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## ALPHA GENERATION'S ENTHUSIASM FOR RECITING THE KORAN IN THE ERA OF REVOLUTION 4.0 (CASE STUDY OF THE COMMUNITY OF CIBEBER VILLAGE, KIARAPEDES, PURWAKARTA)

By

Selvia Ru'yatus Saefullah<sup>1</sup>, Neng Puja Nurmalasari<sup>2</sup>, Tiwi Helawati<sup>3</sup>, Hida Dzalillah<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> Islamic Religious Education, STAI Riyadhul Jannah, Indonesia

Email: <sup>1</sup>[Selvia.ruyatus1@gmail.com](mailto:Selvia.ruyatus1@gmail.com), <sup>2</sup>[pujanurmala09@gmail.com](mailto:pujanurmala09@gmail.com), <sup>3</sup>[tiwihelawati4@gmail.com](mailto:tiwihelawati4@gmail.com), <sup>4</sup>[hidadzalillah@gmail.com](mailto:hidadzalillah@gmail.com)

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### ABSTRACT

The era of revolution 4.0 brings positive and negative influences in the world of education. One of the negative impacts is cases of gadget addiction in children, both young children and teenagers. The rise in cases of gadget addiction in the world, especially in Indonesia, has a bad influence on students. Most students in Indonesia, especially in rural areas, when they reach the age of 12, stop reciting the Koran, but things are different in one of the villages in Purwakarta Regency, Kiarapedes District, namely Cibeber Village, in the village These alpha generation children are still very enthusiastic about taking part in the recitation, this is an attraction for researchers to find out what factors make the alpha generation in Cibeber Village very enthusiastic about taking part in the recitation. This research uses a qualitative approach by collecting primary data using interviews with alpha generation children, parents and Koran Koran teachers in Cibeber Village, Kiarapedes District, Purwakarta Regency. The results of the research show that the alpha generation's enthusiasm for reciting the Koran in Cibeber Village occurs because of motivation from teachers, friends, themselves, and parents as well as because of the existence of a healthy environment and the underlying factors that the alpha generation in Cibeber Village is not addicted to gadgets because there are several areas in the village. Cibeber has an unstable signal and busy activities starting from formal schools, religious schools and continuing with recitations.

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### Corresponding Author :

Selvia Ru'yatus Saefullah ,

Islamic Religious Education, Riyadhul Jannah Islamic College, Jl. Raya Prapatan Bandung, Jalancagak, Subang, West Java, Indonesia.

Email: [Selvia.ruyatus1@gmail.com](mailto:Selvia.ruyatus1@gmail.com)

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

In the ongoing era of Industrial Revolution 4.0, changes in technology and information have had a significant impact on various aspects of human life. This is not limited to educational aspects, especially in the context of religion and religious learning. Generation Alpha, which is a group of children born in the 2010s, grew up in a very different environment from previous generations. They grew up in an era where digital technology, such as smartphones and the internet, has become an integral part of everyday life.

It was put forward by Mark Mc Crindle who wrote in Business magazine about the incident of the alpha generation, namely children born to the millennial generation. In fact, this alpha generation is inseparable from gadgets, less social, and more individualistic, <sup>1</sup>so that quite a few students in Indonesia and even in the world are addicted to gadgets.

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<sup>1</sup> Ishak Fadlurrohman and others, 'Understanding the Development of Generation Alpha Children in the Industrial Era 4.0', *Focus: Journal of Social Work* , 2.2 (2019), 178–86.

Gadget addiction is a phenomenon related to uncontrolled smartphone use<sup>2</sup>. Teenagers who are addicted to *smartphones* tend to forget about their study assignments and also fulfilling basic needs such as eating, drinking or bathing. On the other hand, individuals with gadget addiction will face social, psychological and health problems. The large amount of time spent playing with gadgets makes individuals far from their social environment<sup>3</sup>. Excessive use of gadgets can also reduce children's active power and ability to interact with other people<sup>4</sup>. This is because the user seems to be absorbed in the ecosystem formed within the gadget.

Quoted from the CNBC Indonesia website, gadget addiction in Indonesia ranks first in the world. Indonesian people's addiction has increased sharply since the 2020 pandemic period. The data.ai report shows that Indonesians' cellphone usage has reached 5 hours a day for the first time, compared to 2019, the figure was only 3.9 hours a day or 1.1 hours shorter.<sup>5</sup>

However, this is different from what happened in Cibeber Village, the alpha generation in Cibeber Village has a high enthusiasm for learning, especially in the field of religion. They chose to recite the Koran rather than play with gadgets like children in general, this is what attracted researchers to examine the factors that cause the enthusiasm of the alpha generation in Cibeber Village to be so high.

## 2. RESEARCH METHODS

This research uses a descriptive qualitative approach, namely the researcher is directly involved in the field, acts as an observer, creates categories of actors, observes phenomena, records them in an observation book, does not manipulate variables and focuses on natural observations.<sup>6</sup>

The data in this research comes from several references such as informants (Qur'anic teachers, children, and their guardians in Cibeber Village). Developing research instruments is one of the activities in research as a researcher's effort to collect data. The instruments used in this research were observation, interviews, and documentation. Data collection instruments are tools chosen and used by researchers in data collection activities so that they are systematic and easy to understand. In qualitative research, the main instrument is the researcher himself, but after the focus of the research becomes clear, it is possible to develop a simple research instrument. which is expected to complete the data and compare it with data that has been found through observation and interviews<sup>7</sup>. Observations were carried out twice which focused on the Koran reading activities such as the children's enthusiasm and participation during the activities; learning methods used by Koran teachers; and what is the role of parents in supporting children's activities, especially in the religious aspect. As for interviews, researchers used structured interviews. A structured interview is where an interviewer or researcher has determined the format of the problem to be interviewed, based on the problem to be researched<sup>8</sup>. Researchers interviewed two Koran teachers, one child, and two parents of different children.

After all the data was collected, the researcher immediately carried out data analysis techniques which consisted of three components: data reduction, data presentation and data verification and drawing conclusions<sup>9</sup>. The data that the researcher obtained from interviews, observations and documentation were collected then by reduction the researcher summarized and extracted the main and important data. The presentation of data in this research is to present a collection of structured information obtained during observations and interviews with students, teachers and parents. The third step in qualitative data analysis is drawing conclusions and verifying. Conclusions in qualitative research can answer problem formulations that are formulated from the start because problems and problem formulations in qualitative research are still temporary and will develop after research in the field. Conclusions from the data in this research were obtained from observations and interviews regarding what makes the enthusiasm for reciting the Koran among students in Cibeber Village very high.

<sup>2</sup> Seong-Soo Cha and Bo-Kyung Seo, 'Smartphone Use and Smartphone Addiction in Middle School Students in Korea: Prevalence, Social Networking Services, and Game Use', *Health Psychology Open*, 5.1 (2018), 2055102918755046.

<sup>3</sup> Frida Putri Wardhani, 'Student Gadget Addiction Behavior in the Perspective of Respectful Framework', *Konselor*, 7.3 (2018), 116–23.

<sup>4</sup> Puji Asmaul Chusna, 'The Influence of Gadget Media on Children's Character Development', *Research Dynamics: Social Religious Research Communication Media*, 17.2 (2017), 315–30.

<sup>5</sup> Intan Rakhmayanti Dewi, 'Data on Gadget Addiction in Indonesia in 2023', *CNBC Indonesia*, 2023.

<sup>6</sup> Stambol A Mappasere and Naila Suyuti, 'Understanding Qualitative Approach Research', *Social Research Methods*, 33 (2019).

<sup>7</sup> Suharsimi Arikunto, 'Research Procedures a Practical Approach', 2019.

<sup>8</sup> Iskandar Iskandar, *Educational and Social Research Methodology* (Reference, 2013).

<sup>9</sup> Dr Sugiyono, 'Educational Research Methods Quantitative, Qualitative and R&D Approaches', 2013.



### 3. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

#### 3.1. Factors that Influence the High Enthusiasm for Reading the Koran of the Alpha Generation in Cibeber Village

There are two factors that influence the high enthusiasm for reciting the Koran from the alpha generation in Cibeber Village, namely internal factors, and external factors. External factors consist of family, teachers, colleagues, and the environment. Family is a very influential motivator in learning and plays a very important role in shaping a child's personality. Hamzah B Uno stated that there are supporting elements that have a big role in a person's learning motivation, one of the factors is the existence of a conducive learning environment that comes from the family environment,<sup>10</sup> especially parents. Parents are older people or older people. However, generally in society, the definition of parents is the person who gave birth to us, namely Mother and Father<sup>11</sup>.

Parents have a strong motivation to educate their children. This is because children are the blood ties of parents who are the fruit of love. This motivation makes the child's emotional relationship with their parents very strong. Relatively fixed social relationships. This allows parents to play an important role in the development of a child's personality.<sup>12</sup>

The alpha generation in Cibeber Village gets great motivation from their families to take part in recitation. Apart from that, parents, especially mothers, are role models and provide good role models, for example their mothers always attend the women only religious classes which are held 5 times a week, this is a special motivation for their children. Many parents in Cibeber Village dream of having children who will be successful in the field of religion.

One of the many main elements that form the main prospective members of society is the teacher. Where the teacher can be likened to a travel guide, who based on knowledge and experience is responsible for the smooth journey of students in the learning process. In the learning process of students, of course there are several things that influence them, such as maturity motivation, the relationship between students and the teacher, verbal abilities, a sense of security and the teacher's skills in communicating or interacting with students are important factors for teachers in the learning process.<sup>13</sup>

The Koran teacher in Cibeber Village always motivates children, especially the alpha generation, to continue always pursuing religious knowledge. Apart from that, the method used in delivering the material is very interesting, thereby increasing the enthusiasm of the alpha generation to take part in the recitation. Such as providing *rewards* and *punishments*. *Rewards* are appreciation given in the form of material or words either individually or by institutions for certain achievements<sup>14</sup>. *Punishment* is an educational effort to improve and direct students in the right direction, not the practice of punishment and torture which stifles creativity, but the punishment carried out must be pedagogical in nature, namely, to improve and educate in a better direction<sup>15</sup>.

Apart from teachers, friends also influence a person's self-regulation, especially in learning. Peer support provides an effective contribution of 13.9% to self-regulation in student learning. The better the level of peer support a student gets, the higher the student's self-regulation in learning will be. Vice versa, the lower the level of peer support a student gets, the lower the student's self-regulation in learning will be.<sup>16</sup>

The influence of peer support on self-regulation in learning, especially reciting the Koran, is very important. The better peer support you get, the higher your self-regulation in studying and reciting the Koran, and vice versa. The

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<sup>10</sup> Puji Sri Mulyasih and Nanik Suryani, 'The Influence of Learning Discipline, Family Environment, and Learning Motivation on Learning Achievement in Introductory Administration Subjects', *Economic Education Analysis Journal*, 5.2 (2016), 602.

<sup>11</sup> A Wahib A Wahib, 'Parents' Concepts in Building Children's Personalities', *Paradigm Institut Journal*, 1.1 (2014).

<sup>12</sup> Jamaluddin Iskandar, 'The Influence of the Family Environment on Student Learning Motivation', *Educational Leadership: Journal of Educational Management*, 1.1 (2021), 96–107.

<sup>13</sup> Siti Suprihatin, 'Teachers' Efforts to Increase Student Learning Motivation', *UM Metro Journal of Economic Education*, 3.1 (2015), 73–82.

<sup>14</sup> D Handoko, 'Reward and Punishment in Employee Performance Evaluation Assessments Based on Related Factors', Accessed from [Http://Www. Kompasiana. Com/Destyando/Reward-And-Punishment-In-Employee-Performance-Evaluation-Assessment-Based-Related-Factors\\_54f3967d745513982b6c7c51](http://www.kompasiana.com/Destyando/Reward-And-Punishment-In-Employee-Performance-Evaluation-Assessment-Based-Related-Factors_54f3967d745513982b6c7c51), 2016.

<sup>15</sup> Yusvidha Ernata, 'Analysis of Students' Learning Motivation Through Providing Rewards and Punishments at Sdn Ngaringan 05 Kec. Gandusari District. Blitar', *Journal of Primary School Thought and Development (JP2SD)*, 5.2 (2017), 781–90.

<sup>16</sup> Dede Sumia, Vira Sandayanti, and Ade Utia Detty, 'The Influence of Peers and Self-Regulation in Learning in Students', *Malahayati Psychological Journal*, 2.2 (2020), 10–17.

alpha generation in Cibeber Village has extraordinary solidarity among friends, so enthusiasm for reciting the Koran is very high. Apart from that, the surrounding environment is also very supportive.

The environment has an important role in the success of learning because a conducive environment necessitates the emergence of great generations who are optimal in their educational journey. <sup>17</sup>Hasbullah (2009) stated that the environment is the environment that is deliberately used as a tool in the educational process (clothing, house conditions, game equipment, books, teaching aids and so on).<sup>18</sup>

The environment in Cibeber Village greatly influences the alpha generation's enthusiasm for reciting the Koran. Cibeber Village is one of the villages with a healthy and religious environment due to the large number of religious classes (*madrasah*) that are often carried out. Therefore, the alpha generation is very enthusiastic about taking part in the religious classes.

With the existence of four factors that influence the high level of enthusiasm for reciting the Koran, internal factors arise, namely enthusiasm within oneself to take part in the recitation activity, because basically, every student has the motivation to learn within themselves. Learning motivation is the overall driving force within students that gives rise to learning activities that ensure the continuity of learning activities and that provide direction to learning activities, so that the goals desired by the learning subject can be achieved.<sup>19</sup>

Likewise with the alpha generation in Cibeber Village, they have their own motivation to take part in recitation. Many of them want to become someone who understands religion, so that in the future they can become useful people in society, as one child who was the target of the interview said, "I have the dream of becoming an ustadzah and how to achieve it, I have to get used to reciting the Koran from the start".

### 3.2. Factors that cause the Alpha Generation in Cibeber Village to not be addicted to gadgets

Alpha generation children in Cibeber Village have very minimal access to operating technology, this occurs due to 2 factors, the first is the unstable network. Parents who have alpha generation children have their own challenges, namely in terms of caring for and educating their children. We need to know that technology has an extraordinary big role in human life. However, on the other hand, the existence of technology also has quite a few negative impacts. Negative impacts that can have an influence on children are both physical and mental influences.<sup>20</sup>

Parents should pay close attention to children's use of gadgets. In the current era of alpha generation children where technology is developing rapidly, parents certainly have an important role in accompanying children when using gadgets.<sup>21</sup>

There are 4 suggestions given to parents when children are using gadgets, namely: first, children over two years old can use gadgets for at most two hours. secondly, parents must master the use of gadgets used by their children. third, always accompany your child when playing with gadgets. fourth, implement a gadget-free zone at home, for example in the dining room. Parents must provide insight and understanding to children that it is not good to play with gadgets while eating.<sup>22</sup>

However, this is not a worry in Cibeber Village, because there are several villages where the network is unstable, let alone playing games like Mobile Legends and exchanging WhatsApp messages is also very difficult.

Second factor is due to busy activities, the alpha generation in Cibeber Village is packed with learning activities, in the morning they go to school at 06.30, school finishes at 12.00, followed by religious school activities which finish at 16.30, then after finishing the religious school it continues with Al Quran Classes which is started at 17.00 and finished at 19.20.

They only have a short amount of free time, and they use it to do schoolwork or recitation assignments. This factor is one of the reasons why the alpha generation in Cibeber Village does not experience gadget addiction.

<sup>17</sup> Muhammad Barmawi, 'The Role of the Environment in the Spirit of Learning in the Treasures of the Yellow Book', *Edukasia Islamika*, 1.1 (2017), 134–60.

<sup>18</sup> Sufi Alawiyah, Syukri Ghozali, and Suwarsito Suwarsito, 'The Influence of Environment and Learning Motivation on Learning Achievement', *Journal of Teacher and Learning Studies*, 2.2 (2019), 134–38.

<sup>19</sup> Muhaemin B Muhaemin, 'The Urgency of Motivation in Increasing Students' Enthusiasm for Learning', *Journal of Adabiyah*, 13.1 (2013), 47–53.

<sup>20</sup> Mita Lestari Mita and RR Deni Widjayatri, 'The Role of Parents in the Use of Gadgets in Alpha Generation Early Childhood', *Ashil Journal: Journal of Early Childhood Education*, 3.1 (2023), 1–13.

<sup>21</sup> Nani Pratiwi and Nola Pritanova, 'The Influence of Digital Literacy on the Psychology of Children and Adolescents', *Semantik*, 6.1 (2017), 11–24.

<sup>22</sup> Sigit Purnama, 'Digital Parenting for Alpha Generation Children', *Al Hikmah Proceedings on Islamic Early Childhood Education*, 1 (2018), 493–502.



#### 4. CONCLUSION

In general, there are 2 factors that influence the high enthusiasm for studying the Koran in the Alpha generation in Cibeber Village, namely external factors, and internal factors. There are 4 external factors that influence the high enthusiasm for reciting the Koran in Cibeber Village, namely family, teachers, friends, and the environment. Family is a very influential factor, especially parents because parents have blood ties to their children, apart from that, parents are also the ones who watch the child's growth and development 24 hours a day. Teachers are the second parents for students, Koran teachers in Cibeber Village never tire of providing motivation to their students, especially the alpha generation who are entering the teenage phase. Friends are also very influential in the process of studying, because when you have friends who are on the same frequency, your enthusiasm for studying will increase. A healthy environment will create a careful generation, this happened in Cibeber Village, a religious environment made the alpha generation's enthusiasm for reciting the Koran even higher.

This internal factor is oneself. The support from family, teachers, friends and the environment ultimately create motivation within oneself to continue attending the Koran, apart from that there are several children in Cibeber Village who have aspirations of becoming religious experts.

Due to the high enthusiasm for reciting the Koran from the alpha generation in Cibeber Village, the alpha generation children do not experience gadget addiction, this is due to their busy activities so they do not have time to play with gadgets, apart from that there are also several villages in Cibeber Village where the network is unstable so the internet cannot be used. operated.

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