

Research Article

Building Community Literacy to Increase the Use of Assets Through the Mosque Library

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Abstract.

Literacy is a person's ability to search for information needed to solve current life problems. By increasing public literacy, it is hoped that they will be able to manage this beautiful natural gift for broad benefits, not only for humans but also for other God's creatures. The task of increasing literacy is not the task of just a group of people or librarians, but the task of everyone. This research only focuses on the utilization of assets in the form of buildings and land that are not utilized properly. The research method used is a qualitative phenomenological research method. This research aims to attempt to build awareness, especially among Muslims, through religious literacy in mosque libraries to increase creativity and productivity. The theory used is John Stuart Mill's theory of utilitarianism. The results of the author's findings include that there are still many mosques that do not have libraries, mosques have not been optimal in building community literacy, and there are still many assets, both in the form of buildings that are left without use.

Keywords: literacy, assets, mosque library

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1. Introduction

Literacy is no longer about reading and writing. Literacy is a person's ability to be able to overcome life problems through available information resources. Building community literacy is not easy, especially, building literacy to be able to utilize existing assets for various reasons. It could be inadequate knowledge, feeling lazy to move and so on. To get information, people can go to someone who knows better, go to the library or look for information on the internet. Mosque libraries can be an option to build community literacy in the good use of assets by providing relevant literature. This research focuses more on the role of mosque libraries, which has been written about a lot, however, the role of mosque libraries in efforts to increase the utilization of search results assets has not been researched much.

Life issues relate to how a person manages assets. Both assets, human resources and natural resources. Human resources are assets that will mobilize, while natural

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resources are assets that will be mobilized or utilized for benefit. Assets are goods that are legally divided into 2 parts, namely movable goods and immovable goods. Assets are resources that have economic value.

To maximize the use of assets requires knowledge called asset management. This science is an art that provides guidance in managing wealth assets. This activity includes the process of planning, assessing, operating, maintaining assets so that they become effective, efficient and produce results. Asset management is also a decision-making process regarding asset utilization. So far, asset utilization has not been maximized. The non-maximal use of these assets could be due to weak public literacy, the role of libraries, especially mosque libraries, which is not yet visible.

The true function of a mosque is not just as a place of worship, but must also be part of social, economic and political activities, including the pursuit of religious knowledge. Therefore, mosques must be designed and projected to become centers of religious literacy. We already know that basically a mosque not only functions as a place of prayer, but is also a center for social activities, as well as a center for religious education. The use of mosques was exemplified by the Prophet Muhammad and his companions during the glory days of Islam. Several verses in the Qur'an state that the function of a mosque is as a place where the name of Allah is often mentioned (a place of dhikr), a place of i'tikaf, a place of worship (salat), an Islamic meeting center to discuss matters of life and struggle.

There are several studies related to the role of mosque libraries, including those written by Muhammad Zuhdi, Phd about the role of mosque libraries in educating people (2010) and Fitriani's research (2017) about the role and function of mosque libraries in educating Muslims.

To limit the problems in this research, the author only focuses on the role of mosque libraries in building community literacy in an effort to maximize assets or resources that have not been properly utilized. The hope is that a high level of awareness will begin to grow among the public, especially Muslims, to start to wake up to use all their free time for productive things, making use of empty land to make it useful and so on.

2. Methods

This research use literatur studies, data collected from research in journal international, books, and documentation that writer know. Data have been analized by qualitative method.

3. Results and Discussion

3.1. Definition, Literacy Levels, Goals and Benefits of Literacy

3.1.1. Understanding literacy

Basically, the word literacy is not a new term, but has a broad and dynamic meaning. There are still many people who define it according to their respective points of view. Based on the results of the study, there are several references that explain the meaning of literacy, including:[1] The term literacy in other languages is called *Literatus*, which means someone who learns. Furthermore, the National Institute for Literacy itself explains that what is meant by literacy is a person's ability to read, write, speak, calculate and solve problems at the level of expertise required in work, family and society. The Education Development Center (EDC) also explains the meaning of literacy, namely an individual's ability to use the potential and skills they have, and not just the ability to read and write. Furthermore, UNESCO also explains that literacy is a set of real skills, especially cognitive skills in reading and writing which are independent of the context in which the skills in question were obtained, from whom they were obtained and how they were obtained. According to UNESCO, a person's understanding of literacy will be influenced by academic competence, national context, institutions, cultural values and experience.

Then, in the Merriam - Webster online dictionary, it is explained that literacy is the ability or quality of literacy which includes the ability to read, write and also recognize and understand ideas visually. The Education Development Center (EDC) states that literacy is more than just the ability to read and write. But more than that, literacy is an individual's ability to use all the potential and skills they have in their life. With the understanding that literacy includes the ability to read words and read the world.[2] Literacy according to Muchlisin Riadi is a person's social behavior in accessing, understanding and using information related to knowledge, language and culture through various activities, including reading, viewing, listening, writing and speaking to give birth to a prosperous life (superior civilization).[3] Literacy is a social event that is equipped with skills to create and interpret meaning through text. Literacy requires a series of abilities to convey and obtain information in written form. Literacy activities are carried out to improve reading skills so that knowledge can be mastered better.

According to Syarif Bando, Head of the Indonesian National Library, the understanding that literacy is the ability to recognize letters, words, sentences, express opinions and cause and effect is an ancient thing. The reason is that the meaning of literacy as such

had developed during Indonesia's independence, in 1945. At that time, proclaimer Bung Karno had to go directly to the community to introduce literacy because the literacy rate of the Indonesian population was only two percent. Moreover, at that time the conditions were not supported by the national education budget. "So if we are still talking about Bung Karno's version of literacy then we are talking much further back.[4]

3.1.2. Literacy Level

According to Syarif Bando, Director of the National Library of the Republic of Indonesia, literacy levels are divided into 5 levels, including:[5] First level literacy is literacy regarding the ability to read, write, count and character formation. This literacy activity is usually carried out on children aged between 5-7 years. Second level literacy is a person's literacy ability in terms of his ability to find affordable, accurate, up-to-date, most complete and reliable reading materials. The third level of literacy is that someone who is literate can understand things that are implicit and explicit from the results of his literacy. The fourth level of literacy is literacy carried out in order to innovate and maximize creativity. This literacy is usually carried out by researchers. Fifth level literacy is literacy carried out in order to have knowledge and skills that can be implemented to create goods or services that can be used in global competence.

3.1.3. Literacy Goals and Benefits

Literacy needs to be carried out by every individual. Literacy according to ACRL (Association of College and Research libraries) quoted by Dewa Nyoman Triwijaya has several goals including:[6] Can determine the limits of information required. Can access the necessary information effectively and efficiently. Can evaluate information and its sources critically. Combining a selected amount of information becomes the basis of a person's knowledge. Use information effectively to achieve specific goals. Understand economic, legal, and social issues related to the ethical and legal use of information.

The benefits of literacy include:[6] Someone who diligently engages in literacy will be able to solve problems in every problem in life. Able to express opinions based on accurate facts and data. Able to discover new things that are beneficial for human welfare and happiness. Able to think critically to reject information that is not in accordance with ethics, morals and truth values. Can be responsible for every action he takes in accordance with human values. People who are good at literacy are usually successful in their studies and careers. The benefit of literacy is being able to understand and

master civilization so that civilization continues to develop towards a civilization that is blessed by Allah SWT. The end result of the benefits of literacy is that someone can make good and correct decisions that do not harm other people.

3.1.4. Assets and their use so far

Quoted from the *Kompas page*, assets are resources with economic value that are owned and controlled by individuals, companies or countries with the hope that they will provide benefits in the future.[7] Meanwhile, according to experts, the definition of assets includes:[8] Hidayat revealed that the definition of assets is goods which are legally divided into movable and immovable, tangible or tangible and intangible or intangible. Munawir stated that an asset is a resource or means that has economic value and functions as a support in measuring the price of obtaining it or the fair value of the company. According to PP RI No. 24 of 2005 reveals that the definition of assets is divided into two, namely current assets and non-current assets. Assets which are resources have characteristics including: they can be bought and sold, can be converted into cash, are controlled by a person or company, can provide benefits in the future, are obtained from past economic transactions, can be traded. The types of assets in their form are divided into 2 parts, namely: tangible assets and intangible assets. Tangible assets are assets that have a physical form or can be seen, such as buildings, land, merchandise, cash and others. Meanwhile, intangible assets are assets that have value but are not tangible, such as patents, trademarks, copyrights, intellectual rights and so on. There are also assets that are the most expensive compared to tangible and intangible assets, namely assets that exist in ourselves including: perfect physical assets, time, health, honesty, discipline.[9] Because assets are entrusted, they must be used for future prosperity. There are several models of asset utilization that can be used, including renting, collaborating, processing together and so on. Existing assets should not be useless. No matter how small, assets should not sit idle without maintenance and utilization. From the author's observations, especially in the city of Serang, there are still many houses, especially in complexes, that were purchased but only used as assets that are not utilized. So many buildings ended up being damaged. Meanwhile, many people who cannot afford to pay their rent live on riverbanks, roadsides or in slum areas. There are also quite a few empty lands that do not yet have buildings that are not utilized optimally, even if only for growing vegetables, children's play areas, comfortable green open spaces and so on.

3.1.5. Mosque Library

Chairman of the Indonesian Mosque Council (DMI), Jusuf Kalla, said that the number of mosques and prayer rooms in Indonesia has reached 800,000 or the largest in the world, so it is hoped that this can increase the faith and piety of Muslims.[10] Mosque libraries are a form of special library that functions to serve the intellectual needs of the surrounding community. Because its existence cannot be separated from community participation. Community participation can be realized in three things at once, namely providing collections, management and utilization. The data collection process for mosque libraries has been carried out by the Ministry of Religion by launching an application program called ELIPSKI. (Electronic Literacy of Islamic Religious Literature). There are only a few mosques that have libraries that are recorded in this application.[11]

The existence of a mosque library is expected to be able to improve scientific abilities through a collection of quality literature so that it can open world horizons for Muslims. The mosque library functions as a center for da'wah because da'wah is not only verbal da'wah or bil hal's da'wah, but also bil kitaab through books or printed and recorded media. With a library, the mosque also functions as an education center because through the library the mosque congregation and Muslims generally learn what has been produced first and can always follow and adapt to new information positively. Then, apart from that, the mosque library is a place for community activities because with the existence of a library, the mosque, which was originally only a place of worship (prayer), is hoped that the people involved in it (mosque congregants and the general public) can play an active role in making the mosque prosperous.[12]

Assets are a trust that must be managed well for wider benefits. Empty assets that are not productive, whether in the form of land or buildings, should not be left without management and utilization. Islam prohibits wasting wealth, wealth must be managed well because it will be asked in two directions, where it was obtained and what it was used for. Mosque libraries are expected to be able to campaign for community movements to be able to manage unused assets in various ways. Maybe it can be done by renting it, using rights, cooperation for joint use and so on. This awareness cannot be built without good literacy in society. Mosques, which exist in almost every village, have a very strategic role in building public literacy through mosque libraries. This is also in line with DR's thinking. **Imam Budidarmawan Prasadjo who is a lecturer and sociologist who is pioneering a mosque library program starting from a mosque in the Kapuk area.**

Rasulullah SAW has said in his hadith: “And the best people are those who are most beneficial to other people.” (HR. Al-Qadlaa’iy in Musnad Asy-Syihaab no. 129, Ath-Thabaraaniy in Al-Ausath no. 5787).[13] From the description of this hadith, there are many things that can be done regarding the utilization of existing assets. Solutions that can be presented include: *First*, the mosque library formed a Creative Team whose members consisted of professionals, field staff, and village PPK teams to work together in planting empty land with the theme “Gardening in the Middle of the City” with a format of mutually beneficial collaboration with land owners.

The motivation for this activity can refer to the hadith that the author quoted from *the nuonline page*[14] as follows: Meaning, “From the friend Jabir ra, he said, Rasulullah saw said, ‘No Muslim plants a tree unless what is eaten is worth alms, what is stolen is also worth alms. There is also no one who reduces the fruit (from his tree) but it will be worth alms to the planter until the Day of Resurrection,’” (Imam Zakiyuddin Abdul Azhim Al-Mundziri, *At-Targhib wat Tarhib minal Haditsisy Syarif*, [Beirut, Darul Fikr: 1998 AD /1418 H], chapter III, page 304).

By referring to this hadith alone, if this becomes the common awareness of Muslims, especially mosque congregations, of course the empty land could immediately be used to plant trees, grow vegetables and so on. Because the benefits of trees are many, including being able to produce oxygen, breathe carbon dioxide, provide shelter from the heat, a place for animals to grow and develop, absorb water, increase beauty, create springs and many other benefits for life. If this awareness is built with a spirit of togetherness, of course the impact will be very beneficial for fulfilling household needs in the form of vegetables, beauty, coolness and of course increasing the happiness index. *Second*, the Mosque Library with the Mosque Business Unit invites people whose houses are empty to voluntarily give “Use Rights” to their buildings for useful activities. The motivation can be based on a hadith narrated by Ibn Abbas RA, that the Prophet Muhammad SAW said: “indeed, the deed that Allah SWT likes most after carrying out various obligatory things is to **make other Muslims happy**”.[15] The programs for utilizing assets in the form of buildings that can be carried out include: Create a shelter home, Make a play house for children. Making a Qur’an house for education in reading and writing the Qur’an. The house is rented at a cheaper price and the rental proceeds go to the mosque’s treasury for donations. Create a rental-based vehicle storage area, the proceeds go to the mosque’s treasury for donations. Rented out for business premises using a system with cheaper rental prices, the proceeds go to the mosque’s treasury as donations. Collaborating with MSME entrepreneurs to simply become distribution warehouses with a profit-sharing system, and so on. The point is, mosque libraries with

their literacy must be able to contribute to building civilization, continuing to campaign so that Muslims can be more productive so they can produce useful work.

4. Conclusion

Islam is a perfect religion everything has been taught by Rasulullah SAW. Muslims are the best people. However, do not turn a blind eye to many Muslim human resources who have not yet woken up from their long sleep. The literacy of Muslims, even though the first verse revealed is a command to read, however, Muslims, especially those in Indonesia who are the majority, are still very weak. Mosque libraries with their literacy duties should start moving to continue to encourage and campaign for the importance of literacy among the people. Many land and building assets have not been utilized properly to produce something useful. This is a tough task that must be shouldered not only by librarians, literacy activists, but must involve Muslims in general to be able to move together to find solutions so that existing assets can be managed. The author hopes that this article can be a motivation for me and other Muslims to move together to increase public literacy in order to utilize the assets that Allah SWT has entrusted for the prosperity of humanity.

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