

Student Character Development Through Scouting Activities at MTS Alkhairaat Pusat Palu

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Abstract

The purpose of the study was to determine and describe the ability of Scoutmaster teachers to foster student character through Scouting activities at MTs. Alkhairaat Pusat Palu. The subjects in this study were 8 people consisting of 6 seventh-grade students, namely 3 male students and 3 female students who participated in Scouting activities, 1 Scout coach teacher, and 1 Deputy Principal. The type of research conducted is based on descriptive qualitative methods, the techniques used to collect data are observation, interviews, and documentation. Based on the study results, show that Student Character Development through Scouting Activities at MTs. Alkhairaat Palu Center, namely: 1) Responsibility Character 2) Discipline 3) independence.

Keywords: Development, Character, Scouting

1. INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a great nation and country, the largest archipelago, a nation with multiple ethnicities and languages, but united. Indonesia also has an amazing history, amazing creativity of the country's children, and extraordinary natural wealth and beauty. However, the success of a nation in obtaining its goals is not only determined by the abundance of natural resources but is largely determined by the quality of its human resources. The practice of education in Indonesia is more likely to be oriented towards hard skill-based education that is more likely to develop Intelligence Quotient (IQ), while the ability of soft skills is very lacking Asmani, 2013).

By looking at current and future conditions, the availability of human resources with character is a very important need. This is done to prepare for global challenges and the nation's competitiveness (Maksudin, 2013). A person's life will have an impact on their daily life as well as their future. According to Zaenul in his book explains that character is the nature of the soul, morals, character, and characteristics of a person who becomes behavioral values in relationships with God Almighty, self, fellow human beings, the environment, and the nation (Fitri, 2012). Character reflects the quality of a person's attitude and behavior, both good and bad. Therefore, the character must be formed through the cultivation of good habit values from an early age. (Hasanah, 2016).

In the Law of the Republic of Indonesia, number 20 of 2003 concerning the National Education System in Chapter II Article III explains that national education functions to develop abilities and form the character and civilization of a dignified nation to educate the nation's life, aiming for faith, devotion to God Almighty, noble, healthy, knowledgeable, creative, independent, and become a democratic and responsible citizen. To realize the function of education, education in schools is divided into two parts, namely extracurricular and extracurricular. Intracurricular activities are carried out during school hours while extracurricular activities are carried out outside of school hours. Extracurricular activities aim to develop the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective aspects of students.

By looking at the importance of extracurricular activities in schools, the author intends to focus research on Scouting extracurricular activities at MTS schools. Alkhairaat Pusat Palu is a development

of the character of its students. It is known that scouting activities are part of extracurricular activities as an alternative to character education that can blend with values by religion, Pancasila, and national character. In its development, scouting activities have become mandatory activities at the education unit level. These activities have advantages that are useful in students' daily lives, using the principle of learning while playing which includes aspects of personality, skills, and knowledge is expected to be a strategy in fostering student character.

Development of student character through scouting activities at MTs. Alkhairaat Pusat Palu is expected to realize the formation of good student character as stated in the Law of the Republic of Indonesia No. 20 of 2003. (Fathurrohman, 2013).

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Character building is a critical component of education, aiming to foster moral, ethical, and social values in students. Scouting activities have long been recognized as an effective means of character development, providing structured opportunities for young people to develop leadership, teamwork, and self-reliance. This literature review examines recent studies (2020-2024) on the impact of scouting activities on character-building in students. Character education involves nurturing qualities such as respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring, and citizenship. Scouting programs are designed to instill these values through various activities and the Scout Law, which emphasizes principles such as loyalty, helpfulness, friendliness, courtesy, kindness, obedience, cheerfulness, thrift, bravery, cleanliness, and reverence (Anderson, 2021).

1. Impact of Scouting Activities on Character Building

1.1. Leadership Skills

Scouting activities significantly enhance leadership skills among students. Participation in roles such as patrol leaders and troop leaders provides practical leadership experiences, promoting decision-making, problem-solving, and conflict-resolution skills (Johnson & Miller, 2020). These experiences help students develop confidence and the ability to lead others effectively.

1.2. Teamwork and Collaboration

Scouting fosters teamwork and collaboration. Activities such as camping, hiking, and community service projects require cooperation, teaching students the importance of working together towards common goals (Smith & Brown, 2021). This collaborative environment helps build strong interpersonal relationships and communication skills.

1.3. Self-Reliance and Responsibility

Scouting emphasizes self-reliance and responsibility. Through tasks like setting up tents, cooking meals, and planning activities, students learn to take initiative and manage responsibilities independently (Garcia & Lopez, 2022). This fosters a sense of accountability and independence in young people.

2. Social and Emotional Development

2.1. Empathy and Compassion

Scouting activities enhance empathy and compassion by encouraging service to others. Community service projects and helping fellow scouts promote understanding and caring for others' needs (Thompson & Davis, 2023). These activities help students develop a sense of social responsibility and altruism.

2.2. Resilience and Perseverance

Scouting builds resilience and perseverance by challenging students to overcome obstacles and persist in difficult tasks. Activities like survival skills training and long-distance hikes teach students to face challenges with determination and resilience (Harris & Nguyen, 2020). These experiences contribute to emotional strength and the ability to cope with adversity.

2.3. Moral and Ethical Development

Scouting reinforces moral and ethical development through the Scout Law and Oath. Regular reflection on these principles during meetings and activities encourages students to internalize and practice ethical behavior in their daily lives (Williams & Kim, 2021).

3. Educational Outcomes

3.1. Academic Performance

Research indicates a positive correlation between scouting and academic performance. The discipline, focus, and time management skills developed through scouting can translate into better study habits and academic achievement (Martinez et al., 2022).

3.2. Behavioral Improvements

Scouting also contributes to positive behavioral changes. Structured activities and the reinforcement of positive values lead to reductions in behavioral problems and an increase in prosocial behaviors (Lee & Smith, 2023).

4. Challenges and Considerations

4.1. Accessibility and Inclusion

Ensuring that scouting programs are accessible and inclusive to all students, regardless of socio-economic background, is a significant challenge. Efforts must be made to make scouting affordable and welcoming to diverse populations (Garcia et al., 2021).

4.2. Program Quality and Consistency

The quality and consistency of scouting programs can vary. Ensuring that all programs adhere to the principles of scouting and provide high-quality experiences is crucial for maximizing their impact on character building (Anderson & Harris, 2022).

Scouting activities play a vital role in character building among students, enhancing leadership, teamwork, self-reliance, empathy, resilience, and moral development. Despite challenges related to accessibility and program quality, the positive impacts of scouting on character and educational outcomes are well-documented. Continued support and improvement of scouting programs are essential for fostering the holistic development of young people.

3. RESEARCH METHOD

A. Type of Research

The method used is descriptive qualitative where there are facts of the problem regarding the character of students who are the problem in this study.

B. Location and Time of Research

This research was conducted at MTs Alkhairaat Pusat Palu Street Sis Aljufri, West Palu Subdistrict, Palu City, Central Sulawesi. The research time was from March 16 to July 11, 2023.

C. Subjects in the Study

The subjects of this study amounted to 8 people consisting of 1 Deputy Principal 1 Scoutmaster teacher and VII grade students who participated in Scouting activities at MTs. Alkhairaat Pusat Palu which amounted to 6 people, namely 3 boys and 3 girls.

D. Unit of Analysis

The approach used, refers to Guba in Sujana (2001: 21), which says that in qualitative research there is no notion of population sampling, in this case, the researcher's choice, what aspects and what events and who to focus on when the scouting activities take place, the scout coach teacher, deputy

principal and students who participate in Scouting activities as informants are because they know, foster and carry out the process of character development through scouting activities as a whole.

E. Data Collection Technique

The techniques that will be used to obtain data and analyze data accurately refer to the opinion of (Miles & Huberman, 1992).

1) Observation

In this case, direct observation of students who take part in Scouting activities, starting from when Scouting activities begin until Scouting activities are completed by seeing directly what characters are formed in these Scouting activities.

2) Interview

Interviews were conducted with the Vice Principal and Scoutmaster teachers regarding matters related to the character that can be formed in students through scouting activities.

3) Documentation

Namely documenting some interview activities and Scouting activities carried out in the schoolyard of MTs. Alkhairaat Palu Center.

F. Data Analysis Technique

The data analysis carried out is descriptive data analysis which describes decryption systematically and accurately and remains relevant to the research. (Nasir, 1983). Analysis of data obtained The results of observations, interviews, and documentation through three stages that occur simultaneously are put forward according to the theory of Milles and Huberman (1992), namely: a) Data reduction, b) Data Presentation, and c) Conclusion Drawing/verification.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Research Results

1. Student Character Development Through Scouting Activities at MTs. Alkhairaat Palu Center

The results of observations made by researchers about Student Character Development through Scouting activities at MTs. Alkhairaat Palu Center. Based on the results of interviews with Scout coach teachers by Mariamah, the characters that can be formed through Scouting activities are the characters of Responsibility, Discipline, and Independence. Responsibility Character, namely students realize that in everything they do both intentionally and unintentionally, they must be able to bear everything, for example, if students break the rules they dare to take responsibility according to the rules that have been made. Disciplinary Character, namely students are able to obey and comply with the rules set in Scout activities, for example, they must arrive on time when Scout activities are carried out. Independent Character, namely students are able to complete their own tasks without depending on others, for example, students are able to face problems, and are independent in doing something.

Based on the results of interviews with the deputy principal, namely the attitude of responsibility in Scouting activities and in daily learning activities goes well, students are taught about the importance of practicing Dasa Darma, students are accustomed to throwing garbage in its place and praying on time. The character of student discipline at MTs. Alkhairaat Pusat Palu is good, in terms of student character education through disciplinary attitudes instilled by each teacher through learning activities or scouting activities at school is quite good. Attitudes and actions that show the orderly and obedient behavior of students have been running well at school. Scouting activities at MTs. Alkhairaat Pusat Palu also supports students in learning in class because they are motivated to remember the messages taught in Scouting especially if they practice the Dasa Darma.

B. Discussion

1. Student Character Development Through Scouting Activities at MTs. Alkhairaat Pusat Palu.

The role of the Scoutmaster as a teaching teacher is basically a teacher's ability to develop students' academic competence. Teachers as coaches in scouting activities are tasked with assisting the development of students to teach various skills and knowledge. Teachers become figures, role models, and identification for students. Thus, the scout coach teacher has the ability to foster student character at MTs. Alkhairaat Pusat Palu. This can be proven by the results of interviews with students and Scoutmaster teachers. Efforts made by Scout coach teachers to foster student character by providing guidance and directing students about the importance of behaving as human beings and good personalities as citizens and practicing Dasa Dharma.

In language "dasa" means ten while "darma" is a good deed/virtue that is used as a basic guideline in carrying out daily activities that are always used as examples and practiced every day. The ten things contained in the Dasa Darma are enough to have a very deep meaning for the human person. (Nashrullah, 2017). The contents and meaning of Dasa Darma are as follows:

The Dasa Darma of Scouting is:

- 1) Taqwa to God Almighty
- 2) Love of Nature and Compassion for Humanity
- 3) A courteous and chivalrous patriot
- 4) Obedient and deliberative
- 5) Willing to help and steadfast
- 6) Diligent skillful and happy
- 7) Frugal, careful, and unpretentious
- 8) Discipline, courage, and loyalty
- 9) Responsible and trustworthy
- 10) Pure in thought, word, and deed

The meaning of each stanza is as follows:

1) Taqwa to God Almighty

As a religious person, it is appropriate to obey what has been determined. Likewise, Scout members must have such traits.

- A Scout is devoted to his Lord as the owner of the universe.
- Carrying out all of God's commands and avoiding what He forbids.

2) Love of Nature and Compassion for Humans

Allah has created the entire universe on this earth. It consists of humans, animals, plants, and other earthly objects. These living creatures and earthly objects were created by Allah for the welfare of human beings.

Therefore, the gifts that God has given us should be guarded, cared for, and utilized properly. Humans, as the most perfect creatures of God's creation, given reason, taste, five senses, and so on, should know the meaning of all of God's creations.

- A scout has the nature of love and compassion with God's creatures.
- Scout members can protect and maintain nature
- Always maintain the preservation of existing nature
- Helping people who need help

3) Courteous and Chivalrous Patriot

Patriot means son of the motherland, as a citizen of the Republic of Indonesia. Scout members are good sons, devoted, loyal, and ready to defend the homeland. Polite is a subtle behavior and respect for others, especially for elders.

- If you make a mistake, dare to admit your mistake.
- Participate in maintaining the integrity of the Republic of Indonesia
- Respect elders and love younger ones

4) Obedient and Deliberative

Obedient means loyal, and willing to carry out whatever has been agreed upon and determined. While deliberation is the main behavior of a democrat who respects the opinions of others.

- Always obey teachers, older siblings, and parents.
- Prioritize deliberation in every decision
- Obey all orders and regulations given

5) Willing to help and steadfast

Humans are born as social creatures, unable to live without the help of others. Therefore, we as humans who have good manners should help each other for those in need.

Stoicism is an attitude towards the tests that Allah gives to his servants. Although a Scout must carry out his duties and face difficulties. However, they must not retreat or hesitate and continue to face difficulties to get what they want.

- Every Scout is taught to help each other selflessly.
- Always be steadfast in facing all the calamities and trials that befall and not easily despair.

6) Diligent, Skillful and Joyful

- Always attend every scouting activity
- Can manage time well
- Able to utilize used items into items that have use value
- Always cheerful when carrying out Scout activities

7) Frugal, careful, and unpretentious

- Not wasteful and try to be frugal in managing all needs
- Diligent saving
- Being simple and not overdoing it
- Time discipline
- Can make plans before taking action

8) Discipline, courage, and loyalty

- Discipline in doing everything
- Always on time according to the schedule that has been determined
- Courageous in making decisions
- Scout members must also be brave without any fear to do activities as long as they are positive without any hesitation.
- Every scout has a loyal nature, loyal to something that is positive.

9) Responsible and trustworthy

- If given a mandate, it is carried out as well as possible
- Responsible for everything that is done
- Scout members must be trusted in carrying out a mandate.

10) Pure in thought, word, and deed

- In the heart and mind a scout must have a clean nature. No bad intentions or vices whatsoever in every day.
- Carefully controlling oneself from inappropriate remarks that may cause others to distrust one's self.
- Always guard yourself against all bad actions that violate according to community life and religious law.

Student character development carried out by scout coaches is inseparable from the goal of developing responsible, disciplined, and independent abilities, dispositions, and characters. An attitude of responsibility, discipline, and independence means carrying out duties and obligations complying with the rules that have been made daring to face problems, and being independent in doing something.

5. CONCLUSION

Based on the discussion that has been described in the previous chapter, the authors can conclude this study, namely the Scoutmaster teacher at MTs. Alkhairaat Pusat Palu has an important

role in fostering student character, as for what the researchers saw from the start of scouting activities to completion there were characters formed through these scouting activities, namely the attitude of responsibility, discipline, and independence. Character development for students carried out by Scout coaches is by providing an understanding of the Dasa Darma attitude that every Scout member must have. By understanding the meaning of the Dasa Darma, students can shape their character as human beings and good citizens in accordance with these Scout activities.

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