

Investigating the Perspective of Science and Technology Students on the Ulumul Qur'an Course (The Study of Phenomenology in the Learning Process)

Rohmatun Lukluk Isnaini

Arabic Language Departement, Faculty of Tarbiyah and Education, UIN Sunan Kalijaga,
Jl. Marsda Adisucipto No 1 Yogyakarta 55281, Indonesia. Tel. +62-274-540971, Fax. +62-274-519739.

Corresponding author

rohmatun.isnaini@uin-suka.ac.id

Abstract: UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta has characterizing courses (such as Ulumul Qur'an) that must be taken by all students, including Science and Technology students. There are many assumptions that science and technology students will not be interested in taking this course. Thus, this study aims to investigate the perspective of science and technology students on the Ulumul Qur'an course and to get an overview of the learning process. Through phenomenological qualitative research methods, researchers collected data by interviewing students, participatory observations in the learning process, and study documentation of Semester Learning Plans (RPS). Then, the data acquisition was analyzed through five stages, namely writing down all interview transcripts, finding statements about the focus of the research, grouping these statements into meaningful units, and constructing all explanations about the meaning and essence of the informants' experiences. The results showed that by using the active learning model, students could express their critical thoughts about religion and the Qur'an. The specified discussion topics can develop broadly to confront general science and religious knowledge and also ask many questions related to belief/aqidah. The findings of this study suggest that the process of learning religious subjects in the Science and Technology class can create awareness about religious and general sciences that cannot be contradicted.

Keywords: Al-Qur'an, critical thoughts, ilmu pengetahuan, perspective of students.

Introduction

The relationship between the Qur'an (as a guideline for Islam) and science has always been a complicated but interesting conversation. This happened in the physics class of the Faculty of Science and Technology which in fact had a diverse educational background, from graduates from Islamic boarding schools, Madrasah Aliyah to state high schools. This difference also affects their point of view/perspective in linking the Qur'an as a religious guideline with science. Critical responses in the ulum Al-Qur'an class are often given at every lecture meeting, especially in the discussion of the Qur'an as a source of knowledge.

Islam is a perfect religion because it has the Qur'an which comprehensively covers all aspects of human life, including scientific investigation

(Jendri, 2019). However, unfortunately this is often contradicted by the opinion that "why can't Muslims advance scientifically? Mastery of science and technology is even controlled by people in secular countries who separate religion from science. In fact, when faced with scientific events that occur, they already exist and have been proven in the Qur'an. The current impression is that Muslims are increasingly leaving the Qur'an in terms of developing science, while non-Muslims are increasingly strengthening scientific discoveries already in the Qur'an.

From the conflict of perspectives above, the author is interested in photographing the various perspectives of students regarding the Qur'an and science that has appeared in the lecture process in the Qur'anic ulum course. The results of this study can be used to enrich the discourse on the

application of the contents of the Qur'an for the development of knowledge by Muslim intellectuals.

Method

Research question

The question to direct this research is what is the perspective of students majoring in Physics regarding the Qur'an and science?

Research purpose

This study aims to find interesting phenomena from the perspective of students majoring in Physics regarding the Qur'an and science. This phenomenon is obtained from the experiences expressed by students in Physics class.

Role of researchers

The main researcher is in charge of collecting data in the field. Then the data that has been obtained is analyzed and interpreted into a research report for publication. Then appoint another lecturer in the field of Ulum Al-Qur'an who acts as an expert who provides direction and correction of improvements to the formulation of research instruments, data analysis, and testing their validity.

Research design

This research is a qualitative research with a phenomenological approach. This approach was chosen as a scientific approach that examines how informants describe their daily world, especially how individuals consciously construct meaning from interactions with other individuals (Creswell, 1998). Data were obtained from informants through interviews that focused on finding answers about the meaning of a phenomenon. At first, the researcher determined the scope of the phenomenon under study about the perspectives of students majoring in Physics on the Qur'an and science. Researchers understand very well about the philosophical views from the background of using the approach taken, especially concepts related to the study of how informants experience this phenomenon. Next, the researcher compiles a list of questions that can reveal the meaning of the

experiences of the research subjects individually so that important daily experiences they have experienced so far emerge. So with the interview process, in this research the researcher explores various experiences of research subjects regarding the perspectives of students majoring in Physics regarding the Qur'an and science. This process is carried out for 1 month, in November 2021.

Participants and procedures

The informants in this study consisted of 37 students in the Physics class of the Faculty of Science and Technology. The data collection procedure is carried out naturally and naturally. Students as informants do not realize that the lecture process is used as a process of obtaining research data. Broadly speaking, the core questions during the interview were 1) What is your perspective on the Qur'an and science? 2) Why is the development of science in Western countries more advanced than in countries where the majority of the population is Muslim, Al-Qur'an as a source of knowledge? and 3) How do you respond to this issue?

Data analysis

The stages of data analysis techniques in phenomenological studies are important procedures that must be carried out systematically (Creswell, 1998). First, the researcher describes in full all the results of the discussion in the lecture from the experience experienced by the informant regarding his perspective on the Qur'an and science. Second, from the transcript, the researcher gets a statement about the focus of the research and details the statement so that there is no repetition. Third, the researcher grouped the statement into meaningful units. Fourth, the researcher begins to reflect on his thoughts and constructs the entire meaning of the experience of the informant and its essence. Fifth, the researcher presents his research report by providing an understanding that all experiences have an important structure (Dewanti et al., 2020).

The interpretive results of the phenomenological analysis are aimed at obtaining the depth of meaning from personal subjective expressed through experiences (interviews) in

various aspects of life (Bhanot & Verma, 2020). So, by understanding the principles of data analysis techniques above, researchers can analyze research data that has been transcribed into descriptions or tables in the context of phenomenology (Hasbiansyah, 2008). Even though in general, qualitative data analysis is the stage of researchers in compiling data systematically from the results of interviews, observations, and document searches. (Fadlillah et al, 2020).

Result and Discussion

The discourse on scientific integration continues to progress along with a paradigm shift in viewing religion and science. Students' perspectives on the Qur'an and science are divided into three patterns, namely based on Nidhal Guessoum's reconciliation theory through a quantum approach, this topic analyzes the application of the integration pattern of the Qur'an and science (Faizin, 2020), namely 1) Content The Qur'an does not contradict science, 2) It requires multiple levels of reading, and 3) requires theistic falsification.

In the first integration pattern that the content of the Qur'an does not conflict with science, Guessoum explained that there is a paradigm that brings together the point between religion and science. Both are "bosom sisters". Both are in harmony and do not conflict with each other, both in terms of sources, objectives, methods, and content. First, from the source side, the Qur'an comes from revelation which is a qauliyah verse. Meanwhile, science comes from nature which is a kauniyah verse. Both will lead to the same source, namely God. Logically, the two cannot be contradictory.

In the second integration pattern, Guessoum suggests that there is no single claim to the truth of an object, it is necessary to read the text in layers. This is useful for uncovering aspects of integration comprehensively. Multiple levels of reading in the context of the integration of science and the Qur'an requires the presentation of complex and rigid data.

The third pattern, methodological reconciliation between religion and science is seen as a solution

for both to interact and have an integrative dialogue. Guessoum suggested that the application pattern of integration based on theistic falsification is related to the methodological and metaphysical aspects. Aspects of falsification related to the rules of how the systematic work of science. Meanwhile, the metaphysical base is drawn from religious teachings as a theistic worldview in order to understand the spiritual and moral aspects (Wilber, 2009).

Conclusion

The Ulum Al-Qur'an course is a hallmark of the State Islamic University of Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta in order to provide students with knowledge about aspects of the Qur'an which include the history of the Qur'an, the sciences of the Qur'an and interpretation of the Qur'an. The hope is that after getting this course students are able to internalize the values of the Qur'an in their daily lives. But on the other hand, even though the discussion discourse is widening and developing regarding the realm of faith, it is necessary to emphasize that this course is to strengthen the belief that the Qur'an is a comprehensive guideline for all aspects of human life, not only Muslims. For this reason, the results of discussions in class about the Ulum Al-Qur'an can be used as reinforcement to believe in the Al-Qur'an which is a source of knowledge. What is noteworthy is that the decline in the development of science in the Islamic world is due to individuals from Muslims themselves who need to increase their efforts to study the Qur'an and science. So, between the Qur'an and the development of science it is important to be integrated and interconnected, without being contradicted again because both are important to learn.

References

- Bhanot, D., & Verma, S. K. 2020. Lived experiences of the Indian stigmatized group in reference to socio-political empowerment: A Phenomenological Approach. *The Qualitative Report*, 25(6), 1414-1435. Retrieved from <https://nsuworks.nova.edu/tqr/vol25/iss6/1>

- Creswell. 1998. *Qualitative Inquiry: Choosing Among Five Traditions*. USA: Sage Publications Inc.
- Dewanti, S. S., Kartowagiran, B., Jailani, & Retnawati, H. 2020. Lecturers' experience in assessing 21st-century mathematics competency in Indonesia. *Problems of Education in the 21st Century*, 78(4), 500-515. Retrieved from <https://doi.org/10.33225/pec/20.78.500>
- Fadlillah, M., Wahab, R., & Ayriza, Y. 2020. Understanding the experience of early childhood education teachers in teaching and training student independence at school. *The Qualitative Report*, 25(6), 1461-1472. Retrieved from <https://nsuworks.nova.edu/tqr/vol25/iss6/3>
- Jendri. 2019. Hubungan sains dengan agama perspektif pemikiran Ian G Barbaour. *Jadid*, 18(1), 57-78.
- Wilber, K. 2009. *The Marriage of Sense and Soul Integrating Science and Religion*. Canada: Random House.