

Strengthening the Quality of Private Islamic School towards Excellent Islamic School

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Abstract

The effort to improve the quality of Islamic school is incentivized continually, various Islamic school's problems must be found the solution or the settlement. Islamic school management must be done professionally, and the leadership of the headmaster must be optimized, and able to revive entrepreneurship in Islamic school. The purpose to strengthen the quality of Islamic school must be kept on trying, that is making excellent Islamic school which is above average in excel academic and non-academic indicator, facilities and infrastructure and complete service, better in learning system, acceptance selection quite strict, getting great interest from the society and sufficient in funds. The research methodology is used in this research is qualitative, that is research methodology is used to research to natural setting object. Qualitative research requires the digging of data to informants under the technique of allowing informants to describe and express their experiences in accordance with their feelings, experiences, and performances. In this case, it refers to the experiences of educational organizers. The result of the research shows that strengthening the quality of Islamic school is done with professional management, optimized the leadership of the headmaster, and revive the entrepreneurship in Islamic school. The summary of this research are the Islamic school management, the leadership of the headmaster and the entrepreneurship of Islamic school. To strengthen the quality of private Islamic school towards excellent Islamic school, it should be done to optimization in Islamic school management to create and develop entrepreneur Islamic school and optimize headmaster's leadership.

Key words : Strengthening, Excellent Islamic school

1.Introduction

The existence of Islamic school has grown in Indonesia, predicted since the early 20 century. The birth of Islamic school is influenced by the emergence of ideas in Islam discussion. Islamic school grow and develop from the blend of boarding education and school. Some characteristics of boarding education are adopted by Islamic school that are religious knowledge and attitude of religious life. And the characteristics of school are adopted by Islamic school are classical system, general subjects and education management. During the Dutch colonial, Islamic school grew and developed separately, without being coordinated by the government, so that emerge Islamic school with various kinds of forms.

After Indonesia's independence, the management of Islamic school was entrusted to the government, namely the ministry of religion. Since Indonesia's independence there have been three phases of the development of the madrasa. The first phase, the phase between 1945-1974. In this phase the Islamic school is more concentrated in teaching and religious sciences. This means that it is difficult to get teachers who want and are able to teach well, and are related to the science of religion, namely tawhid, fiqh, Sufism, morality, interpretation, hadith, the Qur'an, Arabic, Islamic history, and astronomy. Therefore the madrasah diploma concentrates more on the effectiveness of the ministry of religion, both the form of continuing studies and entering the workforce.

.The second phase was between 1975-1989, this phase was the implement of SKB (The Letter of Agreement of Three Minister in 1975). Islamic school in this period had entered a new era that is equalized between school certificate and Islamic school certificate. Since then, some students graduated from Islamic school continue their study to the universities. The third phase, Islamic school post UU National Education system. Islamic school in this period was defined as religious school, then the madrasa has the same program as the school, from elementary to secondary levels. Characteristics of Islam are seen from more religious subjects than schools, as well as the enthusiasm of the variety more prominent than the school.

The negative stigma attached to the Islamic school is based, among others, on the Islamic school problems that have occurred so far:

1. Internal institutional problems related to management and the work ethic of the Islamic school are low, the quantity and quality of teachers are inadequate and the facilities and infrastructure of the Islamic school are far from adequate. This is as stated by Marno and Triyo (2008) that managerial ability and leadership of the Islamic school principals are considered inadequate, lack of facilities, ordinary education, quality and innovation are low and work ethic is weak.

2. External or non-institutional problems related to the inability of the Islamic school to respond to the demands of society and the progress of the times. In this connection, Malik Fajar (1999) said that our society has recently experienced a shift in view of education, they consider education not only to meet knowledge needs, but also education is seen as a form of future investment. Consequently, the institution will be abandoned by the community. This present condition is now experienced by Islamic school.

To respond to the above problems, according to Imam Suprayogo (2008) Islamic school must be managed as a professional management system and able to understand and meet the demands of society. In this way, the Islamic school will have greater opportunities to become the first and foremost choice for the community.

Discussing about Islamic education institutions is certainly not possible to escape from objects such as madrasa, Islamic schools, Islamic boarding schools, Al-Qur'an educational institution, Islamic study associations, community groups that specifically form or create a new culture that has an Islamic nuance. In order for the institution to be good and superior, it must be managed with professional management. Likewise with Islamic school institutions, to strengthen Islamic school institutions must be done by managing with professional management as well.

Etymologically, management is from Latin, which is from the origin of the word "manus" which means hand and "agere" which means to do. In English, management comes from the word "to manage" which means managing.

The terminological definition of management is put forward by experts with different readings. According to G.R. Terry (2009: 1) management is a process that consists of planning, organizing, mobilizing, implementing and monitoring, by utilizing science and art, in order to complete the objectives that have been set beforehand. According to Harold Koontz and Cyril O'Donnel (1992) management deals with achieving a goal that is carried out through and with other people. In other words, management is an effort to achieve a certain goal through the activities of others.

Meanwhile, according to James A.F Stoner (1982: 3), management is the process of planning, organizing, directing and supervising the efforts of members of the organization and the use of resources. Other organizational resources to achieve the stated goals. In line with the opinion of Stoner, Lawrence A. Appley said, management is the art of achieving goals carried out through the efforts of others.

Based on some opinions above, it can be concluded that management is a specific process which consist of actions such as, planning, organizing, moving and controlling carried out to determine and reach target or aim by utilization of human resources and others. It can be insisted that management is coordination and integration all resource to catch the goal determined.

Both management and leader's role are needed in developing an institution or organization well. Some research have proved that leader factor hold an important role in developing organization or institution. The most important of leader factor is the character of the person who become the leader. It is stated by Covey in Muhaimin (2015:29) that 90% of the leadership failure is due to character failure.

There are many opinions about the definition of leadership, but leadership is a process in leading to influence other people socially so people carry out a process what the leader want. The difference of the definition above is because of different development theory.

Mintzberg said that leadership is the ability to release from culture and start process of evolutionary change which is more adaptive. According to the developer of transformational theory views that leader has duty to harmonize, create and empower. Leaders carry out transformation of organization or institution by harmonizing human resource and other resources, create organization

culture to grow expressing idea freely by empowering people to give contribution to the organization or institution.

From the theory above, it seems that leader should be able to influence other people. A leader belongs to good attitudes which is able to bring other people to a certain condition. A leader should have capability to transform out of culture toward new good culture in order to bring about culture transformation. Therefore, a leader must be followed.

Whereas the understanding related to the research problem is that the strength of Islamic private quality is meant to repair quality life of private Islamic school based on their own power through optimization power and the increasing of their previous position. It contains that strength of the quality of private Islamic school must put their own strength as the main capital, while other parties such as the government and other institutions are as supplementary capital. And the purpose of this research is to reveal or find out the quality of private Islamic school towards superior Islamic school

2. Frame of Reference

Policy implementation principally refers to the method to achieve policy purpose. Lester and Stewart (in Winarno, 2012: 101-102) certify that when policy implementation is observed through its widely meaning, it refers to a legal administration tools where various actors, organizations, procedures, and techniques are working together to implement the policy to achieve the intended impact or purpose.

Van Meter and Van Horn also formulate the approaching model of policy implementation called as A Model of the Policy Implementation. According to Van Meter and Van Horn, policy implementation is influenced by some variables including: (1) standard and target /measurement and purpose of policy; (2) resource(s); (3) management organization characteristic; (4) management attitude; (5) communication of interrelated organization and implemented activities; (6) social, economic, and political environment. More specifically, Van Meter and Van Horn emphasized on policy performance.

Jones, defines public policy as the interrelation between certain governmental units with their surrounding. One of public policy processes is its implementation, in which it is usually understood as an activity intended to operate a program. Public policy is a complex dependent pattern from mutual dependent collective options, including the non-implemented action decisions, drawn up by the government agencies or officers (Dunn, 2003:132).

Previous Researches and Reviews is a Montgomery Van Wart and Sharon Pierce (2016:102-122) in *Transylvanian Review of Administrative Sciences Special Issue*, entitling *The Rise and Effect of Virtual Modalities And Functions On Organizational Leadership: Tracing Conceptual Boundaries Along the E-Management and E-Leadership Continuum* said that, consumers prefer to have priority and supporting services, as these shall develop customers trust on leadership quality. Quality shall be measured from service continuity provided to customers.

Adejuwon, Kehinde David (2015) of Department of Public Administration Faculty of Management Sciences Lagos State University in its review entitling *The Dilemma of Accountability and Good Governance for Improved Public Service Delivery in Nigeria* said that the necessary relation between the government and its people in actualizing the good governance shall be lost without accountable and transparent service cultural reinforcement. Servicing paradigm becomes part of building the good governance principle. People involvement significantly assists the establishment of transparent and democratic government.

Okafor, Chukwuemeka, Fatile, Jacob Olufemi, Ejalonibu, and Ganiyu L in their paper entitling: *Public Service Innovations and Changing Ethos in Africa* (2014) said that ethics become the important element in leading bureaucracy. Ethic reinforcement shall provide superior and high quality public service provision. Innovation in public services as in Nigeria, significantly support the establishment of satisfactorily service provision. Traditional service paradigm also needs redefinition for the current available public services.

3. Research Method

The method of study which is used is qualitative method. Qualitative method is a method which is used to observe natural object condition (natural setting). Sugiono (2014:1). According to Daymon and Holloway in Tohirin (2012:3), the characteristics of qualitative research as follow:

1. Focus on word

2. Demand participation of observer
3. Influenced participant point of view (someone who become data source)
4. Focus on holistic observer
5. Design and research are flexible
6. Prioritize the process more than the result
7. Use natural setting
8. Use inductive analysis then deductive

Qualitative research has main characteristic to focus on meaning. Research process tends to cycle than linear format, where data collection is simultaneously performed; it more focus on the depth than the width of research scope of work; intensive observation and interview are significant priority in data collection process, while the researcher itself refers to the main instrument (*human as instrument*). Qualitative research requires the digging of data to informants under the technique of allowing informants to describe and express their experiences in accordance with their feelings, experiences, and performances. In this case, it refers to the experiences of educational organizers.

4. .The result and discussion

The results of research analysis about the strengthening of quality for private Islamic schools toward excellent Islamic schools are:

1. Optimizing Islamic School management

The external conditions of Institutional that change very quickly are a major challenge for the institutions to be able to survive, such as living things. The institutions also must be clever to adjust with the environment if they want to survive last longer. Incapability of institution adapt with environment will be able to cause the institution getting serious problem even it will be bankrupt.

The condition of education in Indonesia, included Islamic school, these change can be seen in various ways, start from implementation policy of government until with the change as the result of science and technology development. The change is as the effect of government policy for example; the change of centralization system into “dcentralization” system, so it arises management mode base school or Islamic school (MBS/M). The changes in management pattern bring up Islamic school committee, education council, the institution of assurance quality and so on. The change related to the change of science and technology such as; the change in learning process. So, it will produce quantum teaching learning theory, active learning, contextual teaching and learning. The change in management is for instance; total quality management in the usage of analysis equipment etc.

2. Entrepreneur development

The term of entrepreneur is a process of creating new thing or innovation for getting welfare or individual wealth and gaining added value for society. Welfare or added value for society is the goal of the entrepreneur itself which is done through expressing new idea, extracting resource and realize the idea become something profitable reality.

Base on the meaning of entrepreneur above, so entrepreneur in education is a hard work continuously done by Islamic school especially the headmaster in creating qualified Islamic school. This entrepreneur concept consist of smart effort in finding opportunity, looking at something new or innovative in each element of Islamic school institution, digging risk to create welfare (benefit) and get financial benefit (profit). Both benefit and profit is mainly looked for the importance of students, teachers, headmaster of Islamic school, staff, parents, government and society surrounding and wider society.

The important thing which is proper understood for headmaster’s Islamic school of management practice in society is demand to change conventional management pattern become entrepreneurship management pattern.

The headmaster should be able to identify management patterns which are usually done. If there are headmasters still tend to show conventional management pattern, they should be able to change or train themselves to use entrepreneur management pattern.

Whereas, entrepreneur strategy is main steps needed for the headmaster’s Islamic school in becoming organization or institution to be entrepreneur organization.

3. Optimizing the headmaster’s leadership

The leader's work is related to determine the way of institution, while how the way will be is managerial work. Because the work of leadership is the beginning work, so it often seems that this is worked without pattern, full of risk and most people have high uncertainty. It is so different with managerial work which is related to clear working pattern and belong to clear result.

Leader's job is related to human. Leading is to lead human, there is no leading thing, neither animal. Because the job is related to human, so leader should be able to improve human mind power in Islamic school. For improving human mind power in organization, the leader should be able to change mind map used for human thinking in Islamic school. It is called paradigm or mindset. If the people in organization do the work using wrong paradigm, so it will be so much nonconformity or even mistakes happen in the organization. Mindset is thinking map in order Islamic school become superiority, Islamic school will depend on human resources so much in it. In order to human resource in Islamic school become excellent human resource, the people in Islamic school should be changed or developed for being excellent human resource. That's why, an institution which belongs great leader will develop well although it is not good enough in managerial. But, if Islamic school belongs to both good leader and good capability in managerial, it will be sure that the Islamic school will be easy to get superiority fastly.

4. Conclusion and Suggestion

To strengthen the quality of private Islamic school towards excellent Islamic school, it should be done to optimization in Islamic school management to create and develop entrepreneur Islamic school and optimize headmaster's leadership.

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