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Analysis of the Role of Communication in Character Development of Children According to the Qur'an

Analisis Peran Komunikasi dalam Pembinaan Karakter Anak Menurut Al-Qur'an

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Abstract

Keywords: Role; Communication; Child Character; The Qur'an

Communication plays an important role in shaping a child's character, and the Qur'an provides clear guidance on how communication should be done to form character. This study examines two main problems, namely; urgency of communication in the formation of children's character according to the Qur'an and the principles of communication in the formation of children's character according to the Qur'an. This study uses a literature review approach. Relevant library sources are obtained through books, journal articles, conference papers, and other sources. In this case, the author conducts an in-depth analysis of how the role of communication in influencing the formation of children's character based on the teachings of the Qur'an. This analysis will cover the various aspects of communication emphasized in the Qur'an and how its application can shape a child's character. The results of the study show that communication has a very important role in shaping moral values in individuals, especially in children. Good communication is not only about conveying information, but also about forming healthy relationships, building trust, and guiding children towards optimal development. Among the principles of communication in the formation of children's character, namely honesty (*As-Sidq*), guarding the tongue (*Al-Hifz 'Ala An-Lisaan*), speaking gently (*Al-Rifq*), listening attentively (*Al-Ishtima'*), avoiding slander (*Al-Tajannub 'an Al-Iftira*), giving wise advice (*Al-Nasihah*), and respecting differences (*Al-Taqdir bi Al-Ikhtilaf*). Through a good understanding of the urgency and principles of communication outlined in the Qur'an, one can cultivate a strong and noble character in every child.

Abstract

Kata Kunci: Peran; Komunikasi; Karakter Anak; Al-Qur'an

Komunikasi berperan penting dalam membentuk karakter anak, dan Al-Qur'an memberikan panduan yang jelas tentang bagaimana komunikasi harus dilakukan untuk membentuk karakter. Penelitian ini mengkaji dua pokok masalah, yaitu; urgensi komunikasi dalam

pembentukan karakter anak menurut Al-Qur'an dan prinsip-prinsip komunikasi dalam pembentukan karakter anak menurut Al-Qur'an. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kajian Pustaka. Sumber-sumber pustaka yang relevan dengan topik didapatkan melalui buku, artikel jurnal, makalah konferensi, dan sumber-sumber lainnya. Dalam hal ini penulis melakukan analisis mendalam tentang bagaimana peran komunikasi dalam memengaruhi pembentukan karakter anak berdasarkan ajaran Al-Qur'an. Analisis ini akan mencakup berbagai aspek komunikasi yang ditekankan dalam Al-Qur'an dan bagaimana penerapannya dapat membentuk karakter anak. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa komunikasi memiliki peran yang sangat penting dalam membentuk nilai-nilai moral pada individu, terutama pada anak-anak. Komunikasi yang baik bukan hanya tentang penyampaian informasi, tetapi juga tentang membentuk hubungan yang sehat, membangun kepercayaan, dan membimbing anak menuju perkembangan yang optimal. Diantara prinsip-prinsip komunikasi dalam pembentukan karakter anak, yaitu kejujuran (*As-Sidq*), menjaga lidah (*Al-Hifz 'Ala An-Lisaan*), berbicara dengan lemah lembut (*Al-Rifq*), mendengarkan dengan penuh perhatian (*Al-Ishtima'*), menghindari fitnah (*Al-Tajannub 'an Al-Iftira*), memberikan nasehat yang bijak (*Al-Nasihah*), dan menghargai perbedaan (*Al-Taqdir bi Al-Ikhtilaf*). Melalui pemahaman yang baik tentang urgensi dan prinsip-prinsip komunikasi yang dituangkan dalam Al-Qur'an, maka seseorang dapat menumbuhkan karakter yang kuat dan mulia pada diri setiap anak.

INTRODUCTION

In the process of shaping a child's character, communication plays a crucial role. Effective communication between parents and children can establish a strong foundation for the moral and ethical development of the child. In Islam, the Quran provides clear guidance on how good communication can help shape noble character in children. (Handayani, 2016)

A child's character is shaped by the environment around them, including interactions with parents, family, peers, and society at large. (Muchtar, 2017) Therefore, a good understanding of the role of communication in nurturing a child's character is essential. (Aisy & Purba, 2021) By understanding and applying the principles of

communication taught in the Quran, it is hoped that parents can guide their children to grow into responsible individuals with integrity and noble conduct. (Siti Mariam Ulfa et al., 2021)

This research adopts a Literature Review approach. The author conducted a search for relevant literature on the topic through various sources such as books, journal articles, conference papers, and other sources related to the role of communication in shaping children's character according to the teachings of the Quran. (Agiva, 2023) Subsequently, the author analyzed the substance and identified important notes and arguments supporting the research topic in each literature source. If necessary, a comparative analysis can be conducted among various literature

sources to identify similarities and differences in approaches, theories, and findings expressed by other authors. The research results are presented clearly and systematically according to the established research structure.

In this context, the author conducts an in-depth analysis of how communication, especially communication between parents and children, influences the formation of a child's character, based on the teachings of the Quran. This analysis will encompass various aspects of communication emphasized in the Quran and how their application can shape a child's character in accordance with Islamic teachings.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. The Urgency of Communication in Developing Children's Character

Communication plays a very important role in shaping moral values in individuals, especially in children. Parents and other authority figures serve as moral role models for children. Their way of communicating, both in words and actions, will influence how children understand and practice moral values. (Sobandi & Dewi, 2017) Intensive communication between parents and children has a significant impact on children's development. Good communication is not only about conveying information but also about building healthy relationships, fostering trust, and guiding children towards

optimal development. (Almis et al., 2022) This is as explained in the words of Allah SWT;

Call unto the way of thy Lord by wisdom and good exhortation, and guide them to that which is best. For thy Lord is the most knowledgeable of those who have strayed from his path.⁶ And he is the most knowledgeable of the .converts

Translation: *"Call (people) to the path of your Lord with wisdom and good lessons and refute them in a good way. Indeed, it is your Lord who knows better those who stray from His path and He knows better those who are guided."* (QS. An-Nahl; 125)

Communication is highly effective for parents, teachers, and other community members to convey moral values to children. Such communication can stimulate children's imagination and encourage them to think creatively. Through conversations, stories, and concrete examples, children can learn about values such as honesty, kindness, patience, and empathy towards others. Children will learn about social norms, ethics, and how to interact with others through communication with their parents. This helps them become more skilled in communicating, sharing, and cooperating with peers and adults.

Through wise communication, children understand the consequences of their choices and decisions. Children can reflect on everyday life situations to think about and evaluate their own behavior as well as the behavior of

others. This helps them develop a deeper understanding of right and wrong. Thus, it helps them to be responsible for the choices they make.(Caseku & Sanger, 2023)

By providing relevant explanations about moral concepts, children will better understand the importance of behaving according to these values. Through open communication, children learn to recognize and manage their own emotions, as well as understand the feelings of others. This helps them develop emotional intelligence that is crucial for interacting well with others. Additionally, children who feel heard, understood, and accepted by their parents will feel closer and more emotionally secure.(Arian, 2021)

Many studies have revealed that open and positive communication between parents and children is correlated with improved academic performance of children. Because children who have good communication with their parents tend to be more motivated, more focused, and more prepared to learn. Thus, when children feel supported and understood in communication with their parents, they become more confident in expressing their opinions and making good decisions.

Therefore, effective communication between parents and children has a very positive impact on various aspects of child development. This emphasizes the importance of building good relationships and open

communication with children from an early age to support their overall growth and development.

2. Communication Challenges in the Digital Era in Review of the Al-Qur'an

The communication challenges in the digital era are complex and rapidly evolving phenomena, which also have implications on how religious messages, including Islam, are conveyed and understood.(Wulandari et al., 2023) The Quran, as the primary guidance for Muslims, offers several principles and guidelines that can serve as a framework in addressing these challenges.(Ilham Mukhtar, AM Erfandi, 2023)

The Quran emphasizes the importance of delivering messages according to the context and prevailing conditions. In the digital age, where information spreads rapidly and content can be easily altered, it is crucial to ensure that religious messages are understood in the correct context and not misinterpreted. Additionally, the Quran also emphasizes the importance of truth and justice in conveying information. In the digital era, where information can be easily disseminated without adequate verification, it is important to ensure that the information conveyed adheres to the standards of truth and justice established in the Quran.(Nurhayati et al., 2023)

In the ever-changing digital era, Muslims need to be open to technological advancements to disseminate religious messages and

strengthen communication among fellow believers. However, utilizing information technology such as social media platforms to spread religious messages can also become a space where conflicts and divisions arise. Therefore, it is important for Muslims to use social media responsibly in accordance with the teachings of the Quran, which involves carefully choosing the words to be written. In the Quran's perspective, every individual is responsible for whatever they say or do, as stated in the words of Allah SWT;

And do not stand what you do not have⁶ knowledge, for the hearing, the sight, and the heart, all .or those who are touched about him

Translation: *"And do not pursue that of which you have no knowledge. Indeed, the hearing, the sight, and the heart - about all those [one] will be questioned."* (QS. Al-Isra; 36)

Today, the most significant challenge in the utilization of digital media is related to ethics.(Fitria & Subakti, 2022) The Quran teaches strong ethical principles such as honesty, respect for privacy, and respect for human rights. In the digital era, where ethical challenges such as online privacy and technology misuse are emerging, Muslims are required to adhere steadfastly to the ethical principles taught in the Quran.

By understanding and applying these principles in the context of the digital era, Muslims can overcome emerging communication challenges

and utilize technology to disseminate religious messages more effectively, while maintaining the integrity and truth of the Quranic teachings.

3. Al-Qur'an principles in developing children's character through communication

In this context, the Quran provides clear guidance on how good communication can help shape the character of quality children. Here are some communication principles that can serve as references in shaping the character of children, including:

a. Honest and Transparent (*As-Sidq*).

Honesty and transparency are two values that are very important in shaping children's character.(Rahyu, 2021) Encouraging children to be honest and transparent not only helps them become responsible individuals, but also strengthens integrity and trust in their relationships with others. Allah SWT says:

O you who believe in God, and say
good words

Translation: *"O you who have believed, fear Allah and speak words of appropriate justice."* (QS. Al-Ahzab; 70)

In shaping children's character, it is important for parents and educators to set a good example and offer appropriate praise when children demonstrate honesty and transparency. By providing consistent support and facilitating open discussions about the importance of these values, we can help

children grow into individuals who are honest, transparent, and responsible.

b. Guarding the Tongue (*Al-Hifz 'ala al-Lisaan*).

Guarding the tongue involves self-control over the words that come out of one's mouth. It entails awareness that every word spoken carries power, and children are taught to use their words wisely. (Rifai, 2018) Children can learn to communicate in a manner that is good and respectful. They learn not to use harsh or hurtful words, and instead, they use language that is constructive and supportive. When children choose their words carefully and speak with kindness, they create a positive atmosphere around them, which helps in building good relationships with others. In the Quran, Allah reminds that every word will be recorded by angels.

He doesn't utter a word but he has
a watcher ready

Translation: "No word does he utter but there is a watcher by him, ready (to record it)." (QS. Qaf; 18)

Therefore, in shaping children's character, it is important for parents and educators to set a good example and facilitate learning about the importance of guarding the tongue. By offering appropriate praise when children use their words wisely and providing an understanding of the consequences of using inappropriate words, we can help them grow into responsible individuals who respect the power of their words.

c. Gentleness and Kindness (*Al-Rifq*).

Gentleness and kindness are essential elements in shaping children's character, especially in the context of Islam. *Al-Rifq* refers to a gentle, compassionate, and caring attitude in interacting with others. (Effendi, 2020) This attitude encourages children to be loving and attentive to others. They learn to treat others with gentleness and respect, regardless of differences or mistakes. The virtue of gentleness is mentioned in the words of Allah SWT;

So the Messenger of Allah
(peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) said: "The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of :Allaah be upon him) said

Translation: "So by mercy from Allah, [O Muhammad], you were lenient with them. And if you had been rude [in speech] and harsh in heart, they would have disbanded from about you." (QS. Ali Imran; 159)

If children are taught gentleness and kindness, they will become potential good leaders. They can lead wisely, motivate others in a constructive manner, and resolve conflicts peacefully. They become agents of change that stimulate peace and harmony within the family, school, and society.

Therefore, in shaping children's character, it is important for parents and educators to set a good example in demonstrating gentleness and kindness. They can encourage children to practice kindness in every interaction and provide appropriate praise when children show a gentle and

compassionate attitude. Thus, children will grow into individuals who are loving, caring, and capable of facing life's challenges with wisdom and patience.

d. Listening with Full Attention (*Al-Ishtima'*).

Listening with full attention is the cornerstone in the formation of a strong and good character in children. It is not just about hearing the words spoken by others, but also about understanding, appreciating, and fully paying attention to what is being communicated to us. When children are taught to listen with full attention, they also learn important communication skills. They learn to take turns speaking, pay attention to the expressions and body language of others, and respond with wisdom and empathy.

Including good manners in Islam is paying attention to the person who is speaking. Imam Al-Hasan Al-Bashri said; *"When you are sitting and conversing with someone else, you should be more enthusiastic to listen than to speak. Learn to be a good listener as you learn to be a good speaker. Do not interrupt others' speech."*(Al-Jauzy, 1998)

If parents listen with full attention, they set a good example for their children. This reinforces the importance of this skill in interpersonal communication and motivates children to develop good listening skills.(Hannang et al., 2023)

By prioritizing listening with full attention in shaping children's character, parents and educators can help children

become more sensitive, empathetic individuals capable of building positive relationships with others. This is a crucial foundation for the development of strong moral character in children.

e. Avoiding Slander (*Al-Tajannub 'an Al-Iftira'*).

Avoiding slander is an important principle in shaping good and responsible character in children, especially in the context of Islam. Slander refers to anything that can cause harm, chaos, or moral temptation (hoaxes)(Sutantohadi, 2018). This attitude helps children guard their minds from negative influences and temptations that can undermine their moral and spiritual values. They are taught to choose good peers and environments that support their moral development. In the Quran, Allah reminds everyone to be cautious in accepting and conveying information to others, Allah SWT says:

O you who believe, if a wicked person comes to you with a prophecy then you will show that you will afflict some people with ignorance and you will become for what you .have done

Transalation: *"O you who have believed, if there comes to you a disobedient one with information, verify it, lest you harm a people out of ignorance and become, over what you have done, regretful."* (QS. Al-Hujurat; 6)

If children are consistently taught to avoid slander, it will cultivate independence and awareness in them

about the importance of acting wisely and responsibly in everything they do. They learn to consider the consequences of their actions and words before carrying them out (*Tabayyun*). (Sulastri et al., 2019)

By applying the principle of avoiding slander in shaping children's character, parents and educators can help them become responsible, caring, and compassionate individuals. This is a crucial foundation in shaping a better generation and building a more harmonious and civilized society.

f. Providing Wise Counsel (*Al-Nasiha*).

Providing wise counsel is an important guideline in shaping a strong and responsible character in children, especially in the context of Islam. Offering advice wisely not only helps children understand important moral and ethical values, but also strengthens their relationships with parents, educators, and society at large. Allah SWT says in the Quran:

Or to those whom God knows what is in their hearts, so show them their exhortation, and say to them in themselves an eloquent word²

Translation: *"They are the ones whose hearts Allah knows well. So, turn away from them, and admonish them, and speak to them with words that hit the mark."* (QS. An-Nisa; 63)

Providing counsel wisely also presents an opportunity to teach important moral values to children. They learn about honesty, patience,

justice, and other values that form the foundation of good character. Through wise counsel, children's character is shaped to be strong and responsible. They learn to respect and value the advice given, using it as a guide in their lives. (Mughtar, 2022)

By offering wise counsel, parents and educators can help shape children into good and responsible individuals. This is one effective way to guide children towards goodness, wisdom, and success in their lives.

g. Respecting Differences (*Al-Taqdir bi Al-Ikhtilaf*).

Respecting differences is an important guideline in shaping the character of children to be inclusive, tolerant, and understanding. This concept emphasizes the importance of respecting and accepting diversity in all its forms, including cultural, religious, ethnic, gender, and worldview differences. (Agustian et al., 2019) Allah SWT emphasizes the wisdom of creating humans in various tribes and languages so they may build good communication among themselves, as stated in His words:

O people, we have created you from male and female, and we have made you peoples and tribes so that . . . you may know each other

Translation: *"O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you."*

Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Acquainted.” (QS. Al-Hujurat: 13)

If children can appreciate these differences, it will cultivate tolerance within them. They learn to respect and accept others despite having different backgrounds, beliefs, or habits. By teaching children to appreciate differences, we also help reduce discrimination and prejudice in society. They can learn to see the value and qualities of a person based on character and actions, rather than stereotypes or judgments based on appearance. Respecting differences also involves respecting the human rights of every individual. Children are taught to respect freedom of thought, expression, and religion, and not to restrict the rights of others based on differences.

By teaching children to appreciate differences, parents and educators play a role in shaping children's character to be inclusive, tolerant, and understanding. This is a crucial step in building a peaceful, harmonious society that coexists with diverse beliefs and cultures.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the author presents several important points as follows:

1. Communication plays a crucial role in shaping the moral values of

children. Intensive communication between parents and children has a significant impact on child development. Good communication is not just about conveying information but also about building healthy relationships, fostering trust, and guiding children towards optimal development. Effective communication between parents and children has a profoundly positive impact on various aspects of child development. This underscores the importance of building good relationships and open communication with children from an early age to support their overall growth and development.

2. The Quran provides clear guidance on how good communication can help shape the quality of children's character. Among the characters that can be developed in children through the application of communication principles in character formation are honesty, guarding the tongue, speaking and acting gently, listening attentively, avoiding slander, giving wise advice, and appreciating differences. With a good understanding of the concept of communication in character formation, as outlined in the Quran, one can cultivate strong and noble character in every child.

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