

## INTERNALIZATION OF THE VALUE OF CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT IN CHILDREN THROUGH ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN FAMILIES OF THE COASTAL COMMUNITIES OF BATUBARA REGENCY

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**Abstract:** This study aims to determine the process of internalizing the value of caring for the environment in children through Islamic Religious Education in coastal community families. The research was conducted in Pahlawan Village, Tanjung Tiram District, Batubara Regency. The method used in this study is a descriptive qualitative approach. The results of the study show that the process of internalizing the value of caring for the environment in children is carried out through Islamic Religious Education in coastal community families carried out through verbal communication methods by parents to children through stories and direct advice and by providing good examples in everyday life.

**Keywords:** Internalization; Islamic Education; Environment

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Environmental problems are an important issue in most developing countries. Climate change which tends to be fast and erratic is one of the serious consequences of natural damage. The government's difficulty in dealing with this problem could be due to low public awareness of the environment, high consumptive spirit, and lack of proper direction. In general, environmental problems include forest destruction, indiscriminate waste disposal, and excessive use of groundwater.

These environmental problems are increasing for people living in coastal areas that are geographically close to the seaside. Sea water which has a cycle of ebb and flow causes garbage and sea contents in the form of wood and other things to be pulled over and eventually inundated on the outskirts of residential areas. Garbage originating from the sea is none other than waste that has been thrown away by the community carelessly and returned to the community. This results in environmental damage which, if allowed to drag on, will result in damage to the ecosystem and result in natural disasters. Therefore there needs to be special guidance for residents from an early age to raise awareness of caring for the environment.

One way to foster a sense of care for the environment is by internalizing religious values, namely by cultivating religious values in children from an early age in every family played by parents. The religious approach is felt to be effective because the people in the area are adherents of a devout religion so the religious approach will feel more touching and realistic.

Allah SWT says in the Al-Quran Surah Ar-Rum Verses 41-42 about the prohibition of causing damage to the earth, meaning: "*Corruption has appeared on land and at sea due to human actions so that Allah will feel to them some of the consequences of their actions so that they back to the right way. Say: Take a journey on earth and show how the end of those who used to be, most of them were people who associated partners with Allah.*"

In addition to worshipping Allah, humans were also created as caliphs on earth. As caliphs, humans have to utilize, manage and maintain the universe. Allah has created the universe for the benefit and welfare of all His creatures, especially humans. Greed and bad treatment of some humans towards nature can be miserable for humans themselves. Landslides, floods, droughts, chaotic regional spatial planning, and polluted air and water are the fruits of human behavior that harm humans and other living things.

## **2. METHODS**

This research is qualitative field research using a descriptive analysis approach, namely by describing the data and findings that the author has collected obtained through interviews, observation, and documentation studies during conducting research. The main principle of this research is to process and analyze the collected data into a collection of data that is systematic, orderly, and has meaning, and then conclusions are drawn. The material in this study is to dig up information about the Internalization of the Value of Caring for the Environment in Children through Islamic Religious Education in Families of Coastal Communities in Pahlawan Village, Tanjung Tiram District, Batubara Regency.

## **3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION**

Etymologically internalization is defined as a process. In essence, internalization is interpreted as a process of planting something that is considered as individual beliefs, attitudes, and values which then manifests into social behavior in society. The process of planting grows and develops in a person to the stage of appreciation then is reflected in the attitude displayed in life.

The value of caring for the environment is a manifestation of human attitudes and treatment of the environment. This attitude is manifested in the form of actions that are implemented in everyday life that seek to prevent damage to the surrounding natural environment. Prevention of damage to the surrounding nature by paying attention to and maintaining the environment, preventing acts that can damage, and repairing the damage that has occurred.

The conclusion from the two meanings above is that the value of caring for the environment is a human attitude in preserving the environment in everyday life by showing a caring attitude towards the environment to prevent damage to the surrounding nature and acting to always try to repair the damage to nature that has occurred. The character of caring for the environment can be instilled early on in children, based on religious values taught in the family it is expected to be able to foster a character of caring for the environment in every child from an early age.

According to Yaumi (2014: 111), environmental care is an attitude and action that seeks to prevent damage to nature in the surrounding natural environment and develops efforts to repair the damage to nature that has already occurred. People who care about the surrounding natural environment will feel comfortable if the surrounding environment is clean, beautiful, and neat. They are friends with nature, not destroying and exploiting it. Loving the environment means preserving the functions of the environment which include policies on the arrangement, utilization, development, maintenance, restoration, supervision, and control of the environment. According to Yaumi (2014: 111), argues that caring for the environment is an exemplary attitude that aims to create harmony, harmony, and balance between humans and the environment, creating environmental people who have attitudes and actions to protect and foster the environment, realize the utilization of natural resources. natural resources wisely, the protection of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia against the impacts of businesses and/or activities outside the territory of the state that cause environmental pollution and/or damage.

Meanwhile, according to Mulyasa, internalization is an effort to live and deepen values, so that they are embedded in every human being. This understanding implies that these appreciation efforts must be practicable and manifested in attitudes and behavior. Thus, the internalization of values is a process of instilling certain values that become a driving force for someone to act based on that choice. So, internalization is a process of inner or spiritual growth in the child.

The process of internalizing the value of caring for the environment in children through Islamic Religious Education in the family of the Hero Village community, Tanjung Tiram District, Batubara Regency is carried out through several stages as follows:

1. Value transformation stage. This value transformation stage is carried out by parents to children through verbal communication by providing knowledge about good values and bad values. The communication process is carried out through the storytelling method by incorporating the good values of loving the environment into the story material. The story is told at certain times such as before going to bed, at night during free time, and so on. Sometimes it is also conveyed through direct advice to children when children are found doing things that pollute the environment such as littering.
2. Internalization Stage. The value internalization stage, namely the process of internalizing values through a process that is not only verbal communication but also accompanied by personality communication displayed by parents to children, conditioning, and habituation processes to behave according to expected values. Children are trained to practice directly in everyday life the behavior of loving the environment. In addition, parents set a good example for their children. Children are expected to be able to understand values, implement them in life and live up to their actions. This stage is the initial stage which aims at habituation so that with this trans-internalization it is hoped that the internalization of values occurs in the child's cognitive, affective, and psychomotor domains.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Environmental problems are an important issue in most developing countries. Climate change which tends to be fast and erratic is one of the serious consequences of natural damage. The government's difficulty in dealing with this problem could be due to low public awareness of the environment, high consumptive spirit, and lack of proper direction. In general, environmental problems include forest destruction, indiscriminate waste disposal, and excessive use of groundwater.

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