

Research Article

The Effect of the Blended Learning Method on Madrasah Teachers at Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Private Cibeureum, Kertasari District, Bandung Regency

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Abstract.

Student learning motivation during the Covid-19 pandemic is very necessary, given the shift in learning methods as an effort to adjust the learning process to current conditions. In order to achieve the objectives in the learning process, motivation can be the overall driving force in students that can cause learning activities to occur. Learning motivation can be increased by adjusting digital-based teaching materials. Through interesting teaching materials, blended learning methods can be successful. The method used combines online and offline learning at the same time and is one of the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic in the world of education that must be faced by Cibeureum Private Madrasah Ibtidaiyah teachers. Teaching materials that are usually made conventional, now have to be changed to digital-based. Training and mentoring are carried out as an innovation in the preparation of effective teaching materials and can accommodate blended learning needs and can increase student learning motivation. The training and mentoring were carried out over a period of 3 months, starting from January to March 2022 and there were 18 teacher participants. As a result, through this blended learning of training and mentoring, teachers are familiar with learning methods and can create and apply digital-based teaching materials to students during learning.

Keywords: blended learning, madrasa teachers, digital-based learning

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1. Introduction

Learning during the adaptation of new habits after the Covid-19 pandemic experienced many disturbances and changes. This pandemic has forced learning that usually takes place face-to-face (offline) online. This applies to Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Private Cibeureum (MIS Cibeureum) located in Kertasari District, Bandung Regency. Online learning is applied in schools. However, this learning method is not effectively implemented because of the many obstacles experienced by both students and teachers. After this pandemic began to subside, the government began to allow schools to conduct offline learning which of course has certain conditions that must be met before offline learning activities are carried out. One of the efforts that teachers or instructors can do to maximize learning during this new Covid-19 habit is to use the blended learning method. This method can utilize various approaches in one learning process. This learning approach can take advantage of various kinds of media and information technology that is developing globally[1]. Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Swasta Cibeureum (MIS Cibeureum) is a private school located in Cibeureum Village, Kertasari District, Bandung Regency. MIS Cibeureum is one of the schools that strives for the teaching and learning process to be carried out optimally. With all the existing limitations, teachers and staff at schools are trying their best so that students can get adequate learning facilities even though learning must be done online or offline. Therefore, teachers need training that can facilitate students if they have to do online or offline learning.

MIS Cibeureum is one of the schools that has quite good facilities in carrying out the teaching and learning process even though it is located in a rural area whose facilities are not as good and complete as in urban areas. Unlike other schools in the same area, MIS Cibeureum already has facilities such as computers, LCDs, projectors, other electronic equipment, and even the internet that students can use in learning. Teachers only need to be given training so that these facilities can be used optimally. After the researchers saw the situation and conditions at the school, the researchers planned to provide blended learning training to teachers so that they could practice methods or approaches by utilizing existing technology in schools. Researchers conducted observations and interviews with principals and teachers in the MIS Cibeureum environment regarding teaching and learning problems during the adaptation period of this new habit. Based on these observations and interviews, the researchers summarized some of the needs of teachers at MIS Cibeureum, especially in the teaching and learning process. These needs include blended learning training, preparation of blended learning documents,

and the introduction of online learning applications that can be used by teachers in learning.

Blended learning is focused on training based on the Covid-19 pandemic phenomenon. In the period of adapting to new habits after the Covid-19 pandemic, teaching and learning activities in schools are starting to return to normal. However, learning activities are still limited. For example, the capacity of students who take part in offline learning is only allowed to be 50% and the rest learn from home. This makes the blended learning model quite suitable for teachers to use in learning. In addition, teachers also need many references regarding learning applications that can be used in the teaching and learning process in the classroom. Teachers expect learning applications that can make it easier and at the same time attract students' attention in the teaching and learning process because after the Covid-19 pandemic learning becomes not conducive. For example, students are bored to study online but on the other hand students tend to get used to learning with an online system so that the focus of learning in class is disturbed by many factors. For example, students tend to be lazy, wake up late, and students' critical power decreases[2]. The lack of facilities, especially technology owned by schools, teachers, students, and parents makes the implementation of education not conducive. Knowledge about technology-based online learning has not been fully mastered by teachers, so teachers are forced to go to students' homes to teach in small groups. In addition, the teachers are also trying (with all the existing limitations) to provide education using the online chat application, Whatsapp to provide online learning. The fulfillment of channel learning needs is the use of mass media such as WhatsApp and Zoom Meetings[3] ..However, it turns out that learning does not work effectively because many obstacles are experienced such as parents who cannot be invited to work together, unstable internet conditions, reluctance or difficulty in buying internet data, student motivation, and many other factors that hinder the learning process. Not infrequently, teachers and students also become frustrated with the existing conditions because they are forced to adapt without any preparation.

Based on these findings, the research team plans to provide training and assistance to teachers in the Cibeureum Private Madrasah Ibtidaiyah. The MIS Cibeureum teachers were very enthusiastic about the idea and they welcomed the team to provide special training and mentoring for them. Teachers who want to take part in the training and mentoring consist of 16 madrasah teachers and 4 PAUD teachers. They come from various levels of education, 2 teachers have master's degrees, 15 teachers have bachelor degrees, and 3 teachers have graduated from high school. Two of them are civil servants, four are permanent and certified teachers, and eight are certified

teachers. There are also various teacher education departments, including graduates of Islamic Religious Education, Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Teacher Education, Elementary School Teacher Education, Physical Health and Recreation Education, Masters in Islamic Religious Education, and Masters in Management.

The absence of digital literacy for teachers makes learning at MIS Cibeureum still focused on conventional methods. In addition, teachers have never received training in curriculum development, classroom management, teaching materials, problem making, or even Learning Implementation Plans. So far, teachers have only improvised by reading the existing curriculum and trying to adapt it to conditions in the field. A good and correct Indonesian language extension program also seems to have not been well socialized because the majority in schools, the teaching and learning process uses the local language (Sundanese).

The problems that many teachers complain about are related to the adaptation of the world of education during this Covid-19 pandemic. Teachers need to immediately find solutions that are in accordance with the reality that occurs in the field, especially in the teaching and learning process[4]. Especially now that face-to-face learning has been applied. In other words, the teacher wants to gain new knowledge about good classroom management in the period of adapting to new habits. In addition, they want to have digital-based teaching materials as teaching materials that can be used on an ongoing basis or as their resources if there are conditions that suddenly require online learning again. Blended learning can also provide a viable means to improve learning performance[5]. However, the priority of the teacher in this period of adapting to this new habit is to make the right teaching materials using the blended learning method. Given the many benefits of blended learning for elementary school students, significant outcomes were obtained using large samples of students across multiple treatment and control schools[6].

2. Methods

This study uses mixed methods by combining qualitative and quantitative data. Initial primary data is qualitative data in the form of statements or interviews from respondents who are training participants. This qualitative data is expected to support quantitative data in the form of a questionnaire which will also be distributed to the participants of the blended learning training.

This research was conducted in Cibeureum Village, Kertasari District, Bandung Regency, so that the population of this study were SD/MI teachers in Cibeureum

Village, Kertasari District, Bandung Regency. The sample of this study was taken from one of the schools in the Cibeureum Village area, namely Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Swasta Cibeureum. In selecting research subjects, researchers used purposive sampling technique. According to Sugiyono purposive sampling is a sampling technique of data sources with certain considerations[7]. The informants' considerations are: first, schools have a desire to teach using conventional methods that they usually do, schools want to apply and develop science and technology in learning, schools are willing to accept changes in learning, madrasa-based schools, and schools. willing to take advantage of the facilities provided. they are maxed out.

Collecting data in this research using literature study and field study methods. Literature study is a researcher's effort to collect information that is relevant to the topic and research subject. Information gathering is done by observing, understanding and appreciating as well as noting topics related to the subject matter. The process of collecting data in this study used the method of literature study and field study. Literature study is all the efforts made by researchers in collecting information relevant to the topic or problem to be studied. The information obtained is by observing, understanding, and internalizing as well as regularly recording topics related to the problem under study, either by reading or citing discussions related to blended learning models, the use of learning applications, to situations and conditions that can be relied on with conditions in the environment. MIS. Cibeureum. In addition, field studies are used to collect primary data regarding the main problems experienced by teachers in schools, the needs teachers need in learning and good classroom management after the Covid-19 pandemic. Included in this field study are interviews and observations.

Data collection will be carried out through a questionnaire submitted to the teacher, where with a personal questionnaire, the researcher can relate directly to the respondent and can provide the necessary explanation, and can be collected directly after being answered by the respondent. The type of questionnaire used for this research is a closed questionnaire, the questionnaire consists of questions about blended learning and learning applications that can be used in blended learning. In addition to the questionnaire technique, the researcher also carried out other techniques used in data collection, namely by using interview techniques. This technique is carried out through semi-structured interviews to get deeper insights from teachers about their conventional learning and blended learning. This technique is expected to provide feedback from teachers to improve the blended learning that they can use.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Results

At the end of observations and interviews with several teachers of the Cibeureum Private Madrasah Ibtidaiyah, the researchers found the fact that the biggest obstacle during the Covid-19 pandemic was the need for teaching materials that could accommodate the needs of blended learning in combining online and offline learning. The teaching materials used so far have not been able to provide an effective level of understanding for students. The teaching materials used at this time are also not digital-based, only using the text and voice note features in the Whatsapp application. Therefore, we need a method that is offered to overcome these problems. First, efforts to open up the teacher's insight about media that can be used in online and offline learning simultaneously. Through this understanding, the teacher can determine what media can be presented to accommodate student learning needs. The digital online component of the blended learning approach is used to adapt based on student performance[8]. Second, training and mentoring on blended learning in providing digital-based teaching materials for MI Cibeureum teachers, especially digital media that can be used in learning, such as Google Classroom, Google Form, Canva, Kahoot media, use of social media, features to convert PowerPoint slides into video, because video is interesting for children, then it will be much more interesting than just text media. The diversity of media used by teachers makes students more interested in carrying out learning. Compared to the same media, students are easily bored and reluctant to study online at home. With diverse and interesting learning media, learning for MI students will be achieved well.

The steps taken by the researchers to overcome this phenomenon were (1) contacting the principal and representatives of the Cibeureum Private Madrasah to obtain information regarding teachers who are actively teaching; (2) contact the teacher directly; (3) conducting online communication and surveys at training and mentoring sites; (4) holding a training on "Blend Learning Document Preparation for Ibtidaiyah Madrasah Teachers During the New Normal Covid-19 Adaptation Period"; and assistance in the practice of compiling blended learning documents for Madrasah Ibtidaiyah teachers during the adaptation period for the new Covid-19 habits.

The main priority of the existing problems is about blended learning itself. During the adaptation period of the Covid-19 pandemic, new habits must be implemented immediately, namely online and offline learning that is carried out simultaneously or better known as blended learning. Change is a sure thing, and humans inevitably have

to increase their knowledge to adapt to these changes. As written in QS Al-Zumar (39) verse 9. The verse states that humans must be knowledgeable because there will be differences between those who are knowledgeable and those who are not. This shows that education is an obligation for every intelligent human being[9]. Changes due to the pandemic also bring changes to the learning process. Based on this verse, humans need to continue to learn and maximize their knowledge in order to become a better person in this life. Adapting to something new is certainly a homework that needs to be done together in this learning disorder by presenting teaching media that can accommodate all the needs of teachers to be able to deliver material in attractive digital-based packaging. This is so that students can get good and fun learning, even in situations of adjusting to new habits to the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic which requires students to learn in a divided way, namely at home and at school.

Teachers need teaching media that are in accordance with current conditions, demands to be able to present teaching media that can accommodate online and offline learning simultaneously, while still providing material that is in accordance with the achievement of learning objectives. Childhood Educators in the era of the industrial revolution 4.0 are creative and innovative teachers in creating and presenting knowledge and information about various things through stories, films, online games, and others[10]. The purpose of this blended learning training and mentoring activity is to provide practical and realistic opportunities for teachers or educators to learn independently, continuously be useful, and have room to develop which has a positive impact on student learning outcomes. In offline learning, learning materials can be delivered and tested properly, and the success of learning can be directly seen from student responses. Meanwhile, when using online media, the teaching media presented must be able to accommodate the same needs with the same success. This is the problem the presence of digital-based learning media is needed. However, teachers are still constrained by information and insights regarding appropriate teaching materials. Through this training and mentoring, it is hoped that teachers can present teaching materials that are in accordance with learning targets so that they can be achieved. In addition, through training and mentoring blended learning is expected to improve and utilize the optimal use of technology media in the development of the learning process, as well as help teachers present the right learning media in blended learning. learning process.

Based on the problems faced by partners or teachers at Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Cibereum, the service team formulated several solutions offered for teachers, including (1) blended learning training by making innovative teaching materials. The impact of

the Covid-19 pandemic has caused the teaching and learning process to be carried out online and offline at the same time. This is because learning is not yet normal which must be fully implemented in schools, so teachers need training and assistance in order to create teaching materials that meet all these needs; and (2) mentoring blended learning in its application to students using digital-based teaching materials. Industry 4.0 demands that all aspects of human life are digitally based, as well as learning in the era of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The following is a solution to the priority problem for teachers.

TABLE 1: Solutions to Teacher Priority Problems.

Teacher Problem	Priority	Solution Action	Activity	Targeted Results
Difficulty in making digital-based teaching materials that can be used in online and offline learning.		Training on blended learning document preparation and digital-based learning.	Identify partner difficulties. Provide training to Madrasah Ibtidaiyah teachers regarding: Effective Classroom Management Strategies and Techniques Creation and Development of Digital Teaching Materials Utilization of Google Classroom as a Learning Media in a Pandemic Period Question Preparation Techniques for Students Planning Learning Implementation	Teachers can understand the creation of blended learning documents and the creation of digital teaching materials that will be applied to blended learning.
Help apply blended learning methods in the learning process.		Assistance in preparing blended learning documents and making digital-based teaching.	Provide assistance to MI teachers regarding: Assistance in the Implementation of Effective Classroom Management Assistance in Making Digital Teaching Materials. Assistance in the Implementation of Google Classroom as a Teaching Media Assistance in Preparation of Questions for Students Assistance in the preparation of lesson plans	Teachers can apply the creation of blended learning documents and digital teaching materials that will be applied to blended learning.

Based on the problem solving priorities of partners, the material is delivered by the trainer to be delivered to MI Cibereum teachers based on the qualifications and expertise of each research member. The expertise of each member in this activity

is needed to train and assist in the preparation of interesting digital-based teaching materials in blended learning. The description is as follows.

TABLE 2: Researcher Expertise.

Researcher	Skill	Task
Dr. Huriyah Rachmah, M.Pd.	Social Education Skills	Train and assist teachers in preparing lesson plans that are in accordance with the blended learning method
Rudy Gunawan, M.Pd.	Social studies education, certified national reviewer by the Ministry of Education and Culture/BRIN.	Train and assist teachers in compiling HOTS and LOTS-based questions according to the blended learning method.
Dr. Lasmanah, SE, M.Si.	Management	Train and assist teachers in classroom management.
Asri Nuranisa Dewi, S.Pd., M.Pd.	Indonesian Language Education	Train and assist teachers in creating digital teaching materials.
Irma Yulita Silviany, SS, M. Hum.	Linguistics and Indonesian	Train and assist teachers in creating e-learning-based teaching materials, such as Google Classroom.

4. Discussion

The realization of the teacher as a carrier of goodness by transferring knowledge and preparing all conditions that require teachers to continue to learn and innovate, in order to transfer the knowledge and goodness that has been obtained. The Covid-19 pandemic situation requires schools to implement a blended learning program. This is a novelty and a difficult condition that must be met by both teachers and students. Teachers are required to always learn how to carry out learning programs well, even in abnormal conditions or require learning to be carried out online and offline as well as student achievement targets to understand what the teacher says[11]. Through blended learning training by making innovations in teaching materials carried out by the teacher service team at MI Cibeureum, it is hoped that a good way for teachers to transfer knowledge to their students is achieved well, even though blended learning is a new way. that teachers have to deal with today.

The new situation faced by teachers today is a challenge in itself to continue to believe that education is both strength and awareness in making human beings civilized, useful, intelligent, and useful. In the Islamic concept, education is a blessing to achieve this goal. Islam as a religion of *rahmatan lil'alam* can normatively be interpreted as Islamic teachings related to faith, worship, and morals. Human faith or creed must give birth to rabbaniyah (a life that is in accordance with God's rules), the purpose of life is piety, trust, sincerity, and worship. This aspect of faith must be able to foster an attitude of emancipation, elevating human dignity.

Teachers as the frontline in educating the nation's future must always accompany, innovate, and adapt their teaching patterns to all kinds of conditions, especially in conditions that require teachers to carry out blended learning. The spirit of learning must be owned by the teacher so that the learning objectives can be achieved. The Islamic perspective on learning can change behavior according to the content in the Al-Quran and Al-Hadith. A student is said to have gone through a learning process, if ideally he gets a new positive psychological experience. This experience is expected to develop various constructive traits, attitudes, and skills[12].

5. Conclusion

The biggest obstacle during the Covid-19 pandemic is the need for teaching materials that can accommodate blended learning needs in combining online and offline learning. The teachers of MI Private Cibeureum gained new knowledge about blended learning as a necessary requirement due to the pandemic conditions. There is an increase in knowledge to be applied in learning to students. Teachers are given blended learning training by creating innovative teaching materials that can accommodate the needs of learning conditions during a pandemic, complete with its own challenges. The challenge lies in changing offline learning habits to online, even combining two learning patterns (blended learning).

It is feared that providing training and providing examples or practices without assistance to see the use of digital-based teaching materials will not have an impact or benefit. Therefore, blended learning assistance is carried out in its application to students using digital-based teaching materials. This is to see how effectively digital-based teaching materials are applied in the Cibeureum Private MI environment. The teachers were greatly helped by this assistance because the teachers could directly ask about the obstacles encountered in the field. Starting from asking how to compile

teaching materials, how to apply teaching materials, to distributing them to students in the Cibeureum Private MI environment.

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