitation activities. Some teachers consider this not their responsibility. Furthermore, the aspect of facilities is limited, so there are still not enough Qurans for all students, so they have to take turns in using them.

The Effectiveness of Habituation in Character Formation

The research results show that habituation of reciting the Quran is effective in shaping students' religious character. This aligns with Bandura's theory of social learning, where behavior is formed through repeated observation, imitation, and reinforcement.(Putri, VA, Sotyardani, KCA, & Rafael, 2023)Consistent implementation of the daily morning Quran recitation program creates a routine that eventually becomes a positive habit. Students no longer feel forced, but rather feel something is missing if they don't read the Quran in the morning. The habituation process of morning Quran recitation goes beyond the cognitive aspect to include affective and psychomotor aspects.(Purnama, BY, Us, KA, & Shalahudin, 2025)Students are not only good at reading the Koran, but also start to practice the values contained in it.

Improved discipline, honesty, and tolerance demonstrate that the values of the Quran have been internalized in students. This aligns with the goal of character education, which is not only the transfer of knowledge but also the transfer of values.(Supriyanto, I., & Amany,

2022). The implementation of Quranic recitation habituation in vocational high schools (SMK) is unique. Vocational high school students generally focus more on technical competencies and preparation for entering the workforce. However, this research demonstrates that religious character education remains relevant and necessary. The religious character developed through Quranic recitation habituation will serve as students' spiritual capital in facing the challenges of the working world. The honesty, discipline, and responsibility developed will be highly beneficial in their careers.

Strategy to Overcome Obstacles

To overcome the heterogeneity of student abilities, it can be formed by paying attention to aspects of gender, socio-economic background, and ethnicity as well as academic abilities. (Sulaiman, MA, Nisoh, A., Anshori, I., Kahfi, A., & Mohamoud, 2025) In a heterogeneous grouping system, group members consist of students with different abilities. There are students with high, medium, and low abilities. In general, heterogeneous groups are preferred by teachers who have used the cooperative learning method for several reasons. (Faizudin, F., Khairat, A., Anshori, I., Munji, A., Wasehudin, W., Alfurqan, A., & Fuaddin, 2025) First, heterogeneous groups provide ample opportunities for students to teach and support each other. Second, these groups foster relationships and interactions across races, ethnicities, and genders, thus positively accustoming students to a pluralistic lifestyle. Furthermore, heterogeneous groups facilitate classroom management because, with one student with high academic ability, the teacher receives one assistant for every three students.

Schools can also implement a peer tutoring system, where students who are already fluent help those who are still struggling. This will also foster empathy and mutual assistance. Time constraints can be overcome by integrating Quranic recitation into other subjects, particularly Islamic religious education. Teachers can use Quranic verses as an opening or closing point for lessons. Teacher commitment can be strengthened through workshops and training on the importance of character education. Principals should also recognize teachers who actively support habituation programs.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research results and discussion, it can be concluded that the implementation of the habituation of the Qira'atul Qur'an at State Vocational High School 1 Puloampel is carried out through the Qira'atul Qur'an Morning program, Islamic spiritual activities, and short-term Islamic boarding schools. This program is implemented consistently with the support of adequate facilities and infrastructure, although there are still limitations. The impact of the habituation of reciting the Quran on the formation of religious character is very significant. There has been an increase in student discipline (a decrease in tardiness from 15% to 8%), the development of noble morals (a 25% decrease in violations of rules), an increase in awareness of worship (85% of students pray more diligently), and a growing tolerance for differences. The main obstacles in implementation include heterogeneity in students' ability to read the Qur'an (30% of students are not yet fluent), limited implementation time, varying teacher commitments, and limited facilities.

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