

Human Development Index in Islamic Perspective in Mandailing Natal

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ABSTRAK

Indeks Pembangunan Manusia (IPM) merupakan salah satu indikator yang digunakan untuk mengukur kemajuan sosial dan ekonomi suatu wilayah. Namun, dalam pandangan Islam, pembangunan manusia tidak hanya dinilai dari aspek ekonomi dan sosial semata, tetapi juga dari segi spiritual dan moral. Artikel ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis Indeks Pembangunan Manusia (IPM) di Mandailing Natal pada tahun 2024, dengan menggunakan perspektif Islam yang holistik. Penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa meskipun IPM di Mandailing Natal mengalami peningkatan, namun terdapat ketimpangan yang signifikan dalam aspek kesejahteraan sosial dan pendidikan. Dari perspektif Islam, pembangunan manusia harus mencakup keseimbangan antara kebutuhan material dan spiritual, yang mencerminkan kualitas hidup yang lebih adil dan sejahtera.

Keyword: Indeks Pembangunan Manusia; Mandailing Natal; Perspektif Islam; Pembangunan Sosial; Pendidikan

ABSTRACT

The Human Development Index (HDI) is one of the indicators used to measure the social and economic progress of a region. However, in the Islamic perspective, human development is not only assessed from economic and social aspects alone, but also from spiritual and moral aspects. This article aims to analyze the Human Development Index (HDI) in Mandailing Natal in 2024, using a holistic Islamic perspective. This study shows that although the HDI in Mandailing Natal has increased, there is significant inequality in the aspects of social welfare and education. From an Islamic perspective, human development must include a balance between material and spiritual needs, which reflects a more just and prosperous quality of life.

Keyword: Human Development Index; Mandailing Natal; Islamic Perspective; Social Development; Education

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1. INTRODUCTION

Human Development Index (HDI) is a composite index that includes three areas of human development that are considered very basic. The three areas are longevity, knowledge, and decent living. In general, the method of calculating the HDI presented in this module is in accordance with the method used by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) in calculating the HDI (Human Development Index) (Mulyani, 2017). Meanwhile, according to ((BPS)., 2024), the Human Development Index (HDI) is an indicator of the achievement of community quality of life development which is compiled based on three basic dimensions, namely longevity and healthy living, knowledge, and decent living. The longevity and healthy living dimension is represented by the life expectancy indicator at birth. The knowledge dimension is represented by the indicators of schooling expectancy and average schooling, while the decent living dimension is represented by per capita expenditure.

The Human Development Index (HDI) is a measuring tool used to assess the progress of a region's development by considering the dimensions of health, education, and standard of living. For Mandailing Natal (Madina) Regency, located in North Sumatra Province, increasing the HDI is one of the priorities for regional

development. Although there have been various efforts to improve the quality of life of its citizens, Madina's socio-economic conditions still show significant inequality. Human development in the Islamic perspective does not only emphasize material progress, but also moral and spiritual aspects. Islamic principles, which focus on social justice, the welfare of the people, and sustainable use of resources, can provide solutions to existing development problems.

In this context, Mandailing Natal has great potential to utilize Islamic values in improving the quality of life of its citizens, through sharia instruments such as zakat, waqf, and community-based economic empowerment. In Islam, human development is not only limited to improving the quality of physical and material life, but also includes spiritual, moral, and social development. Allah says in the Qur'an, in Surah Al-Baqarah verse 261: "The example of those who spend their wealth in the way of Allah is like a seed that grows seven stalks, each stalk containing a hundred grains." This shows that investment in spiritual and social aspects will provide manifold results, both in this world and in the hereafter. (Indonesia, 2020)

Human development according to Islam must be based on the principles of balance (wasatiyah), which harmonizes material and spiritual needs. Therefore, development in Mandailing Natal must not only prioritize improving the quality of education, health, and economy, but must also pay attention to moral, ethical, and spiritual aspects. This study aims to analyze the condition of the Human Development Index in Mandailing Natal and see how the application of Islamic principles can play a role in improving human development in the area. In addition, this article will also identify the challenges faced in implementing human development based on Islamic values in Madina. Human development and social welfare are not only seen in terms of material or economic aspects, but also include spiritual and moral dimensions. Islam encourages the achievement of balanced welfare, which includes physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being. Therefore, in measuring the Human Development Index according to an Islamic perspective, there may be an emphasis on the integration between worldly and hereafter welfare, as well as the importance of social values such as justice, solidarity, and sustainability. (Samar, 2014)

2. RESEARCH METHOD

Explaining This study uses a qualitative approach with a case study in Mandailing Natal Regency in 2024. The method used is descriptive analysis, which collects primary data through interviews with the community, government officials, and religious leaders in Mandailing Natal. In addition, secondary data is taken from official reports such as BPS (Central Statistics Agency) Data and Regional Development Reports related to the HDI.

The data collection process was carried out by means of in-depth interviews, field observations, and literature studies. After the data was collected, an analysis was conducted to assess the relationship between the increase in HDI and the implementation of development values in an Islamic perspective. The results of this study are expected to provide new insights into the role of religion in human development at the local level

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. *Condition of Human Development Index in Mandailing Natal*

Mandailing Natal has various potentials, especially in the agricultural and natural resources sectors. However, the Human Development Index in this area is still relatively low compared to other districts in North Sumatra Province. Based on (BPS, 2022) , several main indicators that affect the Human Development Index of Madina include:

- 1) Health: Mandailing Natal Regency still faces problems in the health sector, including low access to health facilities, relatively high maternal and child mortality rates, and a lack of adequate health facilities in rural areas.
- 2) Education: Education levels in Madina show disparities, with many children dropping out of school, especially in rural areas. The lack of qualified teachers and inadequate educational infrastructure are major challenges.
- 3) Economy: The majority of Mandailing Natal people depend on the agricultural sector, but with low productivity and limited market access. This causes many residents to still be below the poverty line.

In 2024, the Human Development Index of Mandailing Natal Regency showed a significant increase, especially in the education and health sectors. However, despite the progress, there is a significant gap in terms of social welfare and per capita income of the community.

According to BPS data, the Human Development Index of Mandailing Natal in 2024 was recorded at 70.5, which places this area in a better position compared to other regencies in North Sumatra. However, the distribution of development is still uneven, especially in rural areas that experience limited access to quality education and adequate health services (BPS, 2024).

B. Application of Islamic Principles in Human Development

Islam teaches that ideal human development must pay attention to the balance between worldly and hereafter aspects. Some of the main principles that can be applied to increase the Human Development Index in Mandailing Natal are: (Chapra, 2008)

Principle of Social Justice: In the Islamic view, development should focus on social justice. Chapra emphasizes the importance of equitable distribution of wealth, eradication of poverty, and reduction of inequality between rich and poor. This is part of development which is seen as a moral obligation, to ensure that every individual can obtain their rights in a prosperous life. Islam emphasizes the importance of equitable distribution of wealth through instruments such as zakat, infaq, and waqf. These sharia-based programs can help reduce poverty and social inequality in Madina.

- 1) Education: Islam views education as an obligation for every individual. Islam places great emphasis on the importance of education to create an intelligent, knowledgeable, and independently developing society. In addition, health is also an important part of human development because physical health is a basic requirement for achieving progress in other aspects such as education and employment. By utilizing Islamic educational institutions, such as Islamic boarding schools, it can improve the quality of education in Madina, especially in areas that are less accessible to formal schools. (Hasan, 2020)
- 2) Health: In Islam, health is part of the trust that must be maintained. The application of Islamic principles in health, such as healthy lifestyles and sustainable management of natural resources, can improve health conditions in Madina.

C. Islamic-Based Economic Empowerment Program

Development in Islam must also include economic and social empowerment, especially among the poor and disadvantaged. Chapra explains that sustainable economic achievement must go hand in hand with the development of human quality, which includes education, skills training, and access to employment opportunities. This means that the HDI, from an Islamic perspective, must look beyond just measuring income or health levels, but also take into account human empowerment and improving the quality of life as a whole. Economic empowerment based on Islamic principles can improve the standard of living of the Madina community. Some programs that can be implemented include: (Chapra, 2008)

- 1) Zakat and Waqf: Economic empowerment through zakat and waqf can increase community access to education, health, and other basic needs. In addition, zakat and waqf funds can be used to finance development programs that directly affect the poor. (Al-Qardhawi, 2000)
- 2) Sharia Economy: The development of sharia economy, such as sharia banking and sharia-based micro-enterprises, can provide a fairer and more equitable financing alternative for the people of Madina.

D. IPM and Application of Islamic Values in Mandailing Natal

In the context of Mandailing Natal, the application of Islamic values can be seen in several government programs that involve religious and community leaders in development planning. One example is the community economic empowerment program through mosque-based cooperatives and Islamic boarding schools, which aims to improve community welfare more evenly. However, there are still challenges in implementing Islamic values in development, especially related to equal access to education and health, as well as reducing social inequality in rural areas. One thing that needs to be considered is strengthening the education system based on Islamic values, which not only focuses on achieving academic figures but also on forming the character and morals of the younger generation.

In the Islamic perspective, development must be sustainable and pay attention to the welfare of future generations. Junaidi argues that Islam teaches to protect and preserve natural resources and create an economic system that not only benefits the current generation, but can also provide long-term benefits for the next generation. Therefore, IPM must look not only at short-term achievements, but also at the sustainability and long-term impact of development, especially in terms of social, economic, and environmental resilience. (Junaidi, 2021)

Sustainable development in Islam involves efforts to protect and preserve the environment, use natural resources wisely, and ensure that development does not sacrifice long-term interests for short-term interests. In the context of the HDI, sustainable development means that development indicators must include aspects of environmental resilience and equitable use of natural resources, in order to provide sustainable benefits for future generations. (Nasution, 2017)

E. Challenges in the Implementation of Islamic-based Human Development in Mandailing Natal

Although the potential for implementing Islamic principles in human development in Mandailing Natal is quite large, there are several challenges that must be faced, including:

- 1) Lack of Understanding of Islamic Economics: Many people do not fully understand the principles of Islamic economics, such as zakat and waqf, which can be used for economic empowerment.
- 2) Infrastructure Limitations: Infrastructure limitations, both in the education and health sectors, are the main obstacles in improving the quality of life of the community.

- 3) Dependence on Traditional Agricultural Sector: Most of Madina's population relies on the agricultural sector with very traditional technology, which reduces the potential for increasing economic welfare.
- 4) Human development in Mandailing Natal faces several challenges, including disparities in development between regions, lack of equitable education and health facilities, and limited funds for Islamic-based development projects. However, there is a great opportunity to improve the quality of the Human Development Index through integration between economic, social, and spiritual development. Developing the tourism sector based on local wisdom and religion, as well as increasing the capacity of the community through Islamic boarding school-based education, can be a solution to accelerate holistic development.

4. CONCLUSION

The application of Islamic principles in human development in Mandailing Natal has great potential to improve the quality of life of the community. By utilizing sharia instruments such as zakat, waqf, and sharia-based economic empowerment, as well as improving the education and health sectors, the Human Development Index in Madina can increase significantly. Although challenges still exist, such as limited infrastructure and lack of understanding of Islamic economics, efforts involving the community and government with an Islamic-based approach can be a solution to improving the welfare of the people in Mandailing Natal. The increase in the Human Development Index (HDI) in Mandailing Natal in 2024 shows significant progress, although the challenges in equitable development are still great. The Islamic perspective on human development offers a more holistic approach, which not only prioritizes material welfare, but also includes moral, social, and spiritual development. By integrating Islamic values in development, it is hoped that Mandailing Natal can achieve more equitable, just, and prosperous development for all levels of society.

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