

MOSQUE LIBRARY AND ITS ROLE IN INTELLECTUAL LIFE OF THE NATION

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ABSTRACT

This paper discuss the mosque library and its role in the intellectual life of the nation. The mosque as a place of worship for Muslims can facilitate the community in getting information through the library. The mosque library in Indonesia is very important, because the Indonesian people are Muslim majority and they have low read interest. The existence of the mosque library did not escape the attention of the National Library of Indonesia as a patrons of libraries in Indonesia. The National Library of Indonesia proclaimed empowerment movement of library to develop read interest society as a manifestation of community education. Empowerment movement of the library is done by building different types of libraries, such as mobile library, school libraries (including boarding school libraries), and a place of worship libraries, one of which is the mosque library. In this paper the mosque libraries that is studied is Masjid Raya Pondok Indah, which is located in South Jakarta and Masjid Istiqlal, in Central Jakarta. The scope of study includes the collections, services, users, librarians, library space, and the development of the library. From observations we can conclude that the mosque libraries have a role in improving the reading interest of Indonesian society, so that the ideals of the nation of Indonesia in the intellectual life of the nation by improving the quality of human resources can be realized.

KEYWORDS : *Mosque library, intellectual of the nation, reading interest*

INTRODUCTION

The rapid advances in science and technology and the impact of globalization is very hard in Indonesia. The flow of information such as television and the internet has so dominated the lives of the people of Indonesia. As a result, the reading culture of Indonesia people tend to be low. Civilizing indulgence read in the intellectual life of the nation's efforts are the responsibility of government and the entire people of Indonesia. The development of reading culture in the context of the intellectual life of the nation is the responsibility of government and all the people of Indonesia. The achievement of reading culture in the community are conducted through the provision of library facilities in public places within easy reach. Currently, the government has got great attention to the library by the release of Library Act number 43 year 2007 on library. The Article 22 paragraph 4 states that the public can hold public libraries to facilitate the implementation of lifelong learning community. Accordingly, the National Library has proclaimed empowerment movement in the library to develop reading interest as a form of national education. Empowerment movement of the library was done by setting up various type of public libraries in Indonesia, among them are mobile library, village library, city library, and the library worship building, one of which is the mosque libraries.

The existence of the mosque library in Indonesia is very important, because the Indonesian people are Muslim majority and the intensity of their visit to this place is very high. In addition to functioning as a place of worship, mosques functions also as a center of Islamic activities such as education, culture, politics, society, and others. For this reason, the mosque is expected to improve the quality of life of people. Islam recommends Muslims to seek knowledge, as in the first verse in the Qur'an about the reading command. God commanded the man to read as a way to study. Awareness of the importance of reading has encouraged Muslims to establish a facility that can hold reading materials at their places of worship. So, in an effort to realize a lifelong scholarly community and encourage development of reading interest and insight of thinking the people, it should be established the mosque library to complement mosques facilities as a place of worship of Muslims. Prophet Muhammad was already pointed out how the mosque as a place of prayer but also functioned as a place to study. Islamic Library was developed in Indonesia. Most of the great mosque in Indonesia has had a library. Development of mosques libraries in Indonesia to the attention of the government with the establishment of Indonesia Agency for Developing Mosque Libraries by Indonesia Masjid Council SK Number: 06/DMI/PP/KPTS/II/1991 by the Minister of Religious Affairs on February 25, 1991, which according to its guidelines mosque library, will be established to the district level throughout the country. This paper will present an overview of the development of the two mosques libraries in Jakarta, Pondok Indah

Mosque is located in South Jakarta and the Istiqlal Mosque in Central Jakarta. The scope of research includes the collection, users, librarians, library space, the location of the mosque, and the development of the library. Two of the mosque libraries are expected to be a representative example of the mosque libraries in supporting reading interest of Indonesian society.

MOSQUE LIBRARY

Mosque library is a room part of a mosque which contains the sources information in the form of books and other materials are intended for guidance and educational development of religious communities. Mosque library is a public library that serves all levels of society and be a part of life and community activities. Benefits that can be taken from the mosque libraries, which are to guide the public in using library materials, reading materials expand, develop interest in reading, and the most important thing is to increase the awareness of love and religion.

READING INTEREST

Tampubolon (1993) explains that the reading interest is the willingness and desire to recognize letters and can grasp the meaning of the text. Lilawati (Sandjaja, 2005) defines reading interest is a powerful and deep concern accompanied with feelings of pleasure on reading activities and can direct a person to read on their own accord. Interest in reading is a permanent characteristic of the process of life-long learning that contribute to the development, such as solving problems, understanding the character of others, causing a sense of security, good interpersonal relationships and a growing appreciation of the daily activities. (Cole, 1963; Elliot et al., 2000). From a variety of source on reading interests it can be concluded, that interest in reading is an activity carried out with great diligence and tend to settle in order to establish patterns of communication with yourself so that readers can find meaning in writing and obtain information as the transmission of ideas to develop the intellect and life-long learning and be done with full awareness and bring about good feelings, love, and joy.

PONDOK INDAH MOSQUE LIBRARY

Pondok Indah Mosque is a large mosque in South Jakarta, Indonesia. Mosque location is strategic, because it is located on the edge of the highway and was in an elite residential area and close to offices and shopping centers. Mosque visitors are local people, employees, and passersby or anyone who finish shopping at Pondok Indah Mall. Pondok Indah Mosque set up various mosque facilities for the prosperity of the mosque, such as multi-purpose hall, which is used for various activities of the mosque. The hall was also rented for weddings, meetings, or other events. In addition to the hall, there are also the schools for Al Qur'an for children who learn the Al Qur'an. Other facilities such as clinics, shops, canteens, etc. are also available. One of the other supporting facilities is the mosque library.

Pondok Indah Mosque library was founded in 1997, and in 1998 received an award winner best mosque library in Jakarta by the National Library. In the same year, precisely on February 21, 1998, Pondok Indah Mosque library was inaugurated as a pilot library by Jakarta Governor, Sutiyoso. Pondok Indah Mosque library help to provide the tools and learning resources for the public in the field of Islamic religious knowledge, especially about the history of Islam, fiqh, the Qur'an and hadith, as well as Indonesia dictionary - Arab or otherwise. In addition to a collection of Islamic books, Pondok Indah Mosque library also provides other scientific books and newspapers. There are about 10,000 titles of books, which are obtained through purchases and gifts. Purchase funds from foundations, and gifts are usually obtained from the individual or of institutions, such as the Ministry of Religious Affairs or the Embassy of Saudi Arabia. Library users are usually people around and students. They come to the library with a different purpose. Some are coming to fill their free time while waiting for the next prayer time, one wants to borrow books for college, and there is also a borrowed book of Islam to increase their knowledge about Islam. To become a member of the library free of charge. Amount of borrowing a maximum of 3 books for 2 weeks and can be renewed within 1 week. Various mosque activities such as book coloring, muslim fashion show, and *marawis* (Islamic based song) is one way of promoting the library, because registration of the participants through the library. Members of the library amounted to 701 people. Library staffing is 2 people, with non-library science background. The width mosque library is 48 meters square with a comfortable reading room. However, the location of the Pondok Indah Mosque library is not strategic, because it is situated behind the mosque, so visitors who visit is only people who know its location. The plan library renovation will be done this year. The location will be moved to a more strategic place, which is next to the mosque and on the side of the road, so hopefully more people who know where the library.

ISTIQLAL MOSQUE LIBRARY

Istiqlal Mosque is the largest mosque in Indonesia, which became the pride of Indonesia people. The mosque situated in a very strategic location, being in Central Jakarta and is close to National Monument, which became an icon of the city and also the nation. For the prosperity of the mosque, Istiqlal Mosque also set up a library to provide for the needs of Islamic information resources for the community. Istiqlal Mosque library is the central point of Islamic libraries in Indonesia and managed in collaboration with the Library Management Executive Agency Istiqlal Mosque (BPPMI). Istiqlal Mosque library has a vision of a modern Islamic library with a collection of high quality, cutting-edge management systems and human resources professionals. One of the goals is to assist the government in the intellectual life of the nation by improving the reading culture. Improving culture reading is done by organizing activities such as organizing exhibitions of Islamic books, discussion of Islamic books and social problems, lectures, seminars, workshops literature, and cultural reading of society development, issued various Islamic publications, publishing newsletters, magazines, and journal regularly about literature and society in order to foster interest and activities of Islamic books and the community. Istiqlal Mosque library collections amounted to 14,945 titles, 29,142 copies. Diverse types of collections in accordance with the needs of library users, consisting of 60% Islamic related matters and 40% other fields. The collection type includes books, periodicals (journals, magazines, newsletters and newspapers), audio visual (DVD, VCD, CD and cassette), photos, and e-resources. Istiqlal Mosque library got its collections purchases and gifts (from individuals and institutions). Collection of the library is using the Dewey Decimal Classification system and Islam Subject Headings. Data collection included a database that serves as an information retrieval tool for the user. Information retrieval is done by automation and the manual, through the OPAC and card .

The services are by open system, the books can be borrowed by members with a maximum loan amount 2 (two) books, for 2 weeks and can be extended for 1 week. Activities undertaken at the Istiqlal Mosque library which is organized in collaboration with various institutions of libraries, documentation, and information, both public and private, especially in the development of Islamic information networks including ; conducting training programs of technical library to improve the knowledge of the library staff ; hold regular meetings to coordinate the Islamic libraries ; construct a system of classification, subject heading, and Islam thesaurus ; and construct a system of Islam bibliographic description based on AACR2. The number of library visitors every day an average of 30 people. To increase the number of visitors, the library held a promotional activity through the dissemination of leaflets, rituals of Hajj for the childrens, the children's creativity, and open

the Istiqlal Mosque library website. The number of members of the library is 1565 people and the librarian is 8 people.

Library location is on the ground floor of room 7 Istiqlal Mosque, with an area of 676 square meters, consisting of the reading room of the children and adults. The reading rooms are equipped with Air Conditioner and a comfortable sofa, circulation space, space of education and training for 30 participants, the retrieval information space (OPAC), catalog cabinets, and tables to fill in the attendance of library users.

CONCLUSION

The low reading culture of the people of Indonesia due to the influence of the flow of information such as television and the internet are very large. The low reading interest is of concern to many parties, including governments. Fond of reading culture in Indonesia began to increase within the framework of the intellectual life of the nation. One way it does is through the provision of library facilities in public places, easily accessible, one of which is the library of the mosque.

The existence of the mosque library in Indonesia is very important, because the majority of Indonesian people are Muslim. With the establishment of the mosque libraries it is expected to increase reading interest among the Indonesian people, especially visitors of the mosque. They come to the mosque not only to worship, but also to increase knowledge by utilizing the collections of the library. Pondok Indah Mosque library and Istiqlal Mosque library are two examples of libraries that have a role in developing the reading culture by providing information resources needed by the community so as to assist the government in the intellectual life of the nation.

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