Literation of Acculturation of Islamic Culture in Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Ali Maksum1,*, Nur Azizah2, Muhammad Afif3, and Ahmad Sahide4

1International Relations Department, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 55183
2International Relations (Master Program), Postgraduate Studies, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 55183
3Master of Islamic Studies, Postgraduate Studies, Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 55183.

Abstract. This community service intends to promote literacy relevant to the acculturation of Islamic culture in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, particularly in the Serambi Da’wah institution under the umbrella of Muhammadiyah Bangunjiwo Barat. Understanding the acculturation of Islamic and local culture is crucial because it will influence the social and religious dynamics of a community with a high degree of pluralism. In addition, this will affect the Islam preaching cycle, particularly in the Bangunjiwo Barat region and generally, in Yogyakarta, which is heavily influenced by Javanese culture and the Yogyakarta palace culture. Da’wah institutions must therefore comprehend how the dynamics of Islamic and local culture develop in society. This community service is expected to contribute to community development, particularly within the Muhammadiyah organization. Hence, the messages can be accepted by the community, particularly in Bangunjiwo Barat, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

Keywords: acculturation, local culture, transformation

1 Introduction

Putri and Zafi’s research insists that the strategy carried out by Sunan Kalijaga is a form of cultural ijtihad to preach Islam to the Javanese people who are very attached to their customs [1]. Wayang is a very effective and successful form of strategy in “Islamizing” Javanese society by using cultural elements. The da’wah strategy using wayang is a form of cultural acculturation in which Islamic values enter indirectly so that Javanese people are interested in embracing Islam [2]. In terminology, acculturation is the process of integrating two or more cultures while adapting to the dominant culture of society. This involves social, psychological, and cultural transformations. In addition, acculturation is a process by which an individual or group adopts, acquires, and adapts to a new cultural environment as a result of acculturation of a new culture or when a person is exposed to a different culture [3].

In Bangunjiwo Village, as visualized in Figure 1 and Figure 2, local cultural performances are common. However, in Bangunjiwo, the da’wah carried out by Muhammadiyah was less effective. One of which was hampered by relations with local culture. That Muhammadiyah preaching is not able to accommodate local culture is common knowledge [4]. Therefore, this situation will certainly have an impact on the acceptance of "Muhammadiyahan values" which are very important for a more advanced

* Corresponding author: ali.maksum@fisipol.umy.ac.id
society transformation. Even though Majlis Tarjih Muhammadiyah have accommodated cultural issues, the problem of the relationship between the Muhammadiyah organization and local culture still exists. [5]. Therefore, cultural literacy is important so that people understand and act wisely on the existence of culture in everyday life [6]. Of course, in this case, good literacy to understand and respond to local culture is very essential.

Figure 1. The performance of Karawitan Culture in Desa Bangunjiwo, Yogyakarta

Figure 2. The performance of Wayang Kulit in Desa Bangunjiwo, Yogyakarta

2 Methodology

The implementation of this community service used the institutional approach of Peter L Berger on Constructivism. The Serambi Da'wah AMM Muhammadiyah Bangunjiwo Barat administrators participated in literacy exercises about cultural acculturation and externalization [7] in the form of focus group discussions, and internalization (lectures). Several activities were conducted to improve the community's ability to comprehend cultural acculturation in facing various difficulties and the diversity of society. Therefore, the steps in carrying out this community service were:

1) Literacy on cultural acculturation

This step was needed as a means of literacy about the importance of cultural acculturation, especially based on existing theories and according to the Al-Qur'an and Al-
Hadith as the main guidelines for members and administrators of Serambi Dakwah AMM Muhammadiyah Bangunjiwo Barat.

2) Recommendations on da'wah strategies and organizational empowerment

This step was an effort to contribute ideas for the management of the da'wah Serambi Dakwah AMM Muhammadiyah Bangunjiwo Barat

3 Results and Discussion

In the location of this community service, namely Desa Bangunjiwo, Yogyakarta, acculturation literacy is important because the development of Islamic da'wah seemed to be less optimal. This could be characterized by a lack of inclination to encourage Islamic activities. This means that with cultural acculturation literacy, it was hoped that Islamic values can become the spirit of the local community which is very strong in adhering to customs, to enliven the syi'ar of Islam in this region. Especially for da'wah institutions such as Serambi Da'wah which are driven by the younger generation, people need to provide them so that their da'wah will have more impact.

With acculturation, it was hoped that harmony between communities, including between social organizations, will be maintained and strengthened. Conversely, weak cultural acculturation can potentially lead to conflict. This was what happened in Lampung, for example, due to acculturation failures that lead to horizontal conflicts that are very detrimental to all parties [8]. At a certain level, conflicts can also occur because religion does not share local values. Precisely, acculturation faced a serious threat as happened in Kerinci, Jambi, [9]. Thus, the action done by Muhammadiyah in Demak, Central Java, should be used as an example where the Muhammadiyah organizers could maximize existing resources to activate da'wah in the region. In addition, to activate humanitarian da'wah, art and culture also became the focus of da'wah so that they received extraordinary appreciation from the local community, especially in Demak Regency [10].

The background of Bangunjiwo Village is diverse and at the same time, it needed cultural touches in the development of its da'wah. After all, Islamic values that tend to be conservative can threaten harmony and Islamic da'wah becomes ineffective [11]. Therefore, this literacy agenda was very important to provide understanding, especially to da’wah organizations in Muhammadiyah so that their da'wah was increasingly accepted and they enlightened, and advanced the community, especially in Bangunjiwo Village, Yogyakarta.

For the time being, the activities carried out by Serambi Da'wah are highly appreciated to empower the community, especially those that mobilize the younger generation. It will be even more impressive if it is colored by cultural da'wah which will further strengthen this da'wah institution and the community will increasingly accept Islamic teachings and increase their understanding of Islamic values. The following are some visualizations of the Serambi Da'wah agenda that were socialized through various social media.
4 Conclusion

The da’wah of Islam in the modern era is very challenging, especially in very diverse societies. Apart from that, challenges also arise from local communities that strongly adhere to traditional values. The da’wah carried out by Sunan Kalijaga was very effective in broadcasting Islamic teachings in Java, Indonesia. Although da’wah institutions face various problems including packaging da’wah with various variations, elements of local cultural arts are very important to consider in da’wah activities in society, especially in Java. Da’wah organizations need to increase their understanding of the discourse on cultural acculturation in a diverse society. Therefore, literacy is an important way to strengthen the understanding of cultural acculturation literacy.

References

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