
IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF GRADUATES IN MAINTAINING THE EXISTENCE OF ISLAMIC BOARDING SCHOOLS

Fitra Zahrotul Luqmi¹, Siti Patimah²

Postgraduate at UIN Raden Intan Lampung

Email: fitra.luqmi21@gmail.com¹, sitipatimah@radenintan.ac.id²

Abstract

Maintaining the existence of an institution so that it continues to have a high credibility value and has maximum trust from consumers or the school community requires good management in running an institution. The aim of this research is to describe the planning, organization, achievement and evaluation based on improving the quality of graduate students in maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding schools which have been implemented at Madrasah Aliyah Wali Songo Putri under the auspices of the "Wali Songo" Ngabar Islamic Boarding School. This research is descriptive qualitative research that describes improving the quality of graduate students. The conclusion from the results of this research is a description of improving the quality of graduate students in maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding schools by paying attention to several components, namely first, it will focus on planning to improve the quality of graduates by implementing annual work programs involving educational institutions in achieving educational goals in accordance with the program has been determined by maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding school values, secondly organizing to improve the quality of graduates in maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding schools, namely by good resource management, thirdly, achieving improving the quality of graduates in maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding schools, namely by looking at the results of institutional accreditation, and fourth, namely implementation evaluation of improving the quality of graduates in maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding schools, namely the need for adjustments between school programs to improve the quality of graduates and the Islamic boarding school service system that has been established.

Keywords: Quality, Quality of Graduates, Existence, Islamic Boarding School.

Corresponding Author; Fitra Zahrotul Luqmi

Email : fitra.luqmi21@gmail.com



Introduction

Schools as educational institutions in order to prepare quality graduates, must manage students appropriately (Hakim, 2019). This activity is carried out from the time the students register as students in the education unit, until the students graduate from school. This means that the management of students is very influential in improving the quality of graduates so that students can grow and develop according to their potential, talents and interests. (Umam, 2019). Bearing in mind that students are one of the important elements in education and are the main target in improving the quality of education which will later contribute to efforts to improve the quality of life for the people of a nation, students need to be managed, regulated, organized, developed and empowered so that they can become quality educational products, both when students are still in the school environment (madrasah), and after they are in the community environment (Mukti, Syaokani, & Setiawan, 2021).

The mandate of the 2003 National Education System Law aims to ensure that education not only forms intelligent Indonesian people but also has personality so that the nation's next generation will be born who will grow and develop with character based on the nation's noble values and religion. Education plays a very important role in the process of improving the quality of human resources (Dacholfany, 2017). The importance of the process of improving the quality of human resources means that the private sector has both made and continues to strive to realize

this mandate through various efforts to develop higher quality education, including through curriculum development and improvement, evaluation systems, improvement of educational facilities, development and procurement of teaching materials, and training for teachers and other educational personnel (Usman, 2014).

To achieve the mandate of the Constitution and Law on the education system, apart from increasing human resources, schools need to establish management to improve the quality of the output that will be produced (Chelladurai & Kim, 2022). The school community, including the principal, teachers, and students, are very important elements in realizing educational unit management standards as mentioned above. To realize the national goal of improving the quality of graduates, each school has graduate quality standards with the implementation of good management in every activity (Tien, 2015).

The existence of government regulations regarding minimum graduation standards that have been determined is essentially an effort to realize the general goals of national education as contained in the Law. 2003 National Education System, namely "To make the nation's life intelligent and form a complete human being, namely a human being with noble character, knowledge, skills, physical and spiritual health, a stable and independent personality as well as social and national responsibility. "

The quality of graduates does not just happen, it must be planned systematically using a graduate quality improvement management process (Permana, 2020). Quality improvement management includes preparing quality improvement plans, organizing, implementing, and evaluating graduate quality improvement. Increasing the quality of graduates is planned so that the output produced is able to compete to continue at the level of well-known state universities. This is the basis for Madrasah Aliyah Wali Songo Putri to maintain the existence of the Islamic boarding school with many students passing the national selection at various universities in Indonesia.

Islamic boarding schools are traditional Islamic educational institutions that grow and develop in society (Sadali, 2020) As a religious educational institution, Islamic boarding schools have their characteristics and characteristics and are different when compared to other educational institutions. This can be seen from the learning system implemented in Islamic boarding schools and its adaptation to everyday life, living together with many people who prioritize commitment to sincerity and willingness, binding themselves with kyai, teachers, and so on to live together with standards . certain morals in forming its own culture. (Fahmi, 2015)

The high interest of parents in entrusting their children's education to Islamic boarding school educational institutions has become a concern for the Ministry of Religion (Kemendiknas). The Ministry of Religion assesses that students gain many advantages when studying at Islamic boarding schools. Moreover, Islamic boarding school is a typical Indonesian education. In the regulation of the Minister of Religion of the Republic of Indonesia Number 18 of 2014 which regulates Islamic boarding schools, it strengthens the position of Islamic boarding schools themselves. Lucia Maduningtias, 'Integration Management of Islamic Boarding School and National Curriculum to Improve the Quality of Islamic Boarding School Graduates', *Al-Afkar, Journal For Islamic Studies*, 5.4 (2022), 323–31

The existence and role of Islamic boarding schools in the social life of society requires serious attention (Zaibi, 2016). Moreover, in the field of education which continues to develop, it must be able to be carried out in an organized manner to maintain the existence of Islamic boarding schools. Islamic boarding schools continue to make various improvements with the aim of being able to create standard quality graduates that are in line with the quality of national education and in maintaining the existence of the Islamic boarding school itself.

Songo "Ngabar Islamic Boarding School is an Islamic educational institution that combines modern and traditional scientific traditions in facing the challenges of the global future (Anwarrosid, 2020). This Islamic boarding school does not emphasize the direction of its education on aspects of intellectual intelligence alone, because the axis of its education is teaching religious sciences (*tafaqquh fi al - din*) and mental attitude *education* as a means of serving in society .

Songo " Ngabar Islamic Boarding School uses an Islamic boarding school education system with students boarding in the boarding school for 24 hours. What the students hear, see and feel

at the boarding school is of educational value and insight. So the positive impact when students graduate from Islamic boarding school is very influential on the personality of each student. Education under the auspices of the Islamic Boarding School has four levels of education, including Tarbiyatul Mu'allimat Al-Islamiyah includes education at the Madrasah Tsanawiyah Wali Songo Putri and Madrasah Aliyah Wali Songo Putri levels, each taken for three years for a total of six years of education until graduation.

Madrasah Aliyah Wali Songo Putri has a vision and mission as a guideline in running an educational institution, which reads *"Creating People with Islamic Boarding School Character, Excellent in Achievement, Competitive in the fields of Dirosah Islamiyah, Arabic, English and Science in the Global Era"*, with a mission that It has been stated in the certificate of establishment of an educational institution with a revised five-year scale. The vision and mission is not just a series of written statements but has the meaning of a statement which is a goal or target and to achieve this goal, concrete efforts need to be implemented so that the goal is achieved as expected.

Method

The research method used is qualitative research with the aim of revealing facts and events in the field. The focus of this research involves school community actors including school principals, teachers, students, student guardians, Islamic boarding school leaders, teachers, education staff in improving the quality of madrasa graduates.

Data was collected using interviews, observation and document study. The data analysis technique uses data reduction procedures for data exposure with the conclusion of improving the quality of graduates at Madrasah Aliyah Wali Songo Putri in maintaining its existence as the "Wali Songo" Ngabar Islamic Boarding School. Guaranteeing the wetness of the data was carried out by triangulation between methods, namely cross-checking interviews, observation and documentation as well as triangulation of data between informants or research subjects.

The research was carried out over a period of approximately two months for observation, then data processing was carried out for three months in accordance with the observation achievement target. If it is felt that something is missing or the data still has defects, the researcher will carry out research again according to the completeness of the data needed so that the researcher can achieve the required target.

Results and Discussion

1. Planning to Improve the Quality of Graduates in Maintaining the Existence of Islamic Boarding Schools

This research shows that planning to improve the quality of graduates at Madrasah Aliyah Wali Songo Putri is very influential in maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding schools by involving madrasah components through deliberation and involving the performance of institutions that have the aim of building commitment and responsibility so that they are able and produce achievements in the form of quality graduates. well and still maintain Islamic boarding school values.

Implementation of planning to improve the quality of graduates includes an annual work program (Misini, Abidin, Warisno, Andari, & Anshori, 2023). This work program is useful for making work plans for the next year of learning, so that the implementation of the work program can be achieved and run according to what is expected. In implementing the work program, it will be carried out according to the sector of each institution, so in holding work meetings the educational program will be carried out by the school institution with the person in charge being an institution director who supervises the school principal and related staff. The implementation of the work program for approximately one month will discuss planning programs that will be selected and determined in accordance with the institution's ability to carry out the program. Among them are programs for determining effective study days for one year, programs for increasing resources, supporting programs for improving the quality of education starting from the student input process, the learning process, to the quality of the output produced. The work program that has been implemented according to each institution, the next process will be ratified and determined in a plenary session by the Islamic boarding school leadership.

By planning institutional programs, it can be used as a strategy to improve quality, identify direction and develop school strategies which are the key and main direction of educational institutions, identify problems, analyze and determine their future and develop school quality in local, national and international contexts.

2. Organizing the Quality Improvement of Graduates in Maintaining the Existence of Islamic Boarding Schools

In the findings made by researchers, the organization of institutions at Madrasah Aliyah Wali Songo Putri, one of which is the development of resources in improving the quality of graduates, is carried out by dividing the tasks of staff, teachers and educational staff to carry out the main tasks and functions of each so that it can be achieved. performance between individuals and groups, in the madrasa sector or institutional sector in Islamic boarding schools, as expected.

In terms of organizing education, the most important thing is determining the right person to carry out the mandate in terms of managing all institutional activities in their field of expertise. As the sentence often given by Islamic boarding schools is *"If a matter is handed over to someone who is not an expert, then wait for the time of destruction"*, quoting a Hadith narrated by Bukhori and Muslim.

This is important because each person has a tendency towards certain things. As an Islamic boarding school leader, you have the mandate to lead an institution by establishing a well-established communication system, so that the tasks carried out by each institution can be carried out optimally. As the head of a madrasa or educational institution, you have a duty under the leadership of the Islamic boarding school to provide *jobs descriptin* to the right staff who have the expertise to resolve any existing problems. As a teacher or educational staff, you have a letter of assignment that is directly given by the head of the madrasah or institution in order to be able to complete your assignments officially, on time and not arbitrarily in carrying out your mandate. Teachers have their own duties as educators or class teachers in providing effective learning to students (Hazmi, 2019). Able to create superior quality students while still prioritizing Islamic boarding school values and being able to make students into quality graduates to achieve the educational goal of becoming graduates who are useful for society.

3. Achievement of Increasing the Quality of Graduates in Maintaining the Existence of Islamic Boarding Schools

Songo Putri institution in improving the quality of graduates is the result of institutional accreditation. School accreditation can be used as a measure of school quality achievement because accreditation is one of the government's instruments for determining the condition of educational quality at the district/city level, provincial level and national level. The institution that has the independent mandate to carry out accreditation of eight National Education Standards (SNP) in educational units is the National Accreditation Board for Schools/Madrasahs (BAN S/M).

Decree of the Chairman of the National Accreditation Board for Schools/Madrasahs, Number: 1760/BAN-SM/DK/2022 concerning the determination of the results and recommendations for School/Madrasah accreditation in 2022 states that with National Standard Number 20577747 the name of the MAS Wali Songo Putri school in Ponorogo district is the result of The implementation of accreditation received a final score of 94 with a rating of A.

This accreditation value is one of the institution's achievements that the educational management of Madrasah Aliyah Wali Songo Putri has good educational standards. One way to improve the quality of graduates is to have output values that are no less good. From the results of accreditation, quality institutions have a positive impact on final year students to continue their education at various well-known universities.

The achievement of improving the quality of Madrasah Aliyah Wali Songo Putri graduates can be seen from the data obtained by researchers regarding the number of results from the National Selection for New Student Admissions (SNPMB). One of the selection routes for entering higher education is the National Selection Based on Achievement (SNBP). The SNBP selection resulted in 29 students qualifying for universities with various

majors. Selection to enter higher education is carried out by the school based on the results of academic achievement report cards as well as students' academic and non-academic portfolios. The results of this selection are carried out before graduation or active students at school. By passing these students, it is certainly an achievement that can improve the quality of student graduates.

4. Evaluation of improving the quality of graduates in maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding schools

Evaluation is the final stage in planning an activity, with evaluation it can be seen whether the activities carried out are going well or not as well as what problems and obstacles are found during the process of improving the quality of graduates. This can be used as a basis for future improvements and constructive input or suggestions are really needed from various institutions and school members. The evaluation, which is used as a basis for future program improvements, is expected to be carried out even better, as well as the obstacles that occur and appropriate solutions can be found than before.

Based on the researchers' findings from the evaluation results, the real problem can be identified, so that this does not become an obstacle in the future and can be corrected directly. Evaluation activities are very important in the successful implementation of programs to improve the quality of graduates, therefore educational institutions must always carry out consistent and gradual evaluations of programs that have been implemented.

The evaluation carried out in improving the quality of graduates at Madrasah Aliyah Wali Songo Putri based on research is considering that in maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding schools in society nationally and internationally, there is a need for harmony between madrasah programs or educational institutions to improve the quality standards of student graduates and the service system. which is run at the "Wali Songo" Ngabar Islamic Boarding School. The service system that has been established by Islamic boarding schools has been implemented for approximately four years from 2018. This service system stipulates that all graduates or alumni who have completed six/four years of study are required to serve at an educational institution for one year before entering the world of lectures. This becomes an evaluation to achieve an educational goal where a good and organized educational institution is able to provide quality output and is able to serve itself in the community in accordance with the existence of the Islamic boarding school.

Conclusion

Based on the results of research that has been carried out by researchers, the goal will be achieved if there is consistency in implementing the program that has been designed by the relevant institution. Several conclusions that can be drawn from the research that has been completed include a description of improving the quality of graduates in maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding schools by paying attention to: the first is planning to improve the quality of graduates by implementing annual work programs involving educational institutions in achieving educational goals in accordance with predetermined programs by maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding school values, secondly there is a need to organize improvements in the quality of graduates in maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding schools, namely by organized resource management. Among the resource management that must be considered is the management of human resources by assigning tasks according to their fields, then what needs to be paid attention to is achieving an increase in the quality of graduates in maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding schools, namely by looking at the results of the institution's accreditation, because if the results of accreditation are A, it will certainly have a big influence in improving the quality of graduates and achieving a quality educational goal, and finally, as a closing, the implementation of evaluations to improve the quality of graduates in maintaining the existence of Islamic boarding schools, evaluation is a very important part. If seen from the context of the research discussion, there needs to be adjustments between school programs to improve the quality of graduates and the Islamic boarding school service system that has been established so that it continues to be implemented to maintain the existence of Islamic boarding schools in the community.

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