



Cultivation of Socio-Religious Attitudes Through A Participatory Approach in Muslim Society

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Abstract

Abstract In Muslim societies, building social cohesion and religious values is an important priority. This study aims to explore how participatory approaches can be used to enhance social-religious attitudes in Muslim societies. Communities are involved from identifying problems to feeling the benefits together. This process begins with empowering communities through capacity development related to social characteristics, which then changes community behaviour related to waste reduction and involvement in its management. The results show that the presence of public facilities such as mosques can be a catalyst for the development of social bonds among citizens. Religious activities in the mosques, such as cleansing, can also strengthen silaturahmi among the members of the community. In addition, public spaces such as playgrounds can be an arena for children to sharpen their social skills by meeting and interacting with children from different backgrounds.

Keywords: *social-religious attitudes, participatory approaches, Muslim society*

Abstrak Dalam masyarakat Muslim, membangun kohesi sosial dan nilai-nilai keagamaan menjadi hal yang penting untuk diprioritaskan. Pendekatan partisipatif dapat menjadi solusi untuk memperkuat sikap sosial-agama di kalangan umat Muslim. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengeksplorasi bagaimana pendekatan partisipatif dapat digunakan untuk meningkatkan sikap sosial-agama dalam masyarakat Muslim. Pendekatan partisipatif juga dapat ditemukan dalam inisiatif pengelolaan sampah berbasis masyarakat. Masyarakat dilibatkan mulai dari identifikasi masalah hingga merasakan manfaat secara bersama-sama. Proses ini dimulai dengan memberdayakan masyarakat melalui pengembangan kapasitas terkait karakteristik sosial, yang kemudian mengubah perilaku masyarakat terkait pengurangan sampah dan keterlibatan dalam pengelolaannya. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa kehadiran fasilitas publik seperti masjid dapat menjadi katalisator bagi terjalinnya hubungan sosial di antara warga masyarakat. Kegiatan keagamaan di masjid, seperti tahlilan, juga dapat memperkuat silaturahmi di antara anggota komunitas. Selain itu, ruang publik seperti taman bermain dapat menjadi arena bagi anak-anak untuk mengasah keterampilan sosial mereka dengan bertemu dan berinteraksi dengan anak-anak dari latar belakang yang berbeda.

kata kunci: sikap sosial-agama, pendekatan partisipatif, masyarakat Muslim

A. Introduction

Muslim societies have characteristics in social and religious life. Strong attitudes in the socio-religious aspects are essential to achieving a harmonious life in society. Many efforts could be made to that goal, including a participatory approach.

The participatory approach involves the community actively in decision-making and implementation of activities. Public involvement in various aspects of social and religious life can strengthen a sense of ownership and shared responsibility, as well as encourage the formation of positive social norms.

One example of a case that can be explored is the Muslim community in Songkhla, Thailand. Songkhla is a province in southern Thailand with a majority of its inhabitants of Islamic religion. The Muslim community in Songkhla has characteristic social and cultural characteristics, which can affect the dynamics of their social and religious life. Based on this background, the study aims to analyze how participatory approaches can be applied to fostering stronger socio-religious attitudes among Muslim communities in Songkhla, Thailand.

The history of the annexation of Pattani by the Siamese kingdom and its transformation into Thailand has shaped the attitudes and views of the Muslim community in Songkhla. The religious-based conflict between the Thai government and the Malay majority opposition and Islamic groups in Southern Thailand has left a wound that remains to this day. Kru Se and Tak Bai's events are examples of conflict involving Muslim masses trying to free their friends detained by the apparatus, demonstrating the need for better social-religious awareness and social cohesion. The city of Songkhla also demonstrates a remarkable blend of symbols of Buddhism and Islam, demonstrating its religious diversity and success in becoming a minority religious position in Thailand. Islamic education in schools in Songkhla plays a role in improving students' understanding of cultural and religious diversity, helping to build harmonious relationships with one another. Religious institutions such as the Patani Islamic Religious Council can serve as centres of education, counselling, and adequate religious activities,

helping to build a better social-religious awareness. Building and strengthening local communities that focus on social-religious activities can enhance the active involvement of community members in governance processes.

Cultivating social-religious attitudes through participatory approaches in Muslim communities in Songkha, Thailand, can be done with several strategies that take into account local needs and contexts. Developing educational infrastructure: Building adequate schools and educational institutions to ensure access to quality education for Muslim children in Songkha. Inclusive and diverse education can help build better social-religious awareness. 2. Youth Programs: Develop youth programmes that focus on social and religious development. These programmes may involve youth in social activities, religious activities, and relevant skills development.3). Local communities: Building and strengthening local communities that focus on social-religious activities. These communities can involve local citizens in activities that raise social religious awareness and enhance community cohesion. 4). Development of Religious Institutions: Developing inclusive and participatory religious institutions. These institutions can serve as centres of education, counselling, and appropriate religious activities. 5). Integration with the Government: Integrating social-religious programmes with local governments. Government can provide the support and resources necessary to ensure the success of such programmes. 6). Use of Social Media: Use social media to promote social-religious awareness and build online communities that focus on social-relational activities. 7). Skill development: Develop skills relevant to members of the Muslim community in Songkha, such as economic skills, social skills, and religious skills.

B. Method

The research uses a qualitative approach to exploring phenomena occurring in society. Data collection is carried out through observations, in-depth interviews, and documentation studies.

C. Results and Discourse

A participatory approach is an effective strategy to enhance strong social-religious attitudes among Muslim communities. First, the existence of public facilities such as mosques can be a catalyst for the development of social relations

among citizens. Religious activities in mosques, such as censorship, can also strengthen silaturahmi among members of the community. Second, public spaces such as playgrounds can be places for children to develop their social skills by meeting and interacting with children from different backgrounds. Thirdly, community-based waste management initiatives can be examples of a participatory approach.

The community involved from the beginning began to identify the problems until it felt the benefits together. This process begins with empowering the community through capacity development related to social characteristics, which then changes the behaviour of the community in terms of waste reduction and involvement in its management.

The results of the cultivation of social-religious attitudes through participatory approaches among Muslim communities in Songkhla, Thailand, are observed through several important aspects, one of which is that the Muslim community in songkhla demonstrates increased socio-reliant awareness through activities focused on social and religious development. The development of adequate educational infrastructure creates access to quality education for Muslim children in Songkhla. Inclusive and diverse education helps build a better social-religious awareness. Religious institutions such as the Patani Islamic Religious Council serve as a centre for adequate education, counselling, and religious activities. It helps raise the social-religious awareness and cohesion of society. Building and strengthening local communities with a focus on social-religious activities increases the active involvement of community members in the governance process. It helps build a better social-religious awareness and enhance social cohesion. Integrating social-religious programmes with local cultures helps ensure that such programmes are relevant and acceptable to local communities. It can also help build better social-religiosity awareness and enhance community cohesion. Building confidence between Muslim communities and governments through transparency and accountability in the management of social-religious programmes increases confidence and responsibility. Thus, the activities of cultivating social-religious attitudes through participatory approaches in Muslim communities in Songkhla have been successful in raising social religious awareness, the development of educational infrastructure, development of

religious institutions, increased community involvement, integration with local cultures, and increased trust and accountability.

The challenges faced in applying a participatory approach are the heterogeneity of societies, the diversity of religious concepts, and the diverse capacities of communities. Therefore, this approach needs to be adapted to the specific context in which the societies are located.

D. Conclusion

Activities to cultivate socio-religious attitudes through participatory approaches in Muslim communities in Songkhla have succeeded in raising social religious awareness, the development of educational infrastructure, development of religious institutions, increased community involvement, integration with local cultures, and increased trust and accountability. However, there are still some challenges to overcome in order to ensure the success of these programmes. For further research, it is important to explore more deeply the opportunities and challenges in applying participatory approaches in specific Muslim societies, besides it is also important to study their impact on indicators of social harmony and well-being of societies.

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