Utilization of Facebook Group Application as an Online Learning Media in Akidah Akhlak Learning

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ABSTRACT

Background. Technology has an important role in learning media, including the use of Facebook Group applications as online learning media. This study focuses on learning Aqidah Akhlak at Darussalam Dharmasraya Islamic Boarding School.

Purpose. This study aims to explore the use of Facebook Groups as an online learning medium, identify the advantages and obstacles faced, and measure their effectiveness in increasing students' understanding of Aqidah Akhlak subjects.

Method. This research uses quantitative methods with survey models and in-depth interviews. The survey was conducted online with 20 teachers as respondents, and an in-depth interview was conducted with one of the teachers who used Facebook Groups in learning.

Results. The results showed that the use of Facebook Groups in learning Aqidah Akhlak was very effective. As many as 100% of teachers understand how to use this application, and 70% agree that Facebook Groups are very useful as a learning medium. However, there are several obstacles such as the need for internet quota and a stable network.

Conclusion. Facebook groups as online learning media are very helpful for the teaching and learning process, especially in increasing students' understanding and enthusiasm for learning. Despite some technical obstacles, the app remains an effective solution in distance learning. The research suggests that the use of Facebook Groups be further integrated into the learning curriculum to maximize the benefits of technology in education.

KEYWORDS

Aqidah Akhlak, Islamic Boarding School, Online Learning, Utilization of Facebook Application.

INTRODUCTION

Covid-19 is a dangerous virus that has swept the entire world and Indonesia is no exception which spreads so quickly (Donthu &; Gustafsson, 2020; Haqqi et al., 2021; Stanojević, 2020). Therefore, most countries around the world implement various rules so that the spread of Covid-19 does not chain wider and longer, including the

Indonesian state also applies rules that are carried out in almost all regions of Indonesia by carrying out Large-Scale Social Restrictions (Anzola et al., 2022; Blume et al., 2020; van Bakel et al., 2021). It is clear that this regulation has a huge impact on community activities in Indonesia, both in terms of economy, socialization and education (Hoang et al., 2021; Mofijur et al., 2021; Tran et al., 2020). Each country and region has its own way to maintain the health of its people so as not to be infected with COVID-19.

Education is something that is common to everyone and is always attached to every human activity every day. The term educating is a process of giving knowledge to someone who is a student in order to have good morals and good understanding (Macpherson et al., 2018; Mesui et al., 2019; Rajagopal & Rajagopal, 2018). Education really needs technology as a learning medium so that educators and students can communicate with each other without having to meet and also so that students can make a plan about life goals and ideals (Mursidi et al., 2019; Rodríguez-Paz et al., 2020; Stranford et al., 2020). As a millennial generation in the 21st century, students should get learning that supports interest in learning, not boring and utilizing technological advances today (Chin et al., 2019; Dahdal, 2021; Stupar &; Ćar, 2022).

Before COVID-19 spread throughout the world, learning about technology and communication had been learned in several schools in Indonesia. However, this online learning process is still a new learning method in the world of education, especially in Indonesia (Foo et al., 2021; Seymour-Walsh et al., 2020; K. Wang et al., 2021). Online learning media is software media in which there is information, messages and learning materials for students with the help of hardware so that all information is right on target, so in this case learning media is needed that is able to raise enthusiasm and foster skills and independence in students in learning (Hoang et al., 2021; Kochuvilayil et al., 2021; Manocha et al., 2018). Online-based learning media requires the help of sophisticated tools such as cellphones and computers, optimization on mobile phones is also needed because students tend to use mobile phones rather than computers (Imran et al., 2020; Krznarić et al., 2020; S. Wang et al., 2020). The decreasing human interest in understanding and learning the internet will have an impact on a person's lifestyle, study and work and increase people's anxiety regarding high security threats. However, people's lives today cannot be separated from technological advances and the use of the internet. With the advancement of technology, it requires teachers to dare to change methods in learning.

The Facebook group application is a type of online-based learning media used in today's technological era in order to provide convenience in the online teaching and learning process (Patahuddin et al., 2020; Tan Huynh &; Thi Ut Nguyen, 2020; Zankadi et al., 2018). The Facebook application is software designed by Google and can be accessed for free to be used to help get information and can be used as a learning medium, such as sending, channeling and receiving messages both in the form of photos, audio, and video. Through this Facebook application, teachers can distribute assignments and teachers can assess student assignments (Al-Azawei, 2019; Kazaishvili &; Khmiadashvili, 2021; Prescott et al., 2020). The Facebook application can be used through computers, laptops and even handheld phones so that it can make it easier for users to access at any time both from students and teachers (Gearhart et al., 2022; Soebandhi et al., 2018; Ulla & Perales, 2021).

Facebook groups are created to facilitate relationships between teachers and students without meeting in person or face to face and taking time. That way the teacher can make the class like an offline class at school as usual and the learning process can be followed by anyone who wants to join the class (Awidi et al., 2019; Lo &; Hew, 2020; Silva et al., 2018). Students' cognitive abilities can increase when learning through the use of this Facebook group application so that

educators can develop learning activities even though learning is carried out face-to-face or online learning (Banker &; Park, 2020; Epstein et al., 2019; Yotyodying et al., 2022). Distance learning using Facebook groups can facilitate the learning process because with this Facebook group teachers can evaluate to what extent the abilities and responsibilities of students towards the tasks that have been given (Klassen et al., 2018; Pelicans et al., 2021; Sá &; Serpa, 2020).

Students in learning aqidah akhlak are required to be able to think rationally, logically and critically, be sensitive to the surrounding environment, be able to analyze something, stick to faith and belief, be conscientious and never give up facing all obstacles in the teaching and learning process. Facebook groups allow learning to take place efficiently because there students and teachers can exchange information, ask, answer, channel and respond to every task at hand. But in using Facebook groups there are some difficulties such as users of this Facebook application are required to have internet quota and a good internet network, then discussions can only use messages and must have a lot of storage space in order to store every file sent by teachers or students.

There are several previous studies that are relevant to the research that researchers are currently doing, including about the use of Facebook groups as virtual classrooms in the world of education. For example (Anspach et al., 2019) conducted research on self-perception of knowledge in receiving news on Facebook. The result found is that Facebook news feeds can provide political information to learning. Furthermore (Sirivedin et al., 2018) conducted research on the influence of Facebook on the English learning behavior of Thai teachers. The results obtained by Facebook significantly help improve writing skills. (Kazanidis et al., 2018) conducted research on the comparison of student learning experiences using the community of inquiry model. As a learning platform, Facebook as a learning platform has similar perceptions of teaching and cognitive presence. Furthermore (Saini &; Abraham, 2019) examined the application of the Facebook based learning approach in pre-service teacher education, the Facebook application can significantly increase learning achievement and the level of involvement of pre-service teachers. Lastly (Moorthy et al., 2019) conducted research on the benefits of Facebook towards studying at Malaysian Private Universities. The results showed that Facebook is a factor that determines a very important positive relationship with the intentions and behaviors used.

The purpose of this study was to find out the extent and how to use Facebook groups as online-based learning media in learning Aqidah Akhlak at the Darussalam Dharmasraya Islamic boarding school. This research was also carried out to find out what are the shortcomings, difficulties and obstacles experienced by teachers and students in using the Facebook group application in the teaching and learning process. How to use Facebook groups to provide convenience in terms of sending, distributing and grading assignments without direct meetings between teachers and students is also a major factor in this study. The problems found in the Facebook group application are such as obstacles that occur in the use and application of Facebook groups in learning and difficulties in discussing because discussions can only be done through the chat column. The factors causing such problems in Facebook groups are the weak internet network of media users.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research was conducted by quantitative methods with a survey model and an in-depth interview with one of the teachers who used the Facebook group application as an online learning medium. The survey model method is used because it is in line with the purpose of the study, which is to obtain and analyze opinions from teachers related to the use of the Facebook group application (Osman et al., 2018). While the interview process that is carried out in depth is useful to get a more

complete and clear explanation, about the extent of the use of Facebook groups for learning activities. The place where this research was carried out was the Darussalam Dharmasraya Islamic Boarding School on Akidah Akhlak learning during odd semester 2022 learning. The reason researchers chose this time is because at this time it is very rare for schools to use online-based media in the learning process, so teachers can conclude with experience during the online learning process and can find out the extent of the use of Facebook groups during the pandemic that has passed.

The results obtained in this study were sourced from teachers of the Darussalam Dharmasraya Islamic boarding school who filled out a questionnaire on google from. This technique was chosen in order to make it easier for all teachers to become research subjects. The results obtained from this technique are as many as 20 teachers who filled out the questionnaire on the google from link that has been created and distributed. Of these, this questionnaire was filled by several teachers who taught the subject of Aqidah akhlak at the Darussalam Dharmasraya Islamic boarding school. An in-depth interview was conducted, addressed to one of the teachers who taught by using this facebook media group to get more actual, complete and clear information.

Data collection in this study was carried out by means of a survey, namely by making several questionnaires first on google from about the use of Facebook groups in learning (Al-Yousef et al., 2019; Öncel &; Erdeve, 2020). The link from the questionnaire that has been created is then shared. The question on google from is related to the use of Facebook groups in learning aqidah akhlak. After the survey, researchers conducted an in-depth interview with one of the teachers who used the Facebook group in the learning process of Aqidah akhlak. The questions asked by the researcher were answered well and clearly and completely by the resource persons related to the use of this Facebook group.

The data collected from the results of this study is then presented with quantitative methods, namely by calculating the percentage obtained from each question that has been filled in on google from (Hirve &; Pradeep Reddy, 2019; Prabawangi et al., 2021). The percentage that has been obtained is then presented with the words of the researcher in the form of a table and discussed using the opinions of experts who conducted the research and also research from previous researchers that are similar to the research that researchers are researching today. In the discussion section of this research, the arguments and ideas of researchers are put forward and developed by placing researchers as mediators of many conclusions from research that have been obtained before.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Researchers had previously conducted a *survey* of 20 teachers of the Darussalam Dharmasraya Islamic boarding school through filling out questionnaires on *google from.* In general, teachers in this school already know and have even implemented a *facebook group* on learning Aqidah akhlak at the Darussalam Dharmasraya Islamic boarding school by using this *facebook group* is considered very useful and helps the online learning process, especially in learning aqidah akhlak which makes the teaching and learning process more effective and efficient, supporting in facilitating the distance learning process and Improve students' ability and enthusiasm in learning. The shortcomings contained in this *facebook* group are that teachers and students must have internet quota and have a good network so that there are no obstacles in carrying out the teaching and learning process at school and have adequate and sufficient storage space.

No.	Question	Answer (percentage)	Information
1.	Do all students in your class understand how to use *Facebook groups* ?	100% very understanding	All students in the class understand using *Facebook groups*
2.	Do you agree to use *Facebook* groups at school as a learning medium?	70% strongly agree and 30% disagree less	14 000 teachers strongly agree with *Facebook groups* as a learning medium and 6 others disagree
3.	Is *a Facebook* group useful to use as a learning medium?	75% is very useful and 25% is quite useful	15 teachers stated that *the Facebook* group was very useful as a learning medium and 5 others stated that it was quite useful
4.	Do you understand how to use *fscebook groups*?	100% paham	20 00 teachers are very familiar with using *Facebook groups*
5.	Is *a Facebook* group very suitable for online-based learning media?	80% is very suitable and 20% is quite suitable	16 teachers said it was suitable and 4 teachers said it was quite suitable
6.	What are the benefits of *Facebook groups*?	30% ease the learning process and 70% of options are correct	6 teachers stated that Facebook groups are useful in facilitating the learning process and 14 others All Facebook group options are correct
7.	What are the shortcomings of Facebook groups ?	30% are difficult to discuss and 50% of the network must be stable and 20% of all options are correct	6 teachers said *Facebook groups* were difficult to discuss and 10 teachers said the network should be stable and 4 teachers said all options were correct
8.	Can *Facebook* groups encourage students' enthusiasm in learning?	80% very can and 20% can	16 teachers stated that *Facebook* groups can encourage students' enthusiasm to learn and 4 teachers said they can.

Table 1. Research Results At Darussalam Islamic Boarding School

Facebook application is so popular among teenagers because it can be used as a shortcut in learning. The development of technology has become an important instrument for the world of education to obtain and obtain actual information. Social media has attracted the interest and desire

of many people to use it as a learning medium because it is very fun, suitable and very flexible. At this time most Facebook among teenagers is only used as a place to find friends, just chat casually and watch videos. Even though this Facebook application is a very useful media if used in the world of education to streamline the teaching and learning process in schools. Learning media is an intermediary used to convey learning messages. Smooth learning cannot be eliminated in relation to a device used, media is all forms of tools or intermediaries used to achieve learning objectives. Related to this, the availability of internet services in the form of Facebook applications that can be accessed quickly and easily via cellphones and computers. With various features that have been available on Facebook, teachers and students can use it to provide a smooth learning process and can combine online and offline learning to be much more effective through Facebook groups.

Facebook group is an item in the Facebook application that can be used to communicate by many people both in making friends and as a learning medium in the world of education. The use of Facebook groups is also useful in other fields, not only in the world of education but also very useful in the field of work, business and other professions and fields. Facebook groups can also be used as a place to present learning materials as well as provide grades for students. Learning using Facebook groups is one of the most effective and productive online learning media, Facebook groups can only be accessed if students and teachers have downloaded the Facebook application and already have their own accounts.

Facebook group is a type of media with which it can provide momentum and classroom atmosphere such as learning in face-to-face classes as usual, although not directly face to face and meet in the teaching and learning process. However, the teaching and learning process still runs effectively and efficiently, namely with teachers providing material and assignments to students through the use of Facebook groups to help support learning activities. Based on this, it can be concluded that Facebook groups can do distance learning without being limited by space and time so that teachers can still carry out discussions and assess the tasks collected by students through Facebook groups that have been formed by teachers or students in learning the aqidah akhlah.

Facebook is one of the most popular apps in the world. Facebook was originally introduced to the public in 2004. Many people know about this application and not even a few people who can use and apply it. The teachers and students at that time were very familiar with Facebook as a medium of communication in cyberspace, but they had not done learning through this Facebook group. Then in 2005 Facebook began to grow rapidly in the world of education so that at that time this application had accessed more than 800 college networks in the United States. With the passage of time Facebook began to be used in the world of Education with the support of communication models in the form of group features owned by this application which in the digital era, Facebook groups became a very important medium in the online-based learning process.

At this time Facebook groups are increasingly popular in the world of Education, especially when the pandemic covid_19 hit the entire world, this media is widely used in streamlining the learning process. With the increasing number of social media users, especially Facebook, currently more than 1 billion people use Facebook groups in just one month. Discussing Facebook groups is certainly inseparable from the community formed by each group member both students and teachers, because by communicating all information and schoolwork will be given by teachers and can be received by students. In addition to using and utilizing Facebook groups as a learning medium, teachers and students also need to learn new things about technology in order to further develop the abilities of students and teachers about the progress and development of technology today.

In essence, learning and gaining knowledge is not only required of students alone, but everyone is required to demand and seek as much knowledge as possible, as well as knowledge of online-based learning media. Educators and education staff should also always update their knowledge, because basically teachers educate students to become knowledgeable people, so first the teacher must have good abilities and knowledge in supporting student needs so that something does not happen floating in learning, therefore a teacher must really master what he conveys in class when the teaching and learning process takes place so that it does not happen A loophole for students to refute all material presented by the teacher so that the material is understood by students.

Students are the main object of Education so that students are required to learn and understand the learning media they use in the teaching and learning process. Many students feel bored with online-based learning, this is due to lack of attention from parents when he studies at home and also as a teacher must be able to guide students and carry out various developments and methods that are in accordance with learning circumstances, and the learning process should not be rigid or too focused so that students are so tired and bored when sitting in an online room. Therefore, teachers must be able to form an atmosphere that can be interesting and fun and can arouse students' enthusiasm and interest in learning in the learning process.

The virtues or benefits of using Facebook group learning media in learning aqidah akhlak are certainly very many. In using Facebook groups, teachers and students only need to have a Facebook account and include all class students as participants in the group, by using this Facebook group students do not need to go to school to follow the learning process or collect assignments, and also through this media students can receive material quickly and easily so it is not difficult to discuss and various information. Facebook groups can also be a place of jokes for students and teachers when bored and bored in learning so that even though the learning process is online-based, the enthusiasm and willingness of students in learning is not lost so that with that teachers are easier to develop students' abilities to achieve educational goals.

Apart from the various benefits that can be taken from Facebook groups. So obviously there are also some weaknesses and constraints in this media, such as the need for sufficient quotas, poor networks, and also a little student cellphone feeding space will be the main problem in receiving assignments and information in online-based learning. Although technology is developing so rapidly, not all regions in Indonesia have internet networks. In fact, it also happens that with this online learning, students do not care about their responsibilities and obligations as students who are the main object in order to achieve all educational goals.

Not a few also various obstacles contained in the use of this Facebook group, researchers can conclude and get these obstacles through the survey results that have been obtained. Weaknesses and obstacles in the use of Facebook groups cannot be accessed if the unstable or poor network on mobile phones used by students or teachers in learning aqidah akhlak. So with these constraints, the learning process becomes disrupted and does not run well so that the realization of the goals of Education that have been ingrained as the main vision and mission in the world of Education that must be realized even with the various shortcomings that occur in learning media.

After knowing there are many advantages and disadvantages in using this facebook group as an online media in the teaching and learning process at the Darussalam Islamic boarding school, but this media is very useful and very useful for all students and teachers, because through this media that helps smooth and develop the learning process and to be more effective by combining online and offline learning so that students have more enthusiasm in learning Because the learning process is not focused on one media only. So with this will produce and give birth to students who are intellectually good and able to develop in accordance with the times.

CONCLUSION

Facebook group is a type of media with which it can provide momentum and classroom atmosphere such as learning in face-to-face classes as usual, although not directly face to face and meet in the teaching and learning process. However, the teaching and learning process still runs effectively and efficiently, namely with teachers providing material and assignments to students through the use of Facebook groups to help support learning activities. The use of Facebook groups as an online learning medium in aqidah akhlak lessons has been very good and has met all needs in the world of Education. This Facebook group is an online-based learning class. This media is needed and has many benefits in smoothing the continuity of the teaching and learning process, especially in covid_19 pandemic conditions, through the Facebook application in which there are many features, one of which is a Facebook group that makes it easier for teachers and students to communicate in learning. With this Facebook group, it is able to ignite students' enthusiasm to learn and hone their knowledge in order to achieve educational goals.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTION

Look this example below:
Author 1: Conceptualization; Project administration; Validation; Writing - review and editing.
Author 2: Conceptualization; Data curation; In-vestigation.
Author 3: Data curation; Investigation.

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