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# Electronic Media-Based Learning Media Design via WhatsApp Video Call on Tahfidz Learning at the Darul Qur'an Islamic Boarding School Karangtengah Baturraden

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#### **Abstract**

Darul Qur'an Islamic Boarding School is an Islamic boarding school that focuses on memorizing the Qur'an. This paper will describe how Darul Qur'an Islamic boarding schools use WhatsApp video call media in their tahfidz learning. The use of video call media is chosen to facilitate muroja'ah activities where ustadz and ustadzah receive the muroja'ah or listen to the memorization that has been memorized by the students, because students have to keep the Qur'an by repeating the memorization every day. In this research, the author used a descriptive qualitative approach and this research is included in phenomenological research, with data collection techniques used were through observation, interviews and documentation. The analysis techniques in this research were data reduction, data presentation and verification or conclusion. The purpose of this study is of course to find out how the Darul Qur'an Islamic boarding school uses WhatsApp media in facilitating the learning process or the students' process of Qur'an memorization. The conclusion of the research is that it is still effective to use WhatsApp video call media since almost all of the students' parents have and use the application. In addition, WhatsApp has the advantages, namely its interface or menu is simple and it is also consider cheaper in internate data usage.

**Keywords:** Boarding school, muroja'ah, tahfidz, Qur'an, video call, WhatsApp.

# 1. Introduction

Learning and teaching process must always be perform every day, especially for the younger generation in order to utilize their youth with positive things. The young generation has many choices of disciplines and expertises to pursue in this modern era. One of the choices from those various options is to become a memorizer of the Qur'an. Memorizing the Qur'an for the younger generation is certainly a noble choice that requires strong determination during the process, because memorizing the Qur'an requires intention and the memorizer must be ready for everything that must be done as a memorizer of the Qur'an. One of the things that must be done is to keep the Qur'an memorized every time, besides adding the memorization up to 30 juz'. Maintaining memorization or muroja'ah is an activity that must be done every day in order to keep the Qur'an memorized under any circumstances.

This COVID-19 pandemic is a period of time that demands all institutions, especially education, to be able to go through various challenges so that the learning process can continue. It is because if the learning process stops, it will affect the generation of the nation and cause delays in both academic and non-academic activities. With that circumstances, teachers need to cultivate their creativity on how to keep the learning process running during the COVID-19 pandemic era, so that the generation of the nation can be saved from academic delays and burnout.

In this advanced era of technology, information and communication, there are many opportunities for a teacher to process creativity in the teaching and learning. The existence of technology makes the teachers' space of movement in processing the media in teaching and learning activities wider. Therefore, this pandemic era is a time to inspire teachers' creativity. There are many types of social media nowadays.

From simple things like sending texts and voices directly or indirectly to thing like meeting face to face with people who are far away, technology offers various conveniences. Of course, it cannot replace the face-to-face learning atmosphere, but at least it can become a bridge to deal with the challenge of learning in this pandemic that forces everyone to keep their distance and limit face-to-face meetings.

The world of technology offers various applications to help teachers and students in various educational institutions, both in formal and non-formal institutions such as Islamic boarding schools with applications such as Twitter, Facebook, Zoom meeting, Google Meet, and WhatsApp. The applications offered have their advantages and disadvantages respectively. In detail, each application has its own users depending on the needs of each individual. More advanced technology and information indeed bring both positive and negative impacts, but both have become an inherent need in every public activities. Considering this, the function of educational institutions plays a role in maintaining and directing how technology and information can be useful and positive tool for the survival of the community and in overseeing the use of technology and information by the younger generation.

This paper will discuss the media used by one of the Islamic boarding schools in the Baturraden, Banyumas regency, namely Pondok Pesantren Darul Qur'an Karangternah Baturraden, in muroja'ah or keeping the memorization of its students to facilitate the process of maintaining and adding memorization at home besides directly depositing the memorization to the Darul Qur'an Islamic boarding school Karangtengah Baturraden, and also to face the challenges of learning during this Covid-19 pandemic, with the chosen method to continue to carry out the learning process, especially in memorizing the Qur'an. From several trials of media application of communication tried by the school, WhatsApp application media is chosen to assist in the tahfidz learning there because it was considered more efficient and practical as well as an application that almost all students have. From the students using the WhatsApp application for muroja'ah activities or to repeat memorization and the ustadzs of the Darul Qur'an Islamic Boarding School using WhatsApp video call media for elementary students that do not live in the boarding schools, so that in order to maintain their memorization, the students are programmed to use WhatsApp video call to

deposit memorization repetitions, while in adding up their memorization they conduct a direct face-to-face meeting at the boarding school.

# **Objectives**

The purpose of this study is to find out how the use of video call media in learning tahfidz at the Darul Qur'an Islamic Boarding School, Karangtengah, Baturraen. More specifically, this research wanted to know:

What are the reasons for using WhatsApp video call media in learning at the Darul Qur'an Islamic Boarding School, Karangtengah, Baturraden?

How is the use WhatsApp video call media at the Darul Qur'an Islamic Boarding School, Karangtengah, Baturraden?

#### 2. Literature Review

In a study written in 2021 by Hasan Mubarok, Moh. Umar Aliansyah, Sofiyatun Maimunah, and Magfirotul Hamdiah, titled "The Effect of Audio Visual-Based Learning Media on Students' Interest in Learning at Ainul Hasan Islamic Boarding School", it was examined how the influence of learning media on students' interest in learning by selecting audio-visual media is. Its similarity to this research is that both researches study the use of electronic media in audio-visual learning and both researches study on similar Islamic boarding schools. The difference is that the previous study studied the use of audio-visual media, while this research is more specific about the use of WhatsApp video call media for learning.

A study written by Trisnani in 2017 titled "Utilization of Whatsapp as a Communication Media and Satisfaction in Delivering Messages among Community Leaders" examined the use of WhatsApp media which was more dominantly used among community leaders compared to other applications. The similarity to this research is that both discuss the use of WhatsApp social media, while the difference is in the object and subject of research, where the former research examined the satisfaction of the community leaders, while this research examines the use of WhatsApp media for learning.

#### 3. Methods of Research

Qualitative descriptive approach was the approach used in this research. This research is a phenomenological research that provides an overview of the reality or what is happening in the field about the use of media through WhatsApps video call for tahfidz learning at the Darul Quran Islamic Boarding School, Karangtengah, Baturraden.

Observation and interviews were the data collection techniques used in this study. The subjects of this research are tahfidz students at the Darul Quran pesantren, Karangtengah, Baturraden, and the data analysis of the Miles and Huberman model was used in this writing data analysis, including data reduction, data display and verification or conclusions. Data reduction is a simplification of the data obtained from the field.

### **Electronic Media**

Teacher is not the only source of learning. In learning, the advance of technology are also presented in the form of modern media, especially electronic media. There are two types of media used in learning, namely software and hardware. Electronic media in this pandemic period are urgently needed and have an important role to carry out the learning process. Every educator and student is apparently forced to be an expert in mastering the use of any electronic media decided to use. This is because during the Covid-19 pandemic people must limit the distance, but at the same time they must keep the learning process running in order to avoid the void of generations who do not receive the education process in their youth. Therefore, technology of communication is temporarily a way out of this concern, with various communication choices offered by each educational institution choosing according to their individual needs and abilities (Nizwardi Jalinus & Ambiyar, 2016).

Electronic media increasingly have more advanced technology that makes it easier for people to get closer even in distant communication and expand social networks. It has been a necessity in every community's activity in everyday life. Every educational institution certainly has a function to introduce, understand, and maintain all things that grow in the midst of the surrounding community as well as technology that has grown rapidly in society. Educational institutions must be able to direct what the community needs and things that develop in the community, so that the community and students can use electronic media that is developing in the community wisely and beneficially. The same goes to the electronic media used to maintain the Qur'an memorization in Islamic boarding schools, where the use of electronic media to support the memorization process is included in the directing the use of technology for positive learning needs. Therefore, the institution can maintain the development of technology in line with the needs of the younger generation, not just for playing games or negative activities.

# Learning

Learning is an activity in which there is a process of transferring knowledge or skills and positive values by taking from various learning resources provided. Learning process involves at least two parties, namely students and teachers. The most important thing in learning is the process. A thing can be called a learning outcome that has criteria in it, such as; 1. In learning students are aware that they receive transfer of knowledge and skills from learning sources through the learning process and students have the motivation to learn so that they can go through each stage of learning well, so that the knowledge gained is permanent in themselves, 2. Learning process are not instant and spontaneous, therefore the results obtained from the learning are knowledge that is embedded and remembered for a long time, 3. There is interaction and activeness in learning between students and teachers. (Rudi Susilana & Cepi Riyana, 2009).

In the learning process, each educational institution, both formal and non-formal, has its own characteristics. Of course, the difference is not a bad thing, but it exists because each educational institution has its own needs according to what they face in seeing the character of their students and according to what they want for the learning outcomes. The vision and the mission of each educational institution also determine the policies made in the teaching

and learning process. Good learning is learning that can adapt to the needs of students, circumstances and learning objectives.

#### **Tahfidz**

Tahfidz comes from Arabic words hafidza, yahfadzu, hifdzan meaning the antonyms of forgetting; always remembering; only forgetting a little. Tahfidz is also interpreted as memorizing (Umar, 2017). While the Qur'an comes from the Qur'an, namely the words of God which was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad SAW to be reported to his people, revealed in a mutawatir manner starting with surah Al-Fatihah and ending with surah An-Nass (Khoiruddin, 2014).

Memorizing can be defined as a process that is passed repeatedly either by reading or listening repeatedly, so that the memorization will be remembered more strongly by the memorizer. Reading Al-Qur'an correctly and fluently is not enough. A concrete form of effort to keep the Qur'an both in written and memorization is needed. Every Muslim must maintain the Qur'an in various ways, such as by writing, memorizing, or reading it every time (alkitabah, at-tahfidz, at-tilawah).

Allah SWT gives certainty that Al-Qur'an will be guarded all the time. It does not mean that Allah guards every authorship of the Qur'an written in every era, but He chooses His servants to participate in guarding the Qur'an through memorizing. Making it easier and taking care of the memorizers of the Qur'an is a form of Allah taking care of the Qur'an itself.

Tahfidzul Qur'an-based Islamic boarding schools are Islamic boarding schools that have the characteristics of focusing on memorizing the Qur'an, where the daily learning schedule is mostly based on memorizing the Qur'an. Islamic boarding schools program tahfidzul Qur'an in a well-structured program for students to focus on memorizing the Qur'an properly and correctly, so that they can do the muroja'ah or maintain their memorization consistently (Eva Fatmawati, 2019).

#### **Instructional Media**

Media in learning must be concerned because right media will have an impact on the students' learning outcomes. Media often used at the learning age are smartphones with WhatsApp, Facebook, and Instagram applications. Educators need to know what media their students prefer or often use, so that educators can choose the suitable learning media for their students (Arya DS Wood & Mohd. Nor Shahizan Ali, 2022).

Learning is a process carried out by a teacher to students to help, direct, guide to have a learning experience. In learning students are directed to get a learning experience in various ways designed by the teacher, in the learning process the teacher has three stages that are passed, such as planning, implementation and evaluation (Ira Irviana, 2020).

Learning media is a tool used by teachers to provide learning experiences to students with the right target according to the material and aims to make the learning process more effective.

The right media will have a positive impact on student learning outcomes, where students can have a broad and interesting learning process to attract the student' learning interest.

## **Media Design**

There are so many sources between design and media that are associated with various disciplines. However, media which is commonly called medium in many fields is a tool to channel or communicate data or information, which in this case is design. Media or medium can also be interpreted as material or in other word; material. Media is divided into three main components, namely visual, motion and audio. There are also those who divide media into eight types, namely motion audio-visual media, semi or semi-motional media, silent audio-visual media, motion-type visual media, and visual media. In the form of visuals of silent type, media in the form of semi or half motion, media in the form of audio and media in the form of print (Ghia Pisti Cikange & Pipit Utami, 2018).

In the learning process, it is very important if all educators use media in the learning process. Of course the media needed must depend on the circumstances of the students. This is to facilitate the education and learning process in order to face the challenges of the times that require the world of education to use the media offered by today's technology to make the learning process more effective. Based on that, it is necessary to have a media design, where the design is based on an in-depth analysis of what is needed in the learning process and anything that can improve the quality of learning. With the analysis carried out in depth, it is known that the media developed to increase effectiveness in the teaching and learning process that will assist educators in achieving the learning objectives that have been set. Media is an important part of people's lives, where the media is a liaison or means of communication between two parties. Whether consciously or not, the media has had a positive or negative impact on society's behavior.

The mass media itself includes print media, electronic-based mass media and online media. The forms of printed mass media are printed such as newspapers, magazines etc. Mass media in the form of electronics are television and radio. Then, the forms of online mass media are communication applications, websites and other internetnet media. In people's lives, including the educational needs of children, it will also be more effective if educators and students can use mass media which has become part of people's lives to achieve learning goals and the vision and mission of each educational institution. Such as the Darul Qur'an Islamic boarding school, Karangtengan Baturraden, which utilizes the WhatsApp communication application to make it easier for students to take memorization repetition deposits (Husnul Khatimah, 2018).

# WhatsApp

WhatApps is an application designed to facilitate communication in the midst of current technological developments. WhatsApp is part of social media that makes it easy and allows all users to share information. WhatsApp has been used by various circles of society because of its easiness. Along with Jumi Atmiko's opinion; WhatsApp is an internet-based application

that makes it easy for users to communicate with the available features and is the most popular social media used in communicating. 83% of 171 million internet users use WhatsApp (Astini S, 2020).

WhatsApp is a mean of communication by exchanging information such as text messages, pictures, videos, and calls. The features available in whatApps include: photos, videos, audio, location, contact, view contacts, avatars, chat groups, emoticons, calls, video calls, blocks, statuses and so on that can be utilized by users. every user. WhatsApp is seen from the number of users, which is around 171 million, it can show that this one communication application has advantages that are needed by people who use communication tools from various circles.

# Islamic boarding school

Islamic boarding school is one of the oldest educational institutions that has a unique or Indonesian characteristic (Sudadi, 2020). Each Islamic boarding school also has its own characteristics; some are focused on learning the yellow book and some are focused on memorizing the Qur'an. However, even though they have a focal point in teaching students, all Islamic boarding schools learn the Qur'an and the sciences it teaches. There are also Islamic boarding schools that have a focus on both, by dividing tahfidz classes for those who want to memorize the Qur'an and madin classes for students who want to learn the yellow book.

Terminologically, "pesantren" has the origin of the Javanese word santri meaning "student". While the word "pondok" has an Arabic origin "funduuq" meaning "lodging". Pesantren has its own elements that distinguish it from other educational institutions, such as; 1) Kyai, the designation for teachers or caregivers of students who have qualified religious knowledge and have their own charismatic both for their students or the community around the Islamic boarding school, 2) Santri; students who study religion in Islamic boarding schools and usually stay in Islamic boarding schools, 3) Pondok, which is a place to stay for students, 4) Mosque, which is a place of worship and a center for students' activities, 5) Kitab kuning; classic books are the references for students to study religion (Imam Syafe'I, 2017).

Islamic boarding schools are educational institutions that are famous for their success in instilling character in their students or students. The character values taught can pass through the habits of the santri, the manners that have been cultivated by the seniors of the boarding school and taught by direct example exemplified by the kyai or ustadz and ustadzah, in which one of them is the focus of learning tahfidzul Qur'an. Which can shape the character of the students. Through tahfdzul Qur'an, a santri will naturally behave well and humble his heart, so that memorizing the Qur'an can be smooth and good.

Al-Qur'an is light, light will not be able to enter a dirty glass cup, then a memorizer of the Qur'an will automatically improve his behavior and heart to feed the Qur'an which as light can enter himself, his heart and his memory. Islamic boarding schools that focus on memorizing the Qur'an will have more value in making their students have character,

character according to the Qur'an because all activities at the boarding school cannot be separated from the focus on mastering memorizing the Qur'an or the contents of the Qur'an. Which is learned and applied in everyday life (Muhammad Shobirin, 2018).

#### Observation

To obtain more complete information about the Darul Qur'an Islamic Boarding School, the author interviewed one of the administrators or clerics who received deposits of memorization from the students, named Ustadzah Isna. Ustadzah Isna is a ustadzah who has memorized 30 juz' and is staying at Abah Sofwan (the kyai/leader of the Darul Qur'an Islamic Boarding School) for muroja'ah and completing her undergraduate education at IAIN Purwokerto. She is the one who receives memorization deposits from students of elementary and junior high school age. The method used in memorizing the Qur'an for early childhood or students who have just started memorizing and not been fluent in reading the Qur'an yet is by using the Talaqi method. The Talaqi method is a method in which an ustadz reads a verse later to be imitated by students repeatedly until the reading is correct and it is memorized. For students who are already able to read the Qur'an, they can memorize it independently and deposit it to the ustadz or ustadzah.

## 4. Results and Discussion

Darul Qur'an Islamic Boarding School is a boarding school with a focus on memorizing the Qur'an in addition to books learning to support the focus of memorization for students. The Islamic boarding school is cared for by a kyai named Abah Sofwan whose background is also a well-known Qur'an memorizer in the surrounding area. There are more students who study at the boarding school are mostly junior highschool students, although there are also students from elementary school living near the area of the boarding school. As for high school and college students, female student are usually placed in the boarding house of the school, while the male students are placed in the secretariat of the boarding school.

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WhatApps media was chosen because of several considerations from the boarding school, such as; 1. Almost all parents of the students or the students themselves use WhatApps

application, 2. It is easy to use the application, 3. Most students, especially children, are still under parental supervision in using communication tools, and parents are more familiar with the WhatApps application, 4. The internet data used by WhatApps application is considered cheaper. 5. The features of menu in WhatsApp application are simple, making it easier to use. Through Video Call WhatApps, an ustadz or cleric can receive a memorial or muroja'ah deposit from students by showing their faces and listening to their voices so that they can assess the reading of the Qur'an from the students. Ustadz and ustadzah can confirm directly through the video call in the process of depositing the memorization of the Qur'an, so that the representation of the learning process or the quality of the deposit is not far from face-to-face memorization, although it cannot be replaced by the advantages of face-to-face memorization process.

The process of depositing the morning memorization of tahfidz students at Darul Qur'an Islamic Boarding School through WhatApps video call media certainly has both advantages and disadvantages. The advantages include: 1. The process of learning or memorizing the Qur'an of students can still continue, 2. Santri can maintain their memorization by still being accompanied by the tutor, 3. The internet data used for the media used is relatively not expensive, 4. Almost all students and parents have the WhatsApp application so that it is easy for the ustadz and ustadzah to control. While the disadvantages of the use of the media include; 1. The internet connection that are sometimes not good because the boarding school is located in Baturraden plateau, 2. The video call feature on WhatsApp application cannot include many students at once, 3. The application consumes internet data usage, 4. It obliges every student to have/use a communication tool to accommodate the WhatApps application. In the muroja'ah method itself, the use the WhatsApp video call application had been implemented routinely for elementary students before the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### **5.** Conclusion and Recommendations

Each institution or educational institution has its own way of educating and teaching its knowledge to students, including the oldest educational institution, the boarding school that has its own way of teaching and educating students. Boarding school is a traditional educational institution that teaches the Qur'an and classical books. Each boarding school has its own learning focus, in which one of them, the Darul Our'an Karangtengan Baturraden pesantren, has a focus on memorizing the Qur'an in addition to reviewing also some yellow books that are studied according to schedule. One of the media used for memorization of the Qur'an is WhatApps video call media. WhatApps media was chosen for several considerations from the boarding school, such as; 1. Almost all parents of the students or the students themselves use WhatApps application, 2. It is easy to use the application, 3. Most students, especially children, are still under parental supervision in using communication tools, and parents are more familiar with the WhatApps application, 4. The internet data used by WhatApps application is considered cheaper. 5. The features of menu in WhatsApp application are simple, making it easier to use. WhatApps video call media certainly has advantages and disadvantages. The advantages are: 1. The process of learning or memorizing the Qur'an of students can still continue, 2. Santri can maintain their memorization by still being accompanied by the tutor, 3. The internet data used for the media used is relatively not expensive, 4. Almost all students and parents have the WhatsApp application so that it is easy for the ustadz and ustadzah to control. Meanwhile the disadvantages are: 1. The internet connection that are sometimes not good because the boarding school is located in Baturraden plateau, 2. The video call feature on WhatsApp application cannot include many students at once, 3. The application consumes internet data usage, 4. It obliges every student to have/use a communication tool to accommodate the WhatsApp's application.

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