



## **Ummah's Islamic Insight Empowerment Strategy through the Palembang City Government's Dawn Safari Program**

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**Abstract:** *This study aims to analyze the Palembang City Government's dawn safari to provide the community with Islamic insight and the concept of prospering mosques. This study's method is descriptive qualitative, directly observing symptoms or events in the field, describing them as data, and drawing conclusions from the data. The findings of this study show that the Palembang City dawn safari program has a positive impact on the development of an Islamic society. Furthermore, regular activities at the mosque can foster a spirit of togetherness and strengthen friendships between communities. Also, the preachers always help Islamic insight people understand the concept of the Islamic religion comprehensively. Thus, we can strengthen the people's economy by communicating with one another about both social and economic development.*

**Keywords:** Empowerment Strategy, Islamic Insight, Fajr Safari Program

**Abstrak:** *Penelitian ini bertujuan menganalisis program kegiatan safari subuh yang dilaksanakan oleh Pemerintah Kota Palembang dengan melakukan pendekatan kegiatan safari subuh untuk memberikan wawasan keislaman serta konsep memakmurkan masjid oleh masyarakat. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini menggunakan kualitatif deskriptif dengan melihat langsung gejala atau kejadian yang terjadi di lapangan serta mendeskripsikannya menjadi sebuah data serta menarik kesimpulan dari data tersebut. Hasil penelitian ini program safari subuh Kota Palembang memberikan dampak positif dalam membangun masyarakat yang Islami serta dengan kegiatan dimasjid secara rutin dapat menumbuhkan jiwa kebersamaan, mempererat silaturahmi antar masyarakat serta dengan adanya para da'i yang selalu memberikan wawasan keislaman membuat masyarakat memahami konsep agama Islam secara baik, kemudian dapat memperkuat ekonomi umat dengan saling berkomunikasi tentang pembangunan baik sosial dan ekonomi.*

**Kata kunci:** Empowerment Strategy, Wawasan Keislaman, Program Safari Subuh



## Introduction

In this modern era, life's problems are becoming more serious. Social, economic, political, and religious problems are no longer manageable. These problems have resulted in a less harmonious community life. Every day, we hear about crimes, including robberies, murders, and even rapes of minors. Other factors contributing to criminality include economic hardship and a lack of religious knowledge among some individuals.

A lack of Islamic insight can lead to and trigger criminal behavior.<sup>1</sup> According to the Central Statistics Agency's (BPS) records, there were 365 violence cases in South Sumatra in 2019 and 341 in 2020.<sup>2</sup> In addition to increasing some criminal activities, a lack of Islamic insight can cause moral deterioration in people of all ages, making them more susceptible to hoaxes. Misconceptions about some aspects of Islam also lead to misinterpretation of the verses found in the Qur'an and Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad.

As a result, many people used Islam to justify their actions. Radicalism is one example of a lack of Islamic insight, as it uses the excuse of Islamic radical elements in action.

Morality, faith, and welfare must all be considered when addressing societal problems to ensure a peaceful, secure, and prosperous life. As a result, assisting and empowering people to gain Islamic insight is necessary.

To address this issue, the Palembang city government implements several community empowerment programs, including dawn safari following Palembang Mayor Regulation No. 69 of 2018.<sup>3</sup> Dawn Safari is a Palembang city government program that aims to bring people together to pray at dawn, provide Islamic insight, and help the mosque prosper. To ensure everything runs smoothly, begin the day with congregational prayers and learn about Islam.

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<sup>1</sup> Pelani, Herman. Rama, Bahaking. Naro, Wahyuddin. *Kegiatan Keagamaan Sebagai Pilar Perbaikan Perilaku Narapidana Di Lembaga Pemasyarakatan Wanita Kelas Iia Sungguminasa Gowa*. Jurnal Diskursus Islam Volume 06 Nomor 3, December 2018. <https://doi.org/10.24252/jdi.v6i3.6545>

<sup>2</sup> Rizaty, Monavia Ayu. 2021. *Kekerasan di Sumatera Selatan Capai 341 Kasus, Paling Banyak di Palembang*. <https://databoks.katadata.co.id/datapublish/2021/09/17/kekerasan-di-sumatera-selatan-capai-341-kasus-paling-banyak-di-palembang>.

<sup>3</sup> Peraturan Walikota Palembang Nomor 3 Tahun 2020. Perubahan Atas Peraturan Walikota Palembang Nomor 69 Tahun 2018 Tentang Gerakan Sholat Subuh Berjama'ah. [https://jdih.palembang.go.id/uploads/Kepber\\_19\\_2020\\_207c451277.Pdf](https://jdih.palembang.go.id/uploads/Kepber_19_2020_207c451277.Pdf)



## Research Methods

This study employs a qualitative approach<sup>4</sup> with primary sources, including interviews and observations of Palembang City Government's dawn safari program activities. Furthermore, this study employed the interactive data analysis technique.

The data analysis technique employed comprised four stages: data collection, data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing or verification. Miles and Huberman's theory underpins this analysis pattern known as interactive model analysis.<sup>5</sup> Data reduction is abstracting and transforming raw information from written field notes into information that forms a conceptual framework. After collecting the necessary data for the problem, the data is organized into field notes and descriptions of field analysis. The next step is to conclude the previously unclear data to create a clear picture to answer the research question.<sup>6</sup>

## Results and Discussion

The policy adopted by the Palembang City Government to achieve the objectives of the dawn safari program is to develop Islamic insight and prosper the mosque by incorporating Islamic values into the lives of Palembang City residents, resulting in the formation of an Islamic civil society. Palembang is one of the cities filled with almost enthusiastic people about religion or religion. The activities carried out by the Palembang City Government will serve as a benchmark for a city that wishes to live a better and more directed life. The strategy employed for developing the Islamic insight of the people is by instilling Islamic education values and the value of faith, as conveyed by Mr. Marwansyah.

“The purpose of the dawn safari is to establish ukhuwah Islamiyah relationships, particularly friendship with the community, and to practice dawn prayers together so that we can all be disciplined and on time. In this case, each activity or program must have an impact or provide feedback. So, how does the dawn safari program affect people's Islamic understanding? In addition to thriving mosques and fulfilling Muslim obligations, one of the dawn safari's functions is to motivate the community to wake up early and make good use of morning time by staying in touch and paying attention to environmental cleanliness before continuing with daily activities. It is hoped that this program will be fully adopted by the

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<sup>4</sup> Ismail Suardi Wekke, *Metode Penelitian Sosial*, (Yogyakarta: Gawe Buku, 2019), 33.

<sup>5</sup> Miles, M.B., Huberman, A.M., & Saldana J. (2014). *Qualitative data analysis: A methods sourcebook*. SAGE.

<sup>6</sup> Sugiarto, Fitrah. *Pendidikan Islam Di Indonesia (Studi Pemikiran Sufistik Dan Neo-Modernisme Kh. Muhammad Idris Jauhari 1952-2012)*. Program Doktor Pendidikan Agama Islam Pascasarjana Universitas Islam Negeri Mataram. 2023.



community in order to achieve Palembang Emas Darussalam.”<sup>7</sup>

This program has significantly impacted the community's understanding of religious knowledge. Furthermore, the mosque is becoming increasingly crowded due to this program, which aligns with the original goals of prospering the mosque and inviting the community to pray Fajr together. As a result, there are numerous benefits to this dawn safari program. The Palembang City Government is increasing the number of preachers in Palembang so that this program can operate according to the vision, mission, and goals that have been established.

### **The Impact of the Dawn Safari Program on the Islamic Insight of the People**

The analysis findings show that this program has a positive impact and creates a favorable environment for community life to achieve a moderate society with an Islamic character. During an interview, Mr. Ferdi revealed:

“The Palembang City Government's dawn safari program provides numerous benefits. In terms of knowledge, with the preachers' *tausiyah* about prayer, *fiqh muamalah*, *akidah*, and morals, we gradually learned how to pray properly, how to buy and sell according to Islamic law, and how to speak to people who are older than us. This program provides us with opportunities to learn more about religious understanding.”<sup>8</sup>

Based on our observations, the Palembang City Government's program positively impacts the community. This impact is felt not only in one sub-district but in almost all of Palembang City, where preachers are stationed in various areas to provide religious understanding and to support the people's economies through the mosque.

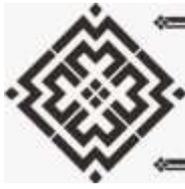
### **Opportunities and Challenges of the Dawn Safari Program**

The Palembang City Dawn Safari program faces challenges during its implementation. At the start of the implementation, the program was held in a quiet mosque, few people cared about morning prayer in congregation, and the concept of learning desire had yet to emerge. On the other hand, the program has the potential to help the mosque thrive and educate the community about the value of unity and friendship. Preachers can organize joint learning sessions to add Islamic insight and utilize the mosque. The mosque is not only a place of

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<sup>7</sup> Wawancara dengan Marwansyah, Kepala Bagian Kesra Kota Palembang, 15 September 2023.

<sup>8</sup> Wawancara dengan Ferdy, jamaah masjid program safari subuh. 25 September 2023.



worship but also a place where people can study and build their economies.

Islamic insights are valuable for those seeking to deepen their understanding of Islam or to incorporate Islamic values into their daily lives. Islamic insight encompasses many aspects of life, including Islamic values, ethics, and morality.

Islamic insight is also necessary for individuals to understand and overcome the various challenges that Muslims face today, such as radicalism, extremism, and intolerance. Individuals who thoroughly understand Islam's teachings can see that it teaches peace, tolerance, and cooperation.

These insights can assist individuals in discovering the meaning and purpose of their lives and making decisions consistent with Islamic values and principles. The Palembang City Government's dawn safari program will assist the community in becoming a religious society, respecting fellow religious people, and developing policies to deal with various conditions and settings.

## **Conclusion**

Palembang City's dawn safari program provides Islamic insights to the community, allowing people to appreciate diversity, including ethnicity, religion, and differences in perspective. This program aims to promote the value of faith, sharia, morals, and community economic empowerment through the mosque.

This program's implementation presents both opportunities and challenges. On the opportunity side, this program positively impacts increasing community empowerment in Islamic insight. Palembang City Government continues to increase the number of preachers participating in this program to reach 1000 preachers. Furthermore, obstacles include the mosque's difficult-to-access location, lack of lighting, and location on the Musi River's banks. Security at dawn on the road to the dawn safari location is prone to crime. Hopefully, this program will continue to benefit the government, mosque administrators, and the community by empowering the people's Islamic insight.



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