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Philosophical Approach in Islamic Education: Improving the Quality of Education Through Dialogue and Reflection

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Abstract: In this scientific paper, the author lists several problems that are currently occurring in the world of education in Indonesia, one of which is the learning process which is currently experiencing a lot of development and progress. With this development and progress, it is inseparable from the urgent demands to improve the quality of education, how to improve the quality of education today? The main purpose of writing this scientific paper is to find out the strategies carried out by educators towards students to improve the quality of education in Indonesia. This study utilizes a Qualitative Descriptive approach, which begins with finding primary information focused on literature studies (Library Research), namely a study that focuses on finding library data and describing it, a systematic description of data collections, descriptive descriptions do not use numbers. The results of this study state that the philosophical approach between educators and students by applying the dialogue and reflection learning method will greatly influence the improvement of the quality of education in Indonesia.

Keyword: Philosophical Approach, Education, Educators, Students, Dialogue, Reflection

INTRODUCTION

Education is a mandatory process that must be undergone by mankind. It is so important that Muhammad Alim argues that education is like the heart and guidance for humans. The idea of Islamic Education is usually born from the perspective of textual or contextual interpretation, which gives birth to various approaches, both theological-normative, sociological, psychological, historical, anthropological, and even philosophical (Lalu, 2021). Philosophy is one of the fields in Islamic studies whose existence has given rise to many pros and cons, in its development philosophy is still hampered by the dilemma of Muslim society regarding the importance of the existence of philosophy as a paradigm for the approach to Islamic Education. Some Islamic Education accepts the existence of philosophy as a means of thinking rationally, being open, critical, objective, following the changing times, and moving forward. The philosophical approach views the problems of Education from a philosophical perspective and tries to offer solutions and problem solving with analytical-critical and

analytical-speculative methods (Kartini et al., 2023). This philosophical approach is very interesting to be applied by an educator to his students so that they can develop critical and logical thinking skills, increase self-awareness and understanding, and improve communication skills so that learning becomes more effective through. Islamic education aims to develop the potential of students holistically. A philosophical approach can strengthen the relationship between educators and students, and improve the quality of education. The learning process is currently experiencing a lot of development and progress, the existence of this development and progress cannot be separated from the urgent demands in improving the quality of education. The realization of the demands and needs for this quality must refer to the agreed quality standards. Thus, dialogue and reflection are the most powerful strategies to improve the quality of education today.

METHOD

This study uses a Qualitative Descriptive approach, which begins with finding primary information and describing it, a systematic overview of the data collection, descriptive descriptions do not use numbers. Descriptive research is a study that describes the reality in the field, both natural and the results of human engineering. This research focuses on literature review (Library Research), which is a study that focuses on finding library data. (Zamathoriq & Subur, 2022). Literature studies are limited to library collection sources and do not require field investigations. Many people believe that library research consists of reading and examining books before drawing conclusions (Khoirunnisa & Syamsudin, 2024). Another definition for Library Research is a study that explores literature such as books, scientific journals, magazines, newspapers, documents, and so on to obtain complete data and information. The data is then combined with the Text Reading process (read), understood, studied, and recorded as information related to the problem being studied, so that it can provide convenience in compiling writing.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Education is the oldest human socio-cultural effort. When humans develop, have offspring and have the desire for those offspring to have what humans already have, then a communication process and an education process occur. Through education, the inheritance process occurs and parents feel confident that their children can continue their family life, and society is confident that its new members can formulate the sustainability of their group. When the society develops into a nation, the nation is also confident that through education, the next generation can continue the life of the nation. This is in line with what was explained by Muhardi that many countries are not supported by abundant natural resources, but are supported by the ability of human resources resulting from quality education, able to bring welfare and prosperity to their people. Family Responsibilities in Children's Education Normatively, the family has a heavy role and responsibility in educating children. This is implicitly stated in Law Number 1 of 1974 concerning marriage. Article 1 states that marriage is a physical and spiritual bond between a man and a woman which aims to form a family that is prosperous in body and soul.

The Role of Philosophical Approach in Islamic Education

Islamic education teaches that learning methods must prioritize moral and ethical values, and provide space for spiritual development. Charles E. Siberman emphasized that education is not only aimed at teaching intellectuality, but also developing all aspects of human personality (Nugraha et al., 2024) this goal is as intended by Muslim philosophers such as Ibn Sina, Ibn Maskawaih, Al-Ghazali and others. In addition, learning in Islamic education must be based on an approach that is full of compassion, fairness, and respects differences. Islamic education has very strong roots in spiritual and moral values reflected in the teachings of the Qur'an and Hadith. One important aspect that distinguishes Islamic education from other

education systems is its philosophical approach. Ibn Khaldun's views on education are also based on philosophical-empirical concepts and approaches. Through this approach, he provides direction towards the vision of the goals of Islamic education in an ideal and practical way (Hidayat, n.d.). The philosophical approach is a systematic and critical method of thinking to understand the concepts, principles, and values that underlie a phenomenon or problem. The philosophical approach is useful for gaining knowledge of the state of the universe or place of residence (the kind of universe in which we live). The general definition, philosophy is interpreted as the activity of thinking in a series of finding the essence and a more meaningful life. Among the results of this philosophical thought are ideas about the nature of humans, their values and sources, along with the role and purpose of education in achieving a more profitable life (the good life). In Islamic education, the philosophical approach plays an important role in forming individuals who are not only intellectually intelligent, but also superior in morals and play an active role in society. Islamic education aims to create faithful humans, make students have noble morals, be knowledgeable, develop the potential of students, form a strong believer personality and be able to carry out their role as Allah's caliph on this earth to build the structure of their world life guided by Islamic law and use it for the welfare and civilization of humanity as a whole (Rohman, 2021).

Philosophical Approach in Strengthening the Relationship Between Educators and Students

Education is not just about transferring knowledge, but also about building meaningful relationships between teachers and students. The teacher-student relationship is an important component of the learning process. One way to strengthen this relationship is by adopting a philosophical approach in everyday classroom interactions. A philosophical approach opens up space for deep thinking that not only helps students' academic development, but also develops critical thinking skills, self-awareness, effective communication, character building and a respectful relationship between teachers and students.

1. Philosophy of Education: A Foundation for Building Strong Relationships

The educational philosophy applied by a teacher will influence the way they interact with students. If a teacher adopts a philosophy that views students as unique individuals with potential that needs to be appreciated and developed, then the relationships that are built tend to be more positive and build trust. For example, the thoughts that influence the progress of progressivism developed by several experts, namely: Johan Heinrich Pestalozzi, Sigmund Freud, and John Dewey (Yusuf et al., 2023). John Dewey emphasizes the importance of practical experience and active participation of students in learning, which in turn increases engagement and better reciprocal relationships between teachers and students. Teachers who have this philosophical understanding tend to be more open to students' needs and interests, and are able to convey material in a way that is relevant and easy to accept. This not only makes students feel appreciated, but also creates a sense of security and comfort that supports better relationships.

2. Empathy and Fairness: Pillars of Healthy Relationships

The philosophy of empathy and fairness is an important pillar in strengthening the teacher-student relationship. A teacher who is able to see the world through the eyes of the students will find it easier to identify their emotional needs and provide the necessary support. This empathy allows teachers to understand the challenges that students face, both in their learning and in their personal lives. On the other hand, the philosophy of fairness requires teachers to treat every student equally, regardless of background or ability. When students feel treated fairly, they are more likely to trust their teachers and feel more valued. Thus, the application of these principles in practice leads to more harmonious and respectful relationships.

3. Supporting Student Independence through Educational Philosophy

A philosophy that encourages students to become independent learners is also important in strengthening this relationship. Teachers who entrust students with responsibility for the learning process will build their self-confidence and independence. This, in turn, makes students feel valued and able to contribute more actively to the learning process. This approach also reduces the distance between teachers and students, because students are given the opportunity to develop their potential independently. The teacher acts as a facilitator who provides direction and support, rather than as an authoritarian figure who only gives instructions. This allows for a more egalitarian and mutually supportive relationship between teachers and students.

4. Soft Skill Development (Social Interaction)

Learning between educators and students must also be based on the development of soft skills (social interaction), because this is very important in the formation of the character of the nation's children so that they are able to compete, be ethical, moral, polite and interact with the community. Soft skill education is based on mentality development so that students can adapt to the realities of life. The success of a student is not determined solely by knowledge and technical skills (hard skills), but also by the skills of managing themselves and others (soft skills). The success of students in social interaction with teachers, friends and the outside community is the main achievement for an educator.

Forms of Philosophical Approach in Islamic Education

In Islamic Education, the philosophical approach seeks to find an explanation of the concepts of religious teachings by examining and finding a rational system that can be understood by humans (Kurniawan, 2015). Here are some forms of the Philosophical Approach that can be used in Islamic Education:

1. Socratic (discussion and questions)

The Socratic method is a dialectical approach that uses dialogue and questioning to seek truth. Socrates believed that truth could be discovered through a process of critical thinking and deep dialogue. In this method, Socrates would ask a series of questions designed to guide his interlocutor in seeking deeper and more accurate answers. This method is often referred to as "Socratic questioning" or "Socratic dialectic".

2. Phenomenology (experience and consciousness)

The term phenomenology in Greek is called phainomenon which means "what appears" and logos which means study. Meanwhile, the term phenomenology in Latin is called phenomenologia which was introduced by Christoph Friedrich Oetinger (1736) reported by Pakar Komunikasi.com (Ambar, 2017). The main purpose of phenomenological studies is to explore phenomena based on a person's experience of a problem.

3. Hermeneutics (interpretation and understanding)

The word hermeneutics comes from the Greek hermeneuein which means "to interpret", and from the word hermeneuein can be drawn the noun hermeneia which means "interpretation" or "interpretation" and hermeneutes which means interpreter. The function of hermeneutics is to find out the meaning in words, sentences and texts, besides also functioning to find instructions from symbols (Kurniawan, 2015).

4. Existentialism (consciousness and freedom)

Existentialism is a philosophical movement that emerged in the 19th and 20th centuries, primarily in Europe. This school of thought revolves around the exploration of human existence and the freedom of individual choice in a seemingly indifferent and senseless world.

Existentialism serves as a reminder to embrace our individuality, make authentic choices, and seek meaning in our lives (Dunners, 2023).

5. Humanism (development of human potential)

Humanism is a philosophical school of thought that places humans, with all their potential and value, as the main focus. Humanism aims to promote freedom, ethics, respect for the individual and the development of human potential. Through principles that prioritize logic, individual freedom, and empathy for others, humanism has become the basis for many positive developments in human civilization (Muallif, 2024).

Philosophical Approach Strategy in Improving the Quality of Education

In terms of language, strategy is understood as a strategy, methods, tricks or tips. According to the term, strategy is an outline of a course of action in behavior to achieve a predetermined goal. According to HAR Tilaar, a nation that is blind to strategy in managing its national culture which has faced such tremendous challenges, is truly worrying that it will be swept away by the strong current so that it will lose its national identity. Likewise with education, if an educator does not have a strategy to carry out learning, students will easily be carried away, especially in the modern era where everyone currently depends on technology for everything. Learning is an interaction of learning and teaching between teachers and students, sometimes direct interaction such as routine face-to-face activities as well as indirect interaction, namely utilizing electronic media (social media). One component that determines the quality of education is to see the extent to which the learning system is implemented (Drista, 2022). The learning system/method used by educators can be said to be appropriate (good) if the implementation of the learning program meets three criteria, namely attractiveness, utility (effectiveness), and efficiency. Joyce & Weil provide the opinion that the learning model is a design or pattern used to design the curriculum (long-term learning plan), determine learning materials, and provide learning guidance in class and so on. The main strategies that can be applied to improve the quality of education today include:

1. Deep Dialogue and critical thinking (DDCT) learning model

The Deep Dialogue and Critical Thinking learning model is a learning model that concentrates on learning activities to gain knowledge and experience, through in-depth dialogue and critical thinking. Dialogue is one of the learning models to motivate students to actively ask questions as long as the educator presents questions and students answer (Jefri Souhuwat, 2012). According to Krulick and Rudnick, critical thinking is thinking that involves the activity of testing, connecting, evaluating all aspects of a situation or problem, including collecting, organizing, remembering, and analyzing information. Carl Rogers, a renowned humanist psychologist, emphasized the importance of person-centered dialogue to achieve positive growth and change. For Rogers, good dialogue has several essential characteristics (Sitorus, 1967): a) Attitudes such as Listening Attentively by Giving full attention to the speaker, without interrupting or judging. b) Understanding Feelings and Perspectives by Trying to understand the feelings and perspectives of the speaker from within themselves. c) Unconditional Acceptance also Values Individual Uniqueness Accept the individual as they are, without prejudice or judgment. d) Validating Emotional Experiences Acknowledge and value the individual's feelings, both positive and negative. e) Creating Courage to Share Create a safe space where the individual feels free to express themselves without fear of judgment. f) Authenticity and Congruence Be Yourself Show up authentically and transparently in interactions. g) Congruence of Words and Actions Ensure that your actions align with what you say. h) Self-Awareness Recognize and manage your own emotions and biases so that they do not influence interactions. i) Focus on Growth Support Self-Discovery Help the individual explore their feelings, thoughts, and values. j) Facilitating Growth Encourage the individual to

take responsibility for their growth and development. k) Strengthening Adaptability Help the individual develop flexibility and the ability to face challenges.

2. Reflection Builds Self-Awareness

One effective improvement method is reflection. Reflection is the ability of teachers to assess themselves and their teaching practices (Vanisha Putri Dwiyanti & Saputra, 2024). Reflection is also something that can be seen as an advantage of the DD/CT approach, this activity does not conclude the lesson material but as a means for children to provide opinions about the learning that has been done. According to Nasution, students are an important factor in assessing the new method and providing valuable suggestions, reflection is carried out after carrying out an activity to thoroughly review the things that are done based on the data collected (Yuniar et al., 2022). Reflection has the function of educating students to like learning from the experiences they have gone through. Mutual introspection, both teachers and students, provide free expressions and views, their best suggestions for the common good. Children will be honed to better know how their abilities understand something that happens in their lives, both from within themselves and from others. Through reflection, teachers are expected to be able to create situations that support improving the quality of students by innovating and creating in teaching and learning activities and motivating students to continue to excel (Andriani et al., 2022). By following these two strategies, the philosophical approach between educators and students will greatly influence the improvement of the quality of education in Indonesia. If all the interrelated and dependent elements are involved, whether in the form of people, messages, materials, tools, and the environment, then the learning system can be categorized as good/appropriate or effective, which directly impacts and correlates positively in forming and improving quality education.

CONCLUSION

The philosophical approach in Islamic education plays an important role in forming individuals who are not only intellectually intelligent, but also superior in morals and play an active role in society. Education is not only about transferring knowledge, but also about building meaningful relationships between teachers and students. There are several forms of Philosophical Approaches that can be used in Islamic Education, namely: Socratic, Phenomenology, Hermeneutics, Existentialism, and Humanism. By implementing the Deep Dialogue and Christian Thinking (DD/CT) learning method and Reflection to Build Self-Awareness, the philosophical approach between educators and students will greatly influence the increasing quality of Education in Indonesia. The success of a student can be measured not only by the quality of the teaching they receive, but also by the quality of their own learning. Student performance assessments in each subject can help determine how well the teaching and learning process is going.

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