

Introduction to Islamic Entrepreneurship at an Early Age for Children at the Ummu Aiman Aisyiyah Orphanage, Mamajang Branch, Makassar City

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Abstrak

Embedding Islamic entrepreneurship values from an early age plays a crucial role in shaping children's character and mentality, preparing them to face future economic challenges. Islamic entrepreneurship education not only teaches business skills but also instills strong ethics and morals. Teaching entrepreneurship from an early age helps children develop creativity, innovation, and independence – important qualities in the business world. It also cultivates resilience and risk management abilities, key factors for success in entrepreneurship. Islamic entrepreneurship emphasizes operating businesses with honesty, fairness, and responsibility. Children who learn these values early will grow into entrepreneurs who achieve financial success with high integrity and ethics. They will understand that profit is not the sole objective of business but also the benefit it brings to society and the environment. Additionally, entrepreneurship education helps children avoid consumerist habits by understanding the production process and appreciating the value of goods. Through entrepreneurial activities, they will also develop social and communication skills. This study aims to introduce Islamic entrepreneurship to children at the Ummu Aiman Aisyiyah Orphanage, Mamajang Branch, Makassar City, fostering economic independence and encouraging entrepreneurship driven by both profit and spiritual fulfillment.

Keyword: Islamic entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial values, character building, economic empowerment.

1. Introduction

Islamic entrepreneurship education plays a crucial role in shaping individuals with not only strong business acumen but also ethical and moral values rooted in Islamic teachings. In an increasingly competitive global economy, possessing entrepreneurial skills provides individuals with a significant advantage in securing financial stability and creating job opportunities. Entrepreneurship education based on Islamic principles emphasizes honesty, integrity, and social responsibility, ensuring that business practices align with ethical guidelines. By instilling these values early, individuals can navigate the complexities of the business world while upholding moral standards. One of the primary objectives of entrepreneurship education is to foster a mindset of innovation and self-reliance. For vulnerable communities, such as orphaned and financially disadvantaged children, entrepreneurship offers a pathway to economic independence. Providing these children with entrepreneurial skills not only equips them with the tools to generate income but also enhances their self-confidence and problem-solving abilities. The integration of entrepreneurship education into social welfare programs can significantly improve the economic prospects of underprivileged youth.

The Ummu Aiman Aisyiyah Orphanage in Mamajang Branch, Makassar City, serves as a sanctuary for abandoned and economically disadvantaged children. While the orphanage ensures the fulfillment of basic needs and education until high school, long-term economic self-sufficiency

remains a critical concern. Many children face uncertainty regarding their financial future once they leave the orphanage, highlighting the need for skill-based training programs that can empower them to sustain themselves independently. Introducing entrepreneurship education at the orphanage can provide these children with practical skills that prepare them for real-world challenges. By learning how to create handmade crafts and leverage social media for business promotion, they can develop essential entrepreneurial competencies. These skills enable them to generate income and contribute positively to society, breaking the cycle of poverty that often limits their opportunities.

Entrepreneurship training tailored for orphanage children should incorporate both theoretical and practical aspects. Theoretical knowledge includes understanding market dynamics, financial literacy, and ethical business practices in accordance with Islamic principles. Practical training focuses on hands-on experience, such as designing and producing handmade crafts, managing inventory, and utilizing digital platforms for marketing and sales. A holistic approach ensures that the children are well-prepared to navigate the business landscape confidently. The role of technology, particularly social media, has become increasingly important in modern entrepreneurship. Platforms such as Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok provide accessible avenues for small businesses to reach a wider audience. Teaching orphanage children how to effectively utilize these digital tools allows them to promote their products and engage with potential customers. Digital literacy enhances their ability to market their businesses, thereby increasing their chances of financial success.

Furthermore, mentorship and guidance from experienced entrepreneurs can significantly enhance the effectiveness of entrepreneurship education. By connecting orphanage children with successful business owners or professionals in relevant fields, they can gain valuable insights and practical advice. Mentorship fosters motivation, encourages creativity, and provides the children with role models who exemplify ethical business practices. The incorporation of Islamic values in entrepreneurship education ensures that children develop a sense of responsibility toward their community. Islamic entrepreneurship emphasizes fairness, honesty, and charity, encouraging individuals to engage in ethical business dealings and contribute to social welfare. Teaching these principles alongside entrepreneurial skills nurtures well-rounded individuals who prioritize ethical conduct in their professional endeavors.

Research on the impact of entrepreneurship education for orphanage children is crucial in assessing its effectiveness and identifying areas for improvement. Evaluating the success of training programs helps in refining the curriculum and adopting best practices. Through continuous assessment and adaptation, entrepreneurship education can be optimized to better serve the needs of underprivileged children, ensuring long-term positive outcomes. In conclusion, entrepreneurship education plays a transformative role in empowering orphanage children by equipping them with essential skills for economic independence. The integration of Islamic values ensures that they not only achieve financial stability but also contribute ethically to society. By implementing comprehensive training programs that combine theoretical knowledge, practical skills, digital literacy, and mentorship, the orphanage can provide its children with a sustainable pathway to success. This initiative not only benefits the children individually but also strengthens the community by fostering self-reliant and socially responsible individuals.

2. Research Methods

This study employs a community-based approach by integrating training sessions and workshops to teach Islamic entrepreneurship to children in an orphanage. This approach aims to equip them with practical skills that can enhance their economic independence in the future. Through a systematic method, the program is designed to help participants understand and directly apply entrepreneurial concepts. The first stage of this research is the **formation of the research team**, which is responsible for designing and implementing the training program. This team consists of academics and practitioners with experience in Islamic entrepreneurship and child education. With a competent team, the program is expected to be effectively implemented and tailored to the participants' needs.

Next, the **site selection** is carried out, with activities conducted at the Ummu Aiman Aisyiyah Orphanage. This location was chosen based on the children's need for entrepreneurship training and the support from the orphanage management in organizing the program. With a conducive environment, the program is expected to have a more significant impact on the participants. The next stage is **program planning**, which involves structuring a curriculum covering business ethics, product creation, and marketing strategies. This curriculum is systematically designed to ensure that children not only understand the theory but also acquire practical entrepreneurial skills. The materials provided are adapted to their level of understanding, making the learning process more engaging and accessible.

After planning is completed, the program proceeds with **socialization**, where children are educated about the importance of entrepreneurship. This stage aims to instill an entrepreneurial mindset from an early age and encourage them to identify economic opportunities around them. With a solid understanding, the children become more motivated to participate in the training sessions prepared for them. The final stage is **implementation**, where workshops are conducted by experts from Muhammadiyah University of Makassar. In these workshops, children learn how to create handmade crafts with economic value. Additionally, they gain insights into marketing their products. Through this approach, the children not only develop technical skills but also gain practical experience that can be beneficial for their future.

3. Results and Discussion

The entrepreneurship training program at the Ummu Aiman Aisyiyah Orphanage successfully equipped participants with fundamental business skills and hands-on experience in entrepreneurship. Through a structured approach, the program provided practical training that enabled children to develop essential entrepreneurial competencies. The results demonstrated significant progress in several key areas, highlighting the effectiveness of the training sessions in fostering business acumen among the participants. One of the most notable achievements of the program was **handicraft production**, where participants successfully created handmade crafts with economic value. The training sessions introduced them to various techniques in crafting, including selecting materials, designing products, and assembling finished goods. By engaging in this activity, the children learned how to transform raw materials into valuable products that could be marketed and sold for profit.

Additionally, the program enhanced participants' **understanding of Islamic entrepreneurship**, emphasizing ethical business practices. They were taught fundamental principles such as honesty, fairness, and responsibility in transactions. These values align with Islamic teachings on business ethics, ensuring that children not only develop technical skills but also uphold moral integrity in their entrepreneurial endeavors. Another key outcome was the development of **digital marketing skills**. The program introduced participants to social media as a powerful tool for promoting their products. They learned how to create engaging content, take high-quality product photos, and write compelling descriptions to attract potential buyers. This exposure to digital marketing strategies enabled them to understand the importance of online presence in modern business.

Moreover, the training program contributed to increased **confidence and independence** among the participants. Many children initially lacked self-assurance in their ability to engage in business activities. However, through hands-on experience, they gradually developed a sense of self-efficacy, believing in their capacity to create and sell their own products. This newfound confidence also motivated them to explore entrepreneurship as a potential career path. Beyond financial literacy, the program also fostered **problem-solving and decision-making skills**. The participants were encouraged to think creatively about their products, identify potential challenges, and develop solutions. They learned how to assess customer preferences, adjust pricing strategies, and improve product quality based on feedback. This analytical approach helped them develop critical thinking skills essential for entrepreneurial success.

Furthermore, the training sessions facilitated **teamwork and collaboration** among the children. As they worked together on various projects, they learned the importance of communication, cooperation, and collective problem-solving. These social skills are crucial not only in business but also in personal development, preparing them to navigate interpersonal relationships effectively. The program also emphasized **financial management**, teaching children basic budgeting, cost estimation, and profit calculation. Understanding financial literacy at an early age helps them make informed decisions about money, ensuring they can manage their earnings responsibly. These skills contribute to long-term financial stability and independence.

Another significant impact of the training was the **development of networking and customer interaction skills**. Participants had the opportunity to engage with potential buyers and business partners, learning how to communicate effectively in a professional setting. These interactions helped them build confidence in presenting their products, negotiating prices, and handling customer inquiries. By instilling Islamic entrepreneurship values, the program empowered children with practical skills, preparing them for financial independence. More than just a business training initiative, it served as a holistic developmental program that nurtured essential life skills. Through hands-on experience, ethical guidance, and exposure to real-world business practices, the children gained valuable insights that will benefit them in their future endeavors.



Figure 1. Presentation of Material by Lecturer and Head of Study Program



Figure 2. Training craft hand by PKM team

4. Conclusion

Conclusion

The **Community Service Activity (PKM)** carried out at the Ummu Aiman Aisyiyah Orphanage, Mamajang Branch, Makassar City, represents a form of care and brotherhood. This initiative focuses on introducing and instilling the principles of **Islamic entrepreneurship** from an early age among orphaned children under the care of Ummu Aiman Aisyiyah. Through structured training and mentorship, the program aims to nurture independence in these children, enabling them to create valuable products while applying Islamic values in their entrepreneurial activities. By integrating ethical business practices with practical skills, the program empowers them to be self-sufficient and contribute positively to society.

Suggestion

To ensure the sustainability of **Islamic entrepreneurship values**, there is a need for **stronger reinforcement and more intensive mentoring** for the children at Ummu Aiman Aisyiyah Orphanage, Mamajang Branch. Continuous guidance and follow-up training will help solidify their understanding and application of ethical entrepreneurship, ensuring that these values remain ingrained in their character throughout their lives. By providing ongoing support, mentorship, and real-world business exposure, the program can further enhance their potential, preparing them for a future of financial independence and responsible economic participation.

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