Development of Digital Competence Through Mobile Journalism at Trensains Muhammadiyah Senior High School, Sragen

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Abstract. Trensains Muhammadiyah Senior High School (SMA) Sragen is an excellent school managed by the Muhammadiyah Regional Leaders (PDM) in Sragen, Central Java. This school combines science and the Qur’an as Muhammadiyah’s flagship charity; it also combines Islamic, modern, and natural science schools. This school has also achieved many achievements. The problem is the lack of independent news publications (citizen journalism). Hence, knowledge regarding news production (mobile journalism) managed by teachers, employees, and students of SMA Trensains Muhammadiyah Sragen needs to be gained. Mobile journalism is one of the most important things because it provides digital competence for anyone with mobile journalism competence. To overcome this problem, two Community Service programs are delivered: increasing teacher competence in news writing in mobile journalism and increasing news publications and school achievement through digital media.

Keywords: Mobile Journalism, news, and SMA Trensains Muhammadiyah Sragen

1. Introduction

Education is an effort carried out consciously and planned to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have religious, and spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character, and skills that are treated by themselves, society, nation, and country [1]. The implementation of education in Indonesia has been regulated in Law No. 20 of 2003 concerning the National education system, which contains everything related to National education in Indonesia, including the definition of education, types of education, levels of education, and educational standards [2]. To run an education system, it is necessary to have education management that regulates planning, organizing, directing, supervising, and evaluating educational efforts to achieve predetermined educational goals [3]. Education management is known as the Tricenter of Education, which is where Ki Hajar Dewantara put forward this concept. The Education Tricenter is a community or youth environment. When society (children) in education is advanced, there will be many changes in habits, science, arts and culture, social values, and so on [4].

The Education Management already running the education process in Indonesia must experience development. There are three important elements in developing education, namely, family, community, and school. These three elements will socially shape children’s personality, mentality, and spirituality. Therefore, it is very important to present a child-
friendly education, guarantee the fulfillment of children’s rights, and help children to be able to grow and develop based on their potential [5]. Regarding this, Muhammadiyah is seen as having a very important role in developing education in Indonesia.

Trensains Muhammadiyah Senior High School (SMA) Sragen is an excellent school managed by the Muhammadiyah Regional Leaders (PDM) Sragen, Central Java. This school combines science and the Koran with an educational model, a real implementation of progressive Islamic ideas. The integration of education inherited by KH. Ahmad Dahlan, Muhammadiyah Education is a modern Islamic education that integrates religion with life, between faith and holistic progress [6]. As Muhammadiyah’s flagship charity, this school has achieved many achievements. Reviewing the profile of SMA Trensains Muhammadiyah Sragen, the education system here is a form of modernization between schools and Islamic boarding schools [7]. Trensains, or Science Islamic Boarding School, initiated by Agus Purwanto, is a synthesis between Islamic boarding schools and schools of natural sciences [8]. Munadi (2016) also said that apart from these two things, Trensains Muhammadiyah Senior High School Sragen combines salaf, modernity, and independent school concepts. These three things were combined simultaneously with all their advantages by making the Al-Qur’an and Hadith the basis for the development of Natural Sciences. All of this explains that, in particular, Trensains brings an understanding of the Qur’an and Hadith and natural sciences through the interaction of the two parties and the need for interaction through technology and the media of the learning process [9].

Regarding interaction through technology and media, the problem faced by Trensains Muhammadiyah Senior High School Sragen is the lack of ability of teachers and students to digital competence in mobile journalism. This digital competence is important because there are many scientific activities in the form of research, scientific experiments in the laboratory, or interesting findings from students that must be published immediately so that many people will know. Hence, the presence of mobile journalism is not only beneficial for schools, but it can also be helpful for the public who read the products found by students of Trensains Muhammadiyah High School Sragen. In the current conditions, education in Indonesia is entering the 4.0 era, namely online learning that uses the internet as a link between teachers and students [10]. Information and communication technology has changed the landscape in the world of education, so the ability in mobile journalism is one of the innovative ways [11]. Mobile journalism is an effective and efficient breakthrough to assist in developing education in Indonesia.

Mobile Journalism is a forum for collecting information widely circulated digitally in society, collaborating from various sources, editing it, and sharing it with the public in accordance with journalistic quality standards [12]. Mastering Mobile Journalism starts from the skill aspect of developing the ability to obtain and compose news. In addition, the technological element that must be mastered in Mobile Journalism is changing the news in written form and processing it into audio or audio-visual news [13]. Mobile Journalism is a central part of the digital revolution. In adopting mojo practices, news must be interesting because mobile production tends to be very flexible, can reduce production costs, and provides a fast way to produce video, audio, and multimedia content for various platforms [14]. Mobile Journalism became a development of journalism, one of the most influential knowledge-producing institutions in modern society, because it provides relevant, accurate, and verified public knowledge every day [15]. Seeing the importance of Mobile Journalism in spreading the news, Trensains Muhammadiyah Sragen High School needs to strengthen Mobile Journalism to promote or form a better school image.

Based on this situation analysis, the Community Service team and partners agreed to solve the problems faced by the partners by providing several solutions. First, the team tried
increasing teacher competence in writing news in mobile journalism. Independent publication in the media will be resolved, including the problem of the lack of news that teachers and students can write. Second, this solution is carried out by increasing the publication of school achievement news through digital media to overcome the lack of news about school achievement.

2. Methodology

The method of implementing this Community Service was carried out as follows. First, a Mobile Journalism competency development workshop was organized. In this workshop, participants were asked to bring laptops and cell phones so that the participants could write news and get to know UGC media directly. Second, the supervision of news production based on UGC media based on Mobile Journalism was taken. This production was carried out independently by the participants.

3. Results and Discussion

It started with the problem of partners lacking independent publications because so far, for publication, they only relied on the school’s website. Therefore, together with the Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta service team held Mobile Journalism training with a journalism touch. In the current era, news coverage uses more new media. Therefore, Mobile Journalism is often referred to as new media to create digitalization of information that allows accelerated dissemination of information and makes it easier to develop equal information for the public. The shifting from old media to new media creates a public space that is more flexible and faster in terms of media accessibility [16].

The Mobile Journalism training with a touch of journalism was held on Sunday morning, February 5, 2023, attended by the representatives of Trensains High School teachers and student representatives. This activity was also attended by several Muhammadiyah school teachers around Sragen area since this activity was considered very important and needed. It is hoped that this training, especially for Trensains High School teachers, will allow them to be able to create and implement the mobile journalism, from making news to uploading it on UGC media.

Figure 1. Training conducted by the community service team at Trensains High School

The activity began with an explanation of the basics of writing in relation to digital journalism, then moved on to how to use our various devices, such as mobile phones, to obtain data and materials for reporting. Then, after learning the concept of writing, the participants were accompanied to create accounts in User Generated Content (UGC) based media such as Kumparan and Kompasiana. Goldfine (2011) confirms that social media has
strength in UGC, where content is generated by users, not by editors, as in mass media institutions. UGC, which is spread via the internet, aims to share and facilitate conversations among its users[17]. The mentoring process is carried out until the participants can get an account on UGC media and publish their writing, even though, in reality, not all participants can immediately publish on UGC media. When the participants already have an account, not all participants can post immediately. At that time, it was recorded only one person could publish on Kumparan during the training.

Before the training, the number of independent publications, especially by students and teachers, was minimal, then after the training, it was seen that there was a significant increase compared to before the training. Then it can be seen that the teacher’s writings appear in Kumparan, one of the interesting phenomena is when one of the participants can publish it on the training day after intensive mentoring. Normally, an article from a novice writer can be published. It takes up to 2 days. Kumparan was chosen because it is one of the online news portals that allows its readers to create various kinds of news and information[18]. The participant is Indah Tri, an Indonesian language teacher at Trensains Muhammadiyah High School Sragen.

“*All this time, I have a hobby of writing sir. So, with this training, I can write about various school activities, home environment, to other useful activities*” – Tri.
Afterward, some participants still had difficulties in composing sentences and words into a good paragraph in the context of journalism. However, after receiving directions, they were finally able to produce a complete, interesting article related to the development of their school. As many as 3 Kumparan accounts are actively writing today thanks to the results of Mobile Journalism training and mentoring with a digital journalism approach. The accounts are "Indah Tri Winarni", "Widayoko", and "SMA Muhammadiyah 1 Sragen".

Figure 4. Tri Winarni’s Kumparan Indah account

Figure 4. Widayoko Coil Account
This service program has brought about changes in developing digital competencies through Mobile Journalism. This has been seen by the presence of several UGC media writers who are active in writing today, thanks to the results of Mobile Journalism training and mentoring with a digital journalism approach.

4. Conclusion

Trensains Muhammadiyah Senior High School has the opportunity to increase its promotion so that the wider community is more aware of its existence. The problem faced, namely the development of digital competence through Mobile Journalism, has been solved through this service program. The main program of this Community service is to increase teacher competence in writing news in Mobile Journalism and increase the publication of school achievement news through digital media. Hopefully, this dedication can be useful for Trensains Muhammadiyah Senior High School. The development being carried out can also be more useful regarding that the Community Service team has helped with tools and production channels.

Our gratitude is uttered to the Rector of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta and the Head of LPM of Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta for their support in this community service program. We also thank Trensains Senior High School for being a cooperative partner in implementing this community service program.

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