



## Development of Media and Learning Resources at Islamic Boarding Schools Facing Education in the Digital Era

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**Abstract.** Learning media is very influential on the process and learning outcomes. At this time learning media must be adapted to the times, for the current generation is the era of digitalization. Islamic boarding schools are faced with challenges in using technology as a learning medium, because it is prone to conflict with educational values in Islamic boarding schools. This article looks at how Islamic boarding schools respond to the digital era in their learning. This article was made using the library study method. As a result, Islamic boarding schools must keep up with technological developments, but with adjustments to their Islamic boarding school values.

**Keywords:** Learning media, Islamic boarding school, era of digitalization

### 1. Introduction

Advances in information and communication technology today greatly affect everyday life. Even now, people are bound by digital technology itself, this condition is also called the digital era. The digital era is defined as the dependence of everything on the internet, including education. In this digital era, one of its characteristics is access to information that is not limited and can be accessed easily. This certainly has an impact on the ease of carrying out activities, seeking information, and developing oneself with only a smartphone. But besides the positive impact, this also has a negative impact if it is not accompanied by the maturity of its users. No matter how much data can be helped by this technology, that's how much it can be damaged. In education, technology can help students and educators in the teaching and learning process. But technology is also a big temptation and distraction in learning because it can divert students' minds in unwanted directions.

However, the use of smartphones in education has begun to be implemented, especially with the Covid 19 pandemic which requires that education be carried out online. This helps the educational process during a pandemic by facilitating distance learning. Under these circumstances, many innovations have been developed in the use of technology in learning, many applications that support learning that can be used by educators and students.

In the ever-evolving digital era, the effective use of media and learning resources is becoming increasingly important in the educational context. Appropriate learning media and resources can provide interesting, interactive learning experiences, and facilitate deep understanding for students.

The development of media and learning resources has undergone significant developments in line with advances in technology. In the past, learning media was limited

to textbooks, blackboards, and presentation slides. However, with the advent of information and communication technology, we now have access to various types of learning media, such as video, audio, animation, simulation, interactive games and online learning platforms.

Education in Islamic boarding schools is known for its uniqueness in educating students for a full 24 hours. Likewise with prioritizing religious values in building the character of his students. Pesantren comes from the word santri, with the prefix and the affix meaning the place where the students are active. The activity of the santri is studying religion, so Islamic boarding

schools mean a place for students to study religion<sup>1</sup>. With the boarding house of the students, there are various rules that need to be followed by the students. One of the rules that apply to almost all Islamic boarding schools in Indonesia is a restriction on using Smartphones and Laptops. Most Islamic boarding schools do not allow their students to bring smartphones, but most Islamic boarding schools now allow the use of laptops for their students under the supervision of their caregivers. This prohibition is carried out to avoid the negative influence of smartphones that cannot be controlled by Islamic boarding school caretakers.

The development of Islamic boarding schools in improving the quality of education to be able to compete with other formal educational institutions has its own challenges in the 21st century. Challenges faced by Islamic boarding schools When the demands of the times create new opportunities in education through smartphones, but on the other hand there are rules for students not to use smartphones. When students in public educational institutions can get easy access to technology, Islamic boarding schools must also think and innovate how their students can keep up with the times. This is certainly interesting to discuss, the author tries to examine how Islamic boarding schools respond to challenges in education in today's digital era.

## **2. Methods**

The method used in this journal is a library study, in which the author examines sources related to instructional media and combines them with knowledge and experience in Islamic boarding schools.

## **3. Results and Discussion**

### ***3.1. Definition of Learning Media***

In the learning process, there is communication between teachers and students. The teacher acts as a sender of information while students act as recipients of information. This process will work well if the two of them run smoothly, where the teacher is able to convey information well to students and students have the ability to receive this information well too. To perfect the communication between the giver and recipient of information in order to create effective communication, communication tools or media are needed.

The word media comes from Latin which literally means intermediary or introduction<sup>2</sup>. In the teaching and learning perspective, the media is an introduction to information from teachers to students to achieve effective learning. More specifically, the notion of media in the teaching and learning process tends to be interpreted as graphic, photographic, or electronic tools for capturing, processing, and rearranging visual or verbal information.

Learning media is anything that is used as an intermediary or liaison from the information provider, namely the teacher to the recipient of the information or students which aims to stimulate students to be motivated and able to follow the learning process as a whole and meaningfully. There are five components in terms of learning media:

1. As an intermediary message or material in the learning process.
2. As a learning resource.
3. As a tool to stimulate student motivation in learning.
4. As an effective tool to achieve complete and meaningful learning outcomes.
5. As a tool to acquire and improve capabilities.

These five components collaborate well will have implications for the successful achievement of learning in accordance with the expected targets<sup>3</sup>. Learning media are all forms of tools, materials, or technology used to convey information, content, or learning materials to students. The media is designed to assist students in gaining understanding, expanding knowledge, and developing skills in a particular field of learning. Learning media can take many forms, ranging from printed materials such as textbooks, magazines and leaflets, to electronic media such as video, audio, animation, learning software and online learning platforms. Learning media can also include the use of physical tools such as models, interactive whiteboards, laboratory equipment, and so on. The purpose of using learning media is to facilitate a more interesting, interactive, and effective learning process. By using appropriate learning media, students can be actively involved in learning, develop deeper understanding, improve memory, and apply learning concepts in real situations.

The advantages of using learning media include increasing students' interest and learning motivation, visualizing abstract concepts, providing variations in teaching methods, providing real learning experiences, and facilitating independent learning. In addition, learning media can also overcome obstacles in learning such as space and time limitations, and help students with special needs.

However, it is important to remember that learning media is not the main goal of learning itself. Media is only a tool that must be used appropriately and in accordance with the learning context. In designing and using learning media, it is important to consider learning objectives, student characteristics, learning content, and relevant teaching approaches.

Thus, instructional media has an important role in supporting an effective and innovative learning process, and can improve the learning experience of students by utilizing technological advantages and creativity in conveying information and learning materials.

In the school environment, the teacher certainly uses learning media as an intermediary in conveying material according to the subjects to be taught. With the media at least the teacher is helped and makes the delivery of material faster and concise. However, not all educational media are learning media, while learning media is definitely part of educational media. In educational media it covers a wider range of things and has complex sub-items such as curricula, libraries, computer labs and so on. While the scope of learning media is even more micro in the learning process conveyed by the teacher to students.

Therefore, the media is the most integral and important part in the utilization of space and time, according to the material presented. By optimizing the use of media teachers and students can both learn and master the material. The use of media can arouse student interest in learning and influence student psychology in capturing material intentions. Apart from that, the media can

increase knowledge, understanding and intentions that are more concrete than conventional delivery and appear abstract in capturing material. Students are able to respond to material with full interest if the learning takes place in accordance with the present or phenomena brought from the surrounding environment<sup>4</sup>.

### **3.2. Learning Media Functions**

There are several functions of learning media according to experts summarized by Arsyad (2017), namely:

1. Gerlach and Ely put forward 3 characteristics of learning media used in education, namely:
  1. Fixative Property, a characteristic that describes the ability to record, store, preserve, and reconstruct an object or phenomenon.
  2. Manipulative feature, moving a phenomenon or object that cannot be reached properly by presenting it with manipulated objects in a short time in the classroom
  3. Distributive characteristics (Distributive Property), transporting objects or phenomena that exist through space and simultaneously presented to students.
2. Levie and Lentz suggest 4 media and learning functions, especially visual media, namely, attentional functions, affective functions, cognitive functions and compensatory functions.
3. Angkowo and Kosasih, namely learning media function as learning aids that influence the situation, the conditions of the learning environment in order to achieve the learning objectives that have been created and designed by the teacher.
4. Munandi, the existence of media can overcome students' socio-cultural barriers, especially when communicating or interacting in learning. With certain media, cultural diversity can be united through learning media<sup>5</sup>.

Overall, learning media has an important role in supporting an effective and innovative learning process. These media can increase understanding, motivate students, increase engagement, and facilitate independent learning.

### **3.3. Principle in the Selection and Using of Learning Media**

Several principles in the selection of instructional media are as follows, Must be in accordance with the goals to be achieved; Based on a clear concept; According to the characteristics of students; According to the student's learning style; In accordance with environmental conditions and existing facilities.

There are several principles of using Learning media : Must be appropriate and directed; In accordance with the learning material; In accordance with the interests, needs and conditions of students; Pay attention to effectiveness and efficiency and In accordance with the teacher's ability to operate it.

From some of these principles of selection and use, the teacher can determine what media is right and suitable to be applied in the study room in accordance with the material

to be delivered. In addition, the most important thing about using this media is to use appropriate media and a teacher is able to operate it so that there are no obstacles when learning takes place, but there are many problems that cause teachers to be reluctant to use learning media due to several factors, namely, teachers find it bothersome, expensive, cannot, is not available, lacks appreciation.

### **3.4. Learning media in Islamic boarding school in Digital Era**

One form of the uniqueness of Islamic boarding schools which until now still survives in the learning process is learning that is still classical with a focus on learning on the yellow book learning method. The term “Kitab kuning” was inspired because the paper used in the book is yellow, or white because it is aged so that the color turns yellow<sup>6</sup>. Furthermore, explained that they are called yellow books because indeed these books were printed on yellow paper, although now many of them have been reprinted on white paper.

The world of education, including Islamic boarding schools, after the presence of the disruptive innovation phenomenon is predicted to enter the era of digitalization of the education system, where teaching and learning activities will change completely. Classrooms have evolved with digital learning patterns that provide a more creative, participatory, diverse and comprehensive learning experience. The existence of information technology has erased geographical boundaries which triggers the emergence of new ways to produce new innovations. developments in digital technology with Artificial Intelligence (AI) that turn data into information, making it easy and inexpensive for people to obtain. Now we can see that many teachers or ustadz when teaching have given online-based assignments where the search for information is not just fixated on printed books. This can be seen in several Islamic boarding schools and school libraries that have started to use technology, both in the form of e-books and online internet<sup>7</sup>.

Islamic boarding schools in the current era are required to continue to make updates so that they remain relevant to contemporary conditions that are increasingly modern, complex, and dynamic. Especially in the current era of digitalization, when human relations have crossed national territorial boundaries in the economic, social, technological, cultural, industrial and communication fields. This is where Islamic boarding schools, with their open nature, inevitably, ready, or not, must accept new experiences, present and future-oriented renewals, without abandoning their main identity as Islamic educational institutions<sup>8</sup>

Islamic boarding schools as progressive educational institutions facing the development of globalization will continue to survive on an Islamic basis, modernization progress, and while maintaining local cultural wisdom. This is what is meant by educational transformation (learning transformation) in developing Islamic boarding schools. All of this is to anticipate future needs and challenges in line with the development of society in the Digital Era.

## **4. Conclusions**

Islamic boarding schools with their principles can stick to their rules, but this must not limit the use of the best learning media for their students. Like it or not, the use of technology in Islamic boarding schools must be carried out, to prepare students who are ready to compete in the future. However, adjustments in the selection of media and learning resources that use technology must be made carefully, so that the value of religious education in Islamic boarding schools is not damaged by technology. So that

technology is only a tool or media to improve learning in Islamic boarding schools for both teachers and students.

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