

## THE CONCEPT OF PRENATAL EDUCATION IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF ISLAMIC EDUCATION

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**Abstract:** This study discusses the concept of prenatal education from the perspective of Islamic education. Prenatal education is an early stage of education that begins during pregnancy, which has an important role in shaping the character and personality of children. From the perspective of Islamic education, prenatal education is considered an important foundation for the spiritual, moral, and intellectual development of children. Islam teaches that attention to children's education begins in the womb, through the behaviour, prayers, and practices of parents, especially mothers. The research method used is a literature review by analysing various literature related to prenatal education and Islamic education. The results of the study show that prenatal education in Islam involves various aspects such as the physical and mental health of the mother, reading the Qur'an, prayers, and an environment that supports positive fetal development. Good prenatal education is expected to produce a generation that is noble, intelligent, and faithful.

**Keywords:** Character Formation; Child Development; Islamic Education; Prenatal Education; Pregnancy.

### INTRODUCTION

Prenatal education is an important phase in individual development, where stimulation provided during pregnancy can influence the physical, emotional, and intellectual development of the child. In the context of Islamic education, prenatal education has a strong foundation in the

Qur'an and Hadith which emphasise the importance of preparing a pious generation from an early age.

Childhood is the most important period in human life. Education and guidance during this period is very influential on the child's life in the future. Therefore, for fathers in carrying out their role as educators, it is necessary to carry out proper education for their children. This education includes behavioural, intellectual, and physical education based on the Quran and As-Sunnah. Given the great influence of education and guidance patterns in childhood, if education and guidance at that time is good, the results will also be good. However, if the education and guidance at that time is not good, then the results will not be good either. (Kurniawati, 2017).

Islam views each individual as a trust from Allah SWT that must be looked after and educated properly. This education process begins even before birth, with parents' efforts to create an environment conducive to the child's development. In the Islamic perspective, attention to prenatal education does not only focus on physical aspects, but also includes spiritual and moral aspects.

Besides Al-Ghazali, one of the most famous Muslim intellectuals and reformist Islamic thinkers in the 13th century was Ibn Qayyim Al-Jauzy. He is very concerned

about children's education, even since the prenatal period (the period in the womb) and in the postnatal period (after being born). In his view, he stated that among the many education needed by children, one of the most important is morals. Because morals develop according to the habits taught by their caregivers since childhood, be it in the form of nature, emotional, stubbornness, lust and carelessness and greed. If this is not instilled from the start, there is no doubt that most humans have crooked morals due to mistakes in education since childhood. (Oktafiani, Ayu, Dewi and Khobir 2020).

The Qur'an and Hadith provide guidance on the importance of maintaining the health of pregnant women, reciting the Qur'an, praying, and doing good deeds during pregnancy. This belief is supported by various modern studies that show that the psychological and spiritual condition of the mother during pregnancy can affect the development of the foetus.

In addition, prenatal education in Islam also emphasises the importance of choosing a good life partner, as the quality of offspring is influenced by the quality of parents. This process includes choosing a partner based on faith and morals, as well as maintaining good intentions in marriage and pregnancy. In addition, the formation of children's character is influenced by two factors, namely innate factors (natur) and environmental factors (Martur). While the concept of early childhood education according to Ibn Qayyim Al-Jauziyyah begins with determining a mate, marriage, pregnancy (prenatal), and birth (post natal). (Oktafiani, Ayu, Dewi and Khobir 2020).

Prenatal education from an Islamic perspective also teaches the importance of prayer and remembrance during pregnancy,

as well as maintaining a harmonious relationship between husband and wife. This is considered part of the effort to create a positive environment for foetal development.

Therefore, the concept of prenatal education in Islam does not only focus on medical and physical aspects, but also includes spiritual, moral, and social dimensions. This education aims to form a generation that is not only intellectually intelligent, but also has noble morals and strong faith. Through holistic prenatal education, it is expected to create a generation that is able to face the challenges of the times with a balanced provision of faith and knowledge.

According to Islamic teachings, the preparation of children's education begins with choosing a mate, namely choosing a husband/wife. The teaching on choosing a husband/wife in Islam can be seen in many hadiths, including the hadith from Abu Ya'lay received from Ali Bin Abi Tholib:

Meaning: "Narrated from Abu Hurairah Ra. Rasulullah SAW said: women are married for four things: because of their wealth, because of their lineage, because of their beauty, and their religion. Get honesty by marrying a religious woman, then you will get infinite benefits ". (HR. Al-Bukhari) (Kurniawati, 2017).

When a couple is about to have sexual intercourse, they should precede it with basmallah and supplication. The aim is to keep them away from the devil. If the relationship produces a child, he will also grow up to be a pious and pious child, will not be disturbed by Satan. (Kurniawat, 2017). This is intended to get a pious or pious offspring, starting with reading the prayer'a before having intimate relations

(husband and wife), so that a foetus is formed that is kept away from the devil.

If it is connected to the notion of education, then education of children in the womb is a conscious effort of parents (husband and wife) to educate their children who are still in the womb of the wife. The conscious effort here is specifically addressed to and borne by both parents because the child in the womb (Prenatal) is not yet possible to be educated, let alone taught except by his own parents, but when his parents (especially the mother) teach words to the baby in the womb, the baby only listens to the sound take experience certain sensations. (Mukhlisah and Irfan 2023) This means that any activity carried out by the parents (mother), will have an impact on the foetus in the womb.

Parents who during pregnancy, always do positive activities (such as praying, reciting the Koran or going to a ta'lim assembly) by itself will affect the development of the personality of the fetus in the womb. For this reason, this study raises the title of "Concept Of Prenatal Education In Islamic Education Perspective" Knowing the basic concepts of Islamic education in the family and understanding the concept of Prenatal Education in instilling early character in children in the family. As well as knowing and understanding how the implementation of Islamic education values in Prenatal Education.

## **METHODS**

Qualitative research methods are research methods based on the philosophy of postpositivism, used to research on natural object conditions, (as opposed to experiments) where researchers are key instruments, sampling of data sources is

done purposively and snowbaal, collection techniques with triangulation (combined), data analysis is inductive / qualitative, and qualitative research results emphasize meaning rather than generalisation. (Dr H. Abdussamad, Zuchri S.I.K. n.d.).

Qualitative methods are used to obtain in-depth data, data that contains meaning. Meaning is the real data, definite data which is a value behind the visible data, therefore qualitative research does not emphasise generalisation, but rather emphasises meaning. Generalisation in leatherative research is called transferability, meaning that the results of the research can be used elsewhere, when the place has characteristics that are not much different. (Dr H. Abdussamad, Zuchri S.I.K. n.d.).

## **RESULTS**

### **The Concept of Prenatal Education in the Perspective of Islamic Education**

The results showed that prenatal education is an important phase in the educational process that takes place from pregnancy to the birth of a baby. In the perspective of Islamic education, this concept involves not only physical, but also spiritual and moral aspects. Prenatal education in Islam emphasises the importance of preparing a generation that is not only physically healthy, but also spiritually strong and has noble morals. This begins with attention to the mother's food intake, environment and behaviour during pregnancy, all of which are expected to positively influence fetal development.

One of the main foundations in Islamic prenatal education is the Qur'an and Hadith which provide guidance on the importance of starting education early, even before the child is born. For example, in

Islam, expectant mothers are encouraged to pray a lot, recite the Qur'an, and maintain harmonious relationships with the neighbourhood. These actions are believed to have a positive impact on the mother's mental and spiritual state, which in turn will affect the development of the foetus in the womb. Therefore, prenatal education in the Islamic perspective is not only limited to medical and physical aspects, but also includes a very important spiritual dimension.

Research on the concept of prenatal education in the perspective of Islamic education shows that integration between modern science and Islamic values can produce a comprehensive and holistic approach. For example, an understanding of the importance of balanced nutrition during pregnancy can be integrated with Islamic teachings on halal and thayyib (good) food. In addition, the importance of maintaining hygiene and health, which is also emphasised in Islam, is in line with modern medical practices. Thus, this approach not only improves the quality of physical health of the mother and baby, but also strengthens the spiritual and moral foundation of the family.

In the context of Islamic education, prenatal education is also seen as the beginning of parental responsibility in educating children. From the womb, parents are expected to start shaping the child's character and personality through good examples and role models. This includes efforts to instil Islamic values, such as honesty, patience and compassion. Thus, prenatal education becomes an integral part of the overall educational process in Islam, which aims to give birth to a qualified and responsible generation.

## DISCUSSION

Prenatal education is the initial stage of the educational process that begins when a child is in the womb. In the perspective of Islamic education, prenatal education has a strong foundation that covers various aspects of life, ranging from spiritual, emotional, to physical. This education aims to form noble character and morals early on, even before a child is born. The Qur'an and Hadith provide clear guidance on the importance of prenatal education. In Surah Luqman verse 14, Allah SWT says about the importance of the mother's role in educating children since the womb. In addition, the Prophet Muhammad also provided examples and advice on the need for parents to prepare their children early, including through prayer and good behaviour during pregnancy.

Islam views the family not only as an association, but more than that, namely as an institution of human life that can provide the possibility of harm and happiness for family members in this world and the hereafter. Every child who is born almost all go through the process of care and education from parents in the household environment. Therefore, the home environment is very influential on the formation of the child's personality in accordance with the words of the Prophet Muhammad SAW:

كل مولود يولد على الفطرة فأبواه يهودانه  
أو ينصرانه أو يمجسانه

It means: "Every child is born in a state of fitrah (Islam), so it is his parents who make him a Jew, Christian or Magi". (HR.Bukhari).

The Qur'anic verse that is in line with this hadith is QS al-Tahrim/66:6 as follows: It means: "*O you who believe! Warn yourselves and your families from the fire of hell whose fuel is man and stone, the guardians of the angels are harsh, and hard, who do not disobey Allah in what He commands them and always do what is commanded*". The above Hadith and Qur'anic verses indicate that the responsibility for education, especially Islamic education for children, lies on the shoulders of parents and is a mandate from Allah SWT. (Suryadi, 2019).

Islamic education cannot be left entirely to the school, because the school essentially acts to help parents develop the basics of education received by children in the household environment. Children's education begins in the womb, because the next period is determined by the child's time in the womb. In this case, educational stimuli are needed from parents, especially from a mother who is pregnant. Because basically education in the womb (prenatal) is the real education, the educational process is not directly directed to the child, but to the mother who aims to influence the growth and development of the fetus that is still in the womb. In addition to educating children, the task of a mother must also pay attention to the child's personality (Suryadi, 2019).

It is intended that the main shareholder in the formation of personality or moral education starts from the behaviour of parents, especially mothers, during pregnancy. Mothers who always maintain their behaviour, speak softly, and avoid sinful acts will have a positive impact on fetal development. Islam emphasises the importance of maintaining the health of pregnant women, both physically and

mentally. The intake of halal and thayyib (good) food, as well as maintaining peace of mind through dhikr and worship, is highly recommended in Islam. Parents are encouraged to always pray and dhikr, asking Allah SWT so that the child conceived becomes a pious child.

Al-Ghazali's attention to children's education is closely related to his views on children, so that in his essay Ihya 'Ulum Ad-din revealed that: All carvings and drawings. He accepts everything that is carved on him and leans towards something that is directed at him. If he is accustomed and educated to do good then he grows up doing good and happy in this world and the hereafter, his parents and educators share in the reward. But if he is accustomed to doing evil and he is inclined to it, he will be wretched and corrupt, and his educators will also get his sin" (Rahmawati, 2018).

Thus, education is the main and very essential factor that parents must instil in their children since the womb and is the absolute responsibility of parents in the formation of a good child's personality (sholeh / sholeha) so that they are always protected from the influence of the environment and the times that can mislead them.

In the Islamic perspective, children who are educated from the womb are expected to become individuals who are noble, devoted to Allah SWT, and able to become good leaders in the future. Prenatal education not only prepares children for life in the world, but also for the afterlife.

## CONCLUSIONS

Prenatal education in the perspective of Islamic education is an integral and holistic process, which includes spiritual, emotional, and physical

aspects. With a strong foundation from the Qur'an and Hadith, as well as proper implementation in daily life, prenatal education is expected to be able to form a generation that is noble, intelligent, and pious. Parents have a very important role in implementing this education, by always maintaining a relationship with Allah SWT and providing a positive environment for fetal development.

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