# The Role of Character Education in Building Morals in Elementary School Students

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#### Abstract

One of the problems that occurs in the world of education today is the lack of good manners among students. Many students are smart and successful, but lack good manners. The personality of students is manifested in noble morals that will lead the students to great dignity and honor. Therefore, the position of manners in education is very necessary to be applied, it can even be said that it is mandatory for the school to prioritize manners before knowledge. Currently, noble manners are expensive and difficult to find. This study focuses on education in manners in forming students' morals. The purpose of this study is to apply knowing manners in students so that noble morals are formed. This research method uses qualitative to raise facts, circumstances, variables, and phenomena that occur. This type of research is phenomenology. Data collection techniques are observation, interviews and documentation. Data analysis techniques include three qualitative data analysis techniques, namely data condensation, data presentation and drawing conclusions. The results of this study found that strengthening manners in students is urgently needed in order to form noble morals. This moral education is carried out through habituation, and the process of implementing moral education includes various activities with the term ta'dib, morals applied by students.

Keywords: Character education, noble character, exemplary

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Education at the elementary school (SD) level has an important role in building the foundation for student development, including morals. Morals are usually referred to as behavior and actions. Morals are everything related to human behavior/actions. This behavior or action can be a good or bad act, which is carried out spontaneously without any prior thought or consideration. So, from this understanding, morals are known in our society as good (noble) morals and bad morals. So that we can distinguish a person from his actions, if his actions are good then his morals are good. On the other hand, if his actions are bad, then his morals are also bad.

In education there are character values that can be developed, namely religious values. Religious values are reflected in attitudes and behavior of obedience in carrying out the teachings of the religion one adheres to, such as being tolerant, loving nature and always establishing harmony between people. Apart from that, having the value of integrity, nationalists appreciate, maintain and develop the cultural riches of their own nation (wisdom, priorities, traditions, values, thought patterns, mentality, cultural works) and are able to appreciate the cultural riches of other nations so as to further strengthen the identity of the Indonesian nation. Apart from that, they also have an attitude of mutual cooperation, independence, establishing communication, helping others, working together, commitment to joint decisions, deliberation to reach a consensus, mutual help, solidarity,

Education plays an important role in shaping morals and preparing the younger generation to face future challenges. Currently, the concept of an independent curriculum has emerged as a new concept that explores the potential for student independence in the learning process. This article will discuss in depth the role of character education in building morals for elementary school students at UPTD SDN 5 BARRU. Currently education in Indonesia uses an independent curriculum. One important aspect of the independent curriculum is differentiated learning. Differentiated learning is learning that recognizes individual differences in students and provides learning experiences according to their needs and interests.

#### **METHOD**

This research method uses a library research approach. Library research is a search and research method using reading and reviewing various journals, books and various other published manuscripts related to research topics in producing an article related to a research topic. In this study there was no research location, because all data was taken from journals, books and scientific proceedings. The object of this research is the moral development of elementary school students in the digital era, with data collection techniques using documentation, and data analysis techniques using data reduction, data presentation and drawing conclusions.

### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Morals are very important for human life and existence, therefore something very important requires regular training considering the rapid development of today and the increasingly advanced technological tools today which have many negative impacts that we cannot avoid if humans do not have mature moral development. Human behavior gives rise to many moral deviations. This is caused by the way children form their morals during childhood, especially when they are still in elementary school.

Moral education is one of the most fundamental aspects of social life. Because no matter how clever a student is and the high level of intelligence of students without being based on good morals or noble character will not reflect a good personality in the future. Education is seen as an aspect that has a main role in forming a generation of hope in the future. Education is defined as all stages of development of human abilities and behaviors as well as the process of use.

# CONCLUSION

Good character education is education that integrates subjects with akhlukul karimah which is based on religious teachings and is carried out with compassion, patience, example, as well as advice that is wise and allows it to be implemented in everyday life.

Good morals are character or behavior that originates from a person's beliefs and is carried out in accordance with the teachings of the religion he adheres to achieve happiness in this world and the hereafter.

### SUGGESTION

As a suggestion, character education in elementary schools needs to be implemented in a structured and consistent manner through various programs and activities, both inside and outside the classroom. Teachers should play an active role as role models in demonstrating behavior that reflects the moral values being taught. Apart from that, cooperation between schools, families and communities is very important to create an environment that supports the formation of students' morals. Schools are also advised to integrate character education in all aspects of learning, including through thematic approaches, strengthening school culture, and developing extracurricular activities that support the practice of positive values. With synergy from all parties, character education can become a solid foundation in forming a young generation with noble morals.

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