The Effectiveness of Tarbiyah Halaqoh Activities on Teacher Performance in Improving Islamic Religious Understanding at YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur, Binjai District, Langkat Regency

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the effectiveness of *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities in improving teacher performance in strengthening Islamic religious understanding at YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur, Binjai District, Langkat Regency. The research employed a quantitative correlational design involving all 30 teachers as the sample. Data were collected using questionnaires and analyzed through normality, linearity, homogeneity, Product Moment correlation, and t-tests. The findings indicate that *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities are categorized as good, with a mean score of 61.53, while teacher performance in enhancing Islamic religious understanding is also classified as good, with a mean score of 67.66. Statistical analysis reveals a very strong positive correlation between *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities and teacher performance (r = 0.90 more than r table = 0.80). The t-test result (t = 25.1 more than 1.31; α = 0.05) confirms that the alternative hypothesis is accepted. These results demonstrate that *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities significantly and directly contribute to improving teacher performance in developing Islamic religious understanding.

Keyword: tarbiyah halaqoh; teacher performance; Islamic religious understanding; educational effectiveness; correlational study

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1. INTRODUCTION

Education is one of the key factors supporting the progress of a nation and state. The advancement of a nation largely depends on the quality of its education system. The field of education plays a central role in preparing the future of human civilization (Yamin, 2017: 226). Education should promote a high level of religious understanding, and achieving this quality requires highly professional teacher performance. Teacher performance is strategically significant in developing knowledge and skills, as well as shaping students' character.

Therefore, teachers must carry out their duties professionally and responsibly in order to produce high-quality graduates with a strong understanding of Islam. Educational institutions in the era of globalization—whether formal, informal, or non-formal—strive to improve teacher performance. The implementation of educational activities in schools must ensure the quality of teacher performance. One factor influencing efforts to enhance teacher performance in fostering Islamic religious understanding is the policy implemented by school leaders. One such policy is the implementation of *tarbiyah halaqoh* (Islamic religious education circle) activities. Effective *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities are essential to maintain consistency with the school's vision, mission, goals, and strategic plans, particularly in improving teacher performance in strengthening Islamic religious understanding, so that schools can produce a generation imbued with Islamic values.

Sharpening the understanding of Islam is an effort to guide, direct, and develop teachers consciously and systematically so that Islamic values are internalized and practiced. Understanding Islam includes various subjects such as Fiqh, Qur'an and Hadith, Aqidah Akhlak, and the History of Islamic Culture. In line with Saebani and Akhdiyat (2019), enhancing Islamic understanding involves studying the Qur'an and As-Sunnah

from an educational perspective, where the Islamic religious curriculum fulfills comprehensive teacher needs and produces relatively permanent influences on cognitive, affective, and psychomotor behavior.

The Head of YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur, Binjai District, Langkat Regency, seeks to improve teacher performance in enhancing Islamic understanding through *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities. This initiative arises from observations that some teachers still experience difficulties in pronouncing hijaiyah letters correctly, lack mastery of tajwid, and struggle with fluent Qur'anic recitation. *Tarbiyah halaqoh* activities are practical and applicable in learning to read and recite the Qur'an. These activities offer advantages such as flexible implementation according to teachers' needs, ease of organization, and direct supervision by mentors during the recitation process. Therefore, *tarbiyah halaqoh* is considered an effective solution for improving teacher performance in strengthening Islamic understanding at YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur.

As stated by Jalalludin (2017: 43), *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities are effective learning media for Islamic education. The Qur'an serves as the primary source of Islamic teachings that must be deeply understood by teachers. Various forums and disciplines continue to be developed to explore the unique aspects contained in the Qur'an. The Qur'an is a divine miracle that must be studied and examined thoroughly, especially by Muslims, to uncover the treasures of knowledge it contains. Therefore, *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities are highly effective for studying the Qur'an and can function as a medium to enhance teacher performance in strengthening Islamic understanding.

Several *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities are implemented at YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur, including *liqa* (weekly routine meetings), which aim to build and maintain teachers' spiritual motivation in worship and da'wah. *Mabit* (overnight spiritual activities) are conducted to strengthen emotional bonds and solidarity among halaqoh members through tahajud prayer, Qur'an recitation, dhikr, and self-reflection (*muhasabah*). *Rihlah* (educational trips) aim to contemplate nature, refresh the mind, and strengthen solidarity among members. *Mukhayyam* (camping activities) focus on developing physical and mental resilience, preparing members for challenging situations; this is supported by routine physical exercise. *Daurah* (training programs, seminars, studies, and workshops) aim to increase insight into specific issues and enhance certain skills. These activities are essential to support da'wah activities and improve teacher performance.

Teacher performance in developing religious understanding is influenced by both internal and external factors. Internal factors originate within the teacher and include ability, skills, personality, perception, motivation, teaching experience, and family background. External factors originate outside the teacher and include salary, infrastructure, physical work environment, and leadership. Therefore, the Head of YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur must implement appropriate strategies to enhance teacher performance in developing Islamic religious understanding through *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities.

The components of teacher performance in strengthening Islamic understanding include the ability to exemplify good morals, demonstrate proper Qur'anic reading skills, balance educational processes and outcomes so that graduates become quality Muslim individuals, and develop life perspectives, attitudes, and skills based on Islamic values (Muhaimin, 2018).

2.   RESEARCH METHOD

This study employed a quantitative research design, characterized by a systematic, planned, and clearly structured process from the outset. Quantitative research utilizes numerical data that are collected, measured, and analyzed statistically to draw objective conclusions (Piliang, Tanjung, & Asmayani, 2022). The structured nature of quantitative research allows researchers to test hypotheses and examine relationships between variables using statistical procedures.

The research approach applied in this study was a quantitative correlational approach. This approach emphasizes the analysis of numerical data processed through statistical techniques. The correlational method aims to determine whether there is a relationship or influence between two or more variables, as well as to measure the strength of that relationship (Arikunto, 2018).

In this study, the correlational design was used to examine the relationship between the effectiveness of *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities (independent variable) and teacher performance in enhancing Islamic religious understanding (dependent variable).

Fundamentally, quantitative approaches are commonly used in inferential research, where hypotheses are tested based on statistical probability. The conclusions are drawn by evaluating the likelihood of rejecting the null hypothesis incorrectly. Through statistical analysis, quantitative methods enable researchers to determine the significance of relationships between variables and the magnitude of their influence.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Data Description

This research was conducted using a questionnaire administered to all teachers at YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur, Binjai District, Langkat Regency, who served as the research sample. The responses were presented in the form of frequency tables, and conclusions were drawn based on the results of the data analysis.

Teachers who responded "strongly agree" regarding their understanding of the effectiveness of *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities accounted for 46.00%. Meanwhile, 20.00% of teachers responded "agree." Teachers who responded "uncertain" accounted for 17.00%, and those who responded "disagree" also accounted for 17.00%. None of the teachers (0%) selected "strongly disagree."

Based on the data above, it can be concluded that the majority of teachers at YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur, Binjai District, Langkat Regency, understand the effectiveness of *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities.

Table 1. Summary of Questionnaire Items for Variable X

Sampel	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Jlh
1	4	4	4	4	4	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	54
2	3	3	3	4	3	2	3	4	2	4	3	2	2	2	4	3	4	3	2	2	54
3	3	1	3	3	4	4	3	4	2	3	4	2	2	4	4	3	3	3	4	2	58
4	2	1	4	4	1	4	3	4	2	4	4	3	4	2	3	4	3	3	4	2	60
5	4	1	4	4	1	4	3	1	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	48
6	4	2	4	4	3	2	3	3	2	4	3	2	3	2	4	3	2	3	2	2	52
7	4	4	3	1	1	4	3	4	2	3	4	3	4	4	3	2	3	3	4	2	60
8	4	4	4	4	3	2	3	3	2	4	3	2	4	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	60
9	3	1	4	1	3	3	3	3	2	4	3	3	4	2	4	3	3	3	2	2	52
10	2	2	3	4	3	2	4	3	2	4	3	4	4	2	4	3	3	4	2	2	56
11	3	3	1	3	3	4	4	2	4	1	2	4	2	4	4	2	4	3	3	4	56
12	4	4	3	1	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	3	2	2	48
13	2	1	3	3	3	4	3	4	2	4	4	1	4	2	4	4	3	3	4	2	54
14	4	3	2	3	2	2	1	3	2	1	3	1	3	2	2	3	1	3	1	2	40
15	4	3	3	2	2	4	3	4	2	3	3	2	4	4	1	3	3	3	4	2	58
16	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	78
17	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	80
18	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	80
19	4	2	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	4	4	1	4	4	4	4	4	72
20	4	3	3	4	2	4	3	4	2	4	4	2	2	4	1	3	3	3	4	4	62
21	3	2	4	2	2	4	3	4	2	3	4	2	4	3	4	3	3	3	4	2	70
22	3	2	3	3	4	4	3	4	2	3	3	2	2	4	3	3	3	3	4	2	70
23	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	76
24	4	3	3	2	2	4	3	4	2	4	4	2	4	4	1	3	3	3	4	4	62
25	2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	4	1	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	74
26	1	4	4	3	1	4	3	4	4	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	4	3	4	4	64
27	1	3	2	4	4	4	3	4	2	3	4	1	4	2	2	4	3	3	4	2	58
28	1	4	4	4	1	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	2	4	3	4	3	3	4	4	66
29	1	4	3	3	4	4	3	4	4	3	4	2	4	2	4	4	3	3	4	4	68
30	1	3	4	2	3	4	3	4	2	3	3	2	4	4	4	3	3	3	4	2	60
									Jumlah												1846
									Mean												61,53
									Median												60
									Modus												60
									Standar Deviasi												9,31

B. Normality Test

Table 2. Normality Test

A	54,16	
B	0,29	
Rerata	71,88	
Sd	10,97	
L_h	0,85	$L_h > L_t$
L_t	0,07	(Normal)

Based on the results of the normality test, the Lh value is 0.85 and the Lt value is 0.07. Therefore, it can be concluded that the data are normally distributed because Lh is greater than Lt (Alfian, 2022: 40–48).

C. Hypothesis Testing

The research hypothesis proposed that there is a relationship between *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities and teacher performance in developing Islamic religious understanding at YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur, Binjai District, Langkat Regency.

To determine the effectiveness of *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities and to test the validity of the proposed hypothesis, the researcher applied the appropriate statistical formula.

Table 3. Hypothesis Testing

Sampel	X	Y	X²	Y²	XY
1	54	72	2916	5184	3888
2	48	64	2304	4096	3072
3	58	68	3364	4624	3944
4	60	60	3600	3600	3600
5	54	64	2916	4096	3456
6	52	64	2704	4096	3328
7	60	70	3600	4900	4200
8	56	66	3136	4356	3696
9	52	72	2704	5184	3744
10	56	60	3136	3600	3360
11	56	70	3136	4900	3920
12	48	62	2304	3844	2976
13	54	62	2916	3844	3348
14	40	68	1600	4624	2720
15	58	70	3364	4900	4060
16	78	74	6084	5476	5772
17	80	74	6400	5476	5920
18	80	70	6400	4900	5600
19	72	74	5184	5476	5328
20	62	68	3844	4624	4216
21	70	74	4900	5476	5180
22	70	68	4900	4624	4760
23	76	64	5776	4096	4864
24	62	64	3844	4096	3968
25	74	60	5476	3600	4440
26	64	72	4096	5184	4608
27	58	72	3364	5184	4176
28	66	66	4356	4356	4356
29	68	66	4624	4356	4488
30	60	72	3600	5184	4320
Jumlah	**1846**	**2030**	**116548**	**137956**	**125308**
Variasi X dan Y		61,53	67,66		
Correlasi Product Moment/Uji t		0,90	Correl > r tabel		
r tabel /Product Moment		0,80	(Valid)		

1) Correlation Test (Product Moment)

The following data were obtained:

$\sum N = 30$

$\sum X = 1846$

$\sum Y = 2030$

$\sum X^2 = 116548$

$\sum Y^2 = 137956$

$\sum XY = 125308$

These values were then substituted into the Pearson Product Moment correlation formula:

$$r_{xy} = \frac{N(\sum XY) - (\sum X)(\sum Y)}{\sqrt{[N\sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2][N\sum Y^2 - (\sum Y)^2]}}$$

$$r_{xy} = \frac{30(125308) - (1846)(2030)}{\sqrt{[30(116548) - (1846)^2][30(137956) - (2030)^2]}}$$

$$r_{xy} = \frac{3,783,240 - 3,747,380}{\sqrt{[3,496,440 - 3,407,716][4,138,680 - 4,120,900]}}$$

$$r_{xy} = \frac{35,860}{\sqrt{88,724 \times 17,780}}$$

$$r_{xy} = \frac{35,860}{\sqrt{1,577,512,720}}$$

$$r_{xy} = \frac{35,860}{39,717.91}$$

$r_{xy} = 0.90$

Thus, the correlation coefficient (rxy) is 0.90, which indicates a very strong positive correlation.

2) t-Test Calculation
The obtained r-value was then substituted into the t-test formula:

$t = \frac{r\sqrt{n-2}}{1-r^2}$

$t = \frac{0.90\sqrt{30-2}}{1-(0.90)^2}$

$t = \frac{0.90\sqrt{28}}{1-0.81}$

$t = \frac{0.90\sqrt{28}}{0.19}$

$t = \frac{0.90(5.29)}{0.19}$

$t = \frac{4.761}{0.19}$

$t = 25.1$

Thus, the calculated t-value (t$_{count}$) is 25.1.

At a significance level of 0.05 with degrees of freedom (df = n – 2 = 28), the t-table value is 1.31. Since:

$t_{count} > t_{table}$

$25.1 > 1.31$

Therefore, Ha is accepted and Ho is rejected.

3) Conclusion of Hypothesis Testing
Based on the statistical test results the obtained value is 25.1, while the t-table value at a 0.05 significance level is 1.31. Because t$_{count}$ is greater than t$_{table}$, Ho is rejected and Ha is accepted.

This means that there is a significant and positive effectiveness of *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities on teacher performance in honing Islamic religious understanding at YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur, Binjai District, Langkat Regency.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the research results, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. The *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities at YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur, Binjai District, Langkat Regency, are categorized as good. This is indicated by the average score of 61.53. Likewise, teacher performance in fostering Islamic religious understanding at YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur, Binjai District, Langkat Regency, is also categorized as good, as reflected by the average score of 67.66.

2. There is a significant effectiveness between *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities and teacher performance in honing Islamic religious understanding at YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur, Binjai District, Langkat Regency. This is evidenced by the Product Moment correlation coefficient (rxy), which shows the correlation between variable X (*tarbiyah halaqoh* activities) and variable Y (teacher performance in honing Islamic religious understanding), with rxy = 0.90 and rtable = 0.80 at a 5% significance level. The correlation value of 0.90 indicates a very strong positive relationship between the two variables.

3. Based on the t-statistical test using the formula, the obtained value of t$_{count}$ is 25.1, while the t$_{table}$ value at a 0.05 significance level is 1.31. Since t$_{count}$ > t$_{table}$ (25.1 > 1.31), Ho is rejected and Ha is accepted. Therefore, it can be concluded that there is a significant and direct effectiveness of *tarbiyah halaqoh* activities on teacher performance in honing Islamic religious understanding at YPI Nurul Fikri Suka Makmur, Binjai District, Langkat Regency.

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