KnE Social Sciences

Knowledge E
enriching | engaging | empowering

Research article

Strengthening Students' Religious Character During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Nur Kholifah[1] and Eni Fariyatul Fahyuni[2]

[1]Student of Program Management of Islamic Education Universitas Muhammadiyah Sidoarjo Indonesia.
[2]Islamic Education, Universitas Muhammadiyah Sidoarjo, Indonesia

ORCID
Eni Fariyatul Fahyuni: https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0701-7027

Abstract.
Students need a religious character to deal with changing times and moral degradation. The value of religious character includes three dimensions of relationship: the relationship of the individual with God, family and peers, and the universe. Religious character education that is sourced from religious teachings and *muamalah* and applicable moral values has been implemented and is firmly embedded in the educational institutions of Indonesia. However, the COVID-19 pandemic forced teachers to keep their distance in educating, accompanying, and controlling students' worship habits and morals, disrupting the character-building process. Routine activities such as habituation of worship and morals carried out in schools are no longer optimally instilled in students. Therefore, in an educational institution, effective and efficient management is needed so that the implementation of character education can run optimally, effectively, and efficiently during a pandemic. The strengthening of religious character is expected to continue even though teachers and students cannot meet face to face. Several studies have been synthesized with previous research to explain the description of character education management during the pandemic. A systematic literature review has been carried out to overcome this problem by documenting and reviewing all articles related to students' religious character education from 2019 to 2020. The articles used in this study are 26 national and international accredited journal articles accessed from Lens, Google Scholar, SINTA, DOAJ, and Scopus. The results proved that there is a need for strategically managing religious character education to improve students' religious character during the pandemic.

Keywords: religious character, strengthening, COVID-19 pandemic

Corresponding Author: Eni
Fariyatul Fahyuni; email: ?????

1. Introduction

The phenomenon of distance learning during the COVID-19 pandemic is without training in educating, assisting, and controlling student worship and morals, thereby increasing the performance of character education in schools. Optimization in supporting the improvement of religious character education in schools is essential.[1] Most of them only present learning assignments and demand student learning outcomes.[2] Schools

🔓 OPEN ACCESS

play an important role in building and maximizing the competence of their students. This is because students' task at school is not only to learn and think, but students are living beings who have different desires, needs, and characters.[3]

Institutions have difficulty ensuring that student activities reflect religious attitudes that include piety, sincerity, honesty, courtesy, mutual assistance, love for the Prophet, cleanliness, competitiveness, and gratitude while studying at home.[4] Likewise, reading prayers before subjects start and praying after completion applies to all subjects, not just as a habit. Still, it is hoped that students and subject teachers continue to rely on all their efforts to Allah SWT and hope for blessings from the knowledge they learn. Thus, religious values in learning activities always run well.[5]

Educating the nation's life is one of the noble ideals of the Indonesian nation in the preamble to the 1945 Constitution.[6] The development of national character has become one of the priorities as well as the national development mission in the National Long-Term Development Plan (RPJPN) for 2005-2025.[7] The National Education System in Law Number 20 of 2003 concerning education for the formation of the character of the younger generation has always been the main topic in curriculum development in Indonesia.[8]

Islamic Education in Strengthening Character Education has a significant contribution to the future of education in Indonesia as a form of educational investment in creating a golden generation in the global arena.[9] Strengthening character is one of things that are considered effective in solving the increasing cases of moral and value violations that are happening among Indonesian teenagers today.[10] Indonesia is a multi-ethnic and multi-cultural country that strongly emphasizes the value of mutual respect and respect for each other.[11] In addition, Indonesia is also known as a religious country. Although Indonesia is known as a country that has a society with various beliefs, able to harmonize it and creating a peaceful and unpretentious life.[6]

Previous researchers uncovered the study of character education in schools. Subaidi's research (2020) provides an overview of how students apply moderate Islamic values and Pancasila in their daily lives to strengthen students' character.[8] Characteristics of humans and citizens who are good for a society or nation, in general, are social values that are strongly influenced by the culture of the community and nation.[12] Therefore, the context of character education in education in Indonesia is value education, namely education of core values originating from the culture of the Indonesian nation itself, to improve the personality of the younger generation.[13]

2. Methode

This scientific article was prepared by using the Systematic Literature Review (SLR) method. In Indonesia, a systematic literature review is a literature review method that identifies, reviews, evaluates, and interprets all available research. In this kind of method, researchers conduct reviews and identify journals in a structured manner which in each process follows the steps that have been set [5]. To complete this research, researchers collected journal articles from Lens, Google Scholar, SINTA, DOAJ, and Scopus. The keywords are Subject Specific Management Islamic Education. The articles collected were only articles published in the period 2019 to 2021. From various articles, the researchers selected 26 articles that were closely related to the keywords used. In the next step, the researchers categorized the articles related to management strengthening character religious during a pandemic.
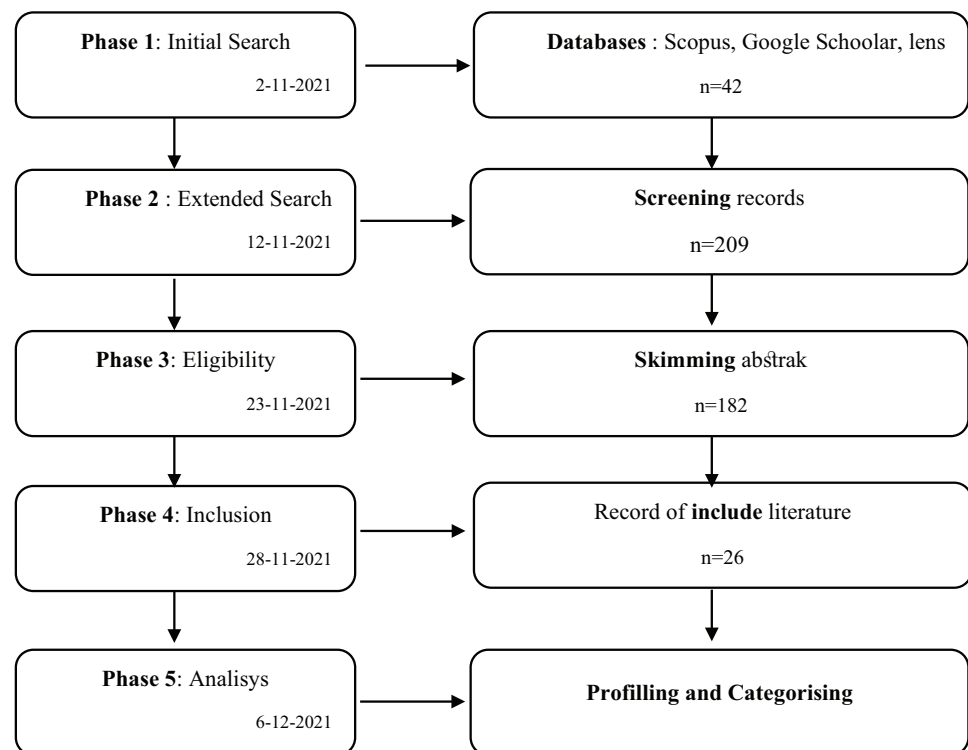
Phase 1: Initial Search 2-11-2021	→	**Databases** : Scopus, Google Schoolar, lens n=42
Phase 2 : Extended Search 12-11-2021	→	**Screening** records n=209
Phase 3: Eligibility 23-11-2021	→	**Skimming** abstrak n=182
Phase 4: Inclusion 28-11-2021	→	Record of **include** literature n=26
Phase 5: Analisys 6-12-2021	→	**Profilling and Categorising**

Figure 1

3. Finding and Discussion

Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) Very disturbing the world community during the last two months. This outbreak is caused by Novel Coronavirus (World Health Organization,

2020). Previously this type of disease had never been detected in the medical world.[14] Research on the impact of Covid-19 on various aspects of education and entering the New Normal era is important. Several studies conclude that students' ability to technology and science is a prerequisite to be able to adapt to new learning in the future.[15] Teachers have an important role in developing character education because teachers are agents of reform and have a central role and learning.[16] The teacher must be committed to developing student character based on character values and define in the form of behavior that can be observed in everyday school life.[17] However, most importantly, the teacher must also be of good character, bearing in mind that the teacher is a role model for students.[18] Articles reviewed based on search engines found the following articles:

Religious character is an attitude or behavior that is obedient in carrying out religious teachings or beliefs, tolerance for worshipers of other religions, and living in harmony with adherents of other religions. Religious character is the main character that must be applied and accustomed to children, especially students in everyday life. A religious character can be trained and instilled through education in schools. The value of religious character includes three dimensions of relations at once[4]: (1)The individual's relationship with God, (2)The individual with others, (3) The individual with the universe. From the results of a review of 26 kinds of literature, data obtained 92% stating that the strengthening of religious characters is emphasized on the individual's relationship with God, 88% of strengthening religious characters is realized by the value of individual relationships with individuals, and 76% of strengthening religious characters is implemented in the individual's relationship with the universe.

Strengthening religious character education requires the assistance of teachers and parents in daily habits both in worship (individual relationships with God), morality (individual relationships with others), and muamalah (individual relationships with the universe).[4] Strengthening religious character education requires the assistance of teachers and parents in daily habituation.[19] In an institution or family, there must be management or rules for children to remain consistent in strengthening a religious character.[21]

Strengthening the religious character of students during the pandemic is very difficult in their assistance; as evidenced by the results of a review of 26 articles, there are 58% of studies needed to strengthen the religious character of students during the COVID-19 pandemic, and several institutions have carried out 42% of strengthening religious characters. The results of the study stated that strengthening the religious character

TABLE 1: References of Strengthening Student Religious Character's During Covid 19 Pandemic.

Features of Strengthening Student Religious Character's During Covid 19 Pandemic	Religious Character's			Strengthening Student Religious Character's	
	The individual's relationship with God	The individual with others	The individual with the universe	During Covid 19 Pandemic	Before Covid 19 Pandemic
Implementation of Model Strengthening Religious Character Education and Nationalists at Muhammadiyah Plus Elementary School City of Salatiga Academic [1]	√	√	√		√
Implementation of Strengthening Religious Character Education at Elementary School Qur'ani Al- Ikhlash Rappang Sidenreng Rappang Regency [2]	√	√	√		√
Strategies in Applying the Religious Character of Students to Distance Learning [4]	√	√		√	
School Culture in Instilling Religious Character of Madrasah Tsanawiyah [5]	√	√		√	
Strengthening Religious Characters: Efforts to Save Indonesia [6]	√	√			√
Penguatan Pendidikan Karakter di Era Industri 4.0: Optimalisasi Pendidikan Agama Islam di Sekolah [7]	√	√	√		√
Strengthening of Religious Character Education Based on School Culture in the Indonesian Secondary School [8]	√	√	√		√
Strategic Role of Islamic Religious Education in Strengthening Character Education in The Era of Industrial Revolution 4.0 [9]	√	√	√	√	
Strengthening Student Character Education Through Investing Multicultural Values in Madrasah [10]		√	√	√	
Development of Authentic Instruments for Religious Attitudes and Social Attitudes Based on Strengthening Character Education for Grade IV Students in Jati Subdistrict [11]	√	√	√		√
The Model of Developing School Culture Based on Strengthening Religious Characters [12]	√	√	√	√	
Implementasi Penguatan Pendidikan Karakter di SMP Muhammadiyah 3 Ampel Kecamatan Ampel Kabupaten Boyolali [13]	√	√		√	
Pendidikan Karakter Di Lingkungan Keluarga Selama Pembelajaran Jarak Jauh Pada Masa Pandemi COVID-19[14]	√	√		√	

TABLE 2: Table (coontinued)

Distance Learning During the Covid-19 Pandemic: Strengthening of Character, Productivity, and Stem Competency [15]			√	√	
The Concept of Triple Helix Mohammad Natsir and its Implementation in Strengthening Religious Character Education [16]	√	√	√		√
Strengthening Character Education in Distance Learning in The Era of Pandemic Covid-19 [17]	√		√	√	
Strengthening Students' Character Trough Multimedia Learning in Primary Schools Education: Systematic Literature Reviews [18]			√	√	
Implementasi Pendidikan Karakter Religius dan Jujur di SDIT Suis(Sekolah Unggulan Islami) Kelas V Kabupaten Bogor Tahun Ajaran 2018/2019[19]	√	√	√		√
Penguatan Karakter Anak dalam Keluarga dalam Situasi Pandemi Covid-19[20]	√	√		√	
The Education Value of Religious Characters in Assalamualaikum Beijing Novel by Asma Nadia [21]	√	√	√		√
Urgensi Pendidikan Karakter Pada Masa Pandemi Covid 19[22]	√	√	√	√	
Kurikulum Dan Metode Pembelajaran Pada Masa Pandemi Covid-19 the Implementation of Character Education Integrated To Curriculum and Learning Methods During Covid-19 Pandemic [23]	√	√	√	√	
Analisis Penerapan Penguatan Pendidikan Karakter Dalam Pembelajaran Daring Pada Masa Pandemic Covid-19 Siswa kelas 5 SD Negeri Polehan 5 Malang[24]	√	√	√	√	
Analisis Penguatan Pendidikan Karakter (PKK): Problema Pandemi Covid 19 dalam Proses Pembelajaran di Era Revolusi Industri 4.0 [25]	√	√	√	√	
Penanaman Pendidikan Karakter Dalam Pembelajaran Pada Masa Pandemi COVID-19 Di SD Negeri 1 Suranadi[26]	√	√	√	√	

of the COVID-19 pandemic condition must have a special strategy because the mental condition and activities of children are different from previous conditions.[20]

4. Conclusion

Strengthening the education of students' religious character during the pandemic and post-pandemic periods is very necessary. Every habituation activity to strengthen religious character that was previously carried out at school has shifted to being more

carried out at home. The study results stated that strengthening religious characters in the COVID-19 pandemic must have a special strategy because children's mental conditions and activities differ from previous ones. Good collaboration between teachers and guardians is needed to monitor student worship and muamalah activities during the pandemic. Good collaboration between teachers and guardians is needed to monitor student worship and muamalah activities during the pandemic. Every day the teacher gets a report related to implementing worship and morals from the student's guardian.

The results of a literature study on 26 research articles that examine the strengthening of character education state that was strengthening religious characters must be applied in the habituation of daily life in the form of individual relationships with God (92%), the value of individual relationships with individuals (88%), individual relationships with the universe (76%). This can be seen from several studies that show that strengthening religious character can grow a generation with good moral character, which will impact the ups and downs of the nation. From the literature study on 26 research articles, it was also found that 58% of studies on strengthening the religious character of students during the COVID-19 pandemic, and several institutions had carried out 42% of character strengthening before the pandemic, from these data it was concluded that strengthening religious character is very much needed by students in pandemic conditions.

Acknowledgments

References

[1] Huri A, Marwanto M. Implementation of model strengthening religious character education and nationalists at Muhammadiyah Plus Elementary School City of Salatiga academic year 2017/2018. MUDARRISA Jurnal Kajian Pendidikan Islam. 2019;11(2). https://doi.org/10.18326/mdr.v11i2.101-113

[2] Jumiati L. Implementation of strengthening religious character education at elementary school qur'ani al- ikhlash rappang sidenreng rappang regency. Proceedings of the 1st International Multidisciplinary Conference on Education, Technology, and Engineering (IMCETE 2019). Atlantis Press;Netherland.2020. https://doi.org/10.2991/assehr.k.200303.006

[3] Syaifuddin MA, Fahyuni EF. Penguatan pendidikan karakter melalui kurikulum muatan lokal di SMP muhammadiyah 2 taman. PALAPA Jurnal Studi keislaman dan Pendidikan. 2019;7(2):267–285. https://doi.org/10.36088/palapa.v7i2.358

[4] Mellawati A. Strategies in applying the religious character of students to distance learning. Prociding ICECRS. 2021;10. https://doi.org/10.21070/icecrs20211141

[5] Suriadi S. School culture in instilling religious character of madrasah tsanawiyah. Edukasia Jurnal Penelitian Pendidikan Islam. 2020;15(1):163-172. https://doi.org/10.21043/edukasia.v15i1.6442

[6] Andrianie S, Arofah L, Ariyanto RD. Strengthening religious characters: Efforts to save Indonesia. Kresna Social Science Humanities Research. 2020;1:1–10. https://doi.org/10.30874/ksshr.14

[7] Kosim M. Penguatan pendidikan karakter di era industri 4.0: Optimalisasi pendidikan agama islam di sekolah. TADRIS Jurnal Pendidikan Islam. 2020;15(1):88–107. https://doi.org/10.19105/tjpi.v15i1.2416

[8] Hayati FN, Suyatno S, Susatya E. Strengthening of religious character education based on school culture in the Indonesian secondary school. Europan Education Research 2020;3(3):87–100. https://doi.org/10.31757/euer.331

[9] Taufik M. Strategic role of Islamic religious education in strengthening character education in the era of industrial revolution 4.0. Jurnal Ilmu Islam Futuristik. 2020;20(1). 1-12 https://doi.org/10.22373/jiif.v20i1.5797

[10] Jaya DR, Sauri S, Muchtar HS, Warta W. Strengthening student character education through investing multicultural values in madrasah. International Jurnal of Nusantara Islam. 2019;7(2):366–372. https://doi.org/10.15575/ijni.v7i2.12587

[11] Khalashinikov S. Development of authentic instruments for religious attitudes and social attitudes based on strengthening character education for grade IV students in jati subdistrict. Paper presented at: Proceedings of the Proceeding of the 2nd International Conference Education Culture and Technology, ICONECT 2019; 2019 Aug 20-21; Kudus, Indonesia. https://doi.org/10.4108/eai.20-8-2019.2288111

[12] Anwar K, Sholeh MMA. The model of developing school culture based on strengthening religious characters. Proceedings of the 2nd Southeast Asian Academic Forum on Sustainable Development (SEA-AFSID 2018). Atlantis Press; Netherland. 2021. https://doi.org/10.2991/aebmr.k.210305.039

[13] Hartanti AB, Abdullah G, Murniati NAN. Implementasi penguatan pendidikan karakter di SMP muhammadiyah 3 ampel kecamatan ampel kabupaten boyolali. Jurnal Manajemen Pendidikan. 2021;9(3). https://doi.org/10.26877/jmp.v9i3.8121

[14] Purandina IPY, Winaya IMA. Pendidikan karakter di lingkungan keluarga selama pembelajaran jarak jauh pada masa pandemi Covid-19. Cetta Jurnal Ilmu Pendidikan. 2020;3(2):270–290. https://doi.org/10.37329/cetta.v3i2.454

[15] Rochman C, Nasrudin D, Rokayah R, Mulyani S, Pertiwi CSR, Ginanjar G. Distance learning during the Covid-19 pandemic: Strengthening of character, productivity, and stem competency. Jurnal Pena Sains. 2020;7(2):130–140. https://doi.org/10.21107/jps.v7i2.8261

[16] Firdaus R, Hakam KA, Somad MA, Rizal AS. The concept of triple helix mohammad natsir and its implementation in strengthening religious character education. EDUTEC Jurnal Education Technology 2020;4(1). https://doi.org/10.29062/edu.v4i1.84

[17] Sarmidi S. Strengthening character education in distance learning in the era of pandemic Covid-19. Proceedings of the 1st International Conference on Character Education (ICCE 2020) Atlantis Press. Netherland. 1-7. https://doi.org/10.2991/assehr.k.210204.035

[18] Prasetyo G, Hidayatullah MF, Akhyar M, Wiranto N, Perdana R. Strengthening students' character trough multimedia learning in primary schools education: Systematic literature reviews. Humanities Social Science Reviews. 2020;8(3):268–277. https://doi.org/10.18510/hssr.2020.8328

[19] Sandika E, Sarbini M, Maulida A. Implementasi pendidikan karakter religius dan jujur di sdit suis(sekolah unggulan islami) kelas v kabupaten bogor tahun ajaran 2018/2019. Prosa PAI : Prosiding Al Hidayah Pendidikan Agama Islam. 2019;2(1):1–10.

[20] Nazula L, Munastiwi E. Penguatan karakter anak dalam keluarga dalam situasi pandemi Covid-19. Jurnal Pendidikan Karakter. 2021;1:77–87.

[21] Afrila TM, Suyitno S, Setiawan B. The education value of religious characters in Assalamualaikum Beijing novel by Asma Nadia. International Jurnal Multiculture Multireligious Understand. 2021;8(3):194–199. https://doi.org/10.18415/ijmmu.v8i3.2426

[22] Santoso S, Suyahmo S, Maman R, Utomo CB. Urgensi pendidikan karakter pada masa pandemi Covid 19. Seminar Nasional Pascasarjana Universitas Negeri Semarang. Vol. 3 No. 1 (2020):558–563.

[23] Mustikaningrum G, Pramusinta L, Ayu S, Umar M. Kurikulum dan metode pembelajaran pada masa pandemi Covid-19 the implementation of character education integrated to curriculum and learning methods during Covid-19 pandemic. AULADUNA Jurnal Pendidikan Dasar Islam. 2020;7(2):154–164.

[24] Nita CIR, Setyawan DA, Iswanti R. Analisis penerapan penguatan pendidikan karakter dalam pembelajaran daring pada masa pandemic Covid-19 siswa kelas 5 sd negeri

polehan 5 malang. Prosiding Seminar Nasinoal PGSD 2020;4(1):393–399.

[25] Parmajaya IPG. Analisis penguatan pendidikan karakter (PKK): Problema pandemi Covid 19 dalam proses pembelajaran di era revolusi industri 4.0. PINTUPusat Penjaminan Mutu. Jurnal of Teaching AND LEARNING RESEARCH.2020;1(1):62–69.

[26] Satriawan AN. Penanaman pendidikan karakter dalam pembelajaran pada masa pandemi Covid-19 di SD negeri 1 suranadi.Petta Jurnal ilmu Pendidikan.3(3) 2020;1-9