

## SCHOOL LIBRARY MANAGEMENT TO DEVELOP STUDENTS' INTEREST IN READING IN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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### ABSTRAK

*Perpustakaan sekolah sangat penting dalam menunjang kegiatan belajar mengajar dan meningkatkan minat baca siswa. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis manajemen perpustakaan di SMP Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Mukomuko Bengkulu dalam rangka menumbuhkan dan mengembangkan minat baca siswa. Metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah observasi, wawancara, dan dokumentasi. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa manajemen perpustakaan sekolah dalam menumbuhkan dan mengembangkan minat baca siswa di SMP Annakhil Darunnajah 6 meliputi lima tahapan, meliputi: (1) Tahap perencanaan perpustakaan yang meliputi visi, misi, dan tujuan perpustakaan telah terlaksana dengan baik. (2) Tahap pengorganisasian perpustakaan meliputi pembagian tugas dan koordinasi yang masih perlu ditingkatkan. (3) Tahap pelaksanaan manajemen perpustakaan yang meliputi layanan peminjaman, layanan baca, dan layanan literasi sudah berjalan dengan baik. (4) Tahap supervisi manajemen perpustakaan dilakukan oleh penanggung jawab dengan melakukan pengamatan langsung dan laporan tertulis; dan (5) Tahap evaluasi pengelolaan perpustakaan yang dilakukan setiap minggu dan setiap bulan oleh tim perpustakaan dan kepala sekolah. Secara keseluruhan pengelolaan perpustakaan di sekolah ini sudah berjalan dengan baik, namun masih perlu adanya peningkatan dalam hal koordinasi dan evaluasi secara berkesinambungan.*

**Kata Kunci:** Pembelajaran; Manajemen Perpustakaan; Minat Baca Siswa; SMP; Strategi

### ABSTRACT

*School libraries are essential in supporting teaching and learning activities and increasing students' interest in reading. This study aims to analyse library management at Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Junior High School, Mukomuko, Bengkulu, to foster and develop students' interest in reading. The research methods used include observation, interviews, and documentation. Based on the results of the study, it shows that the management of the school library to foster and develop students' interest in reading at SMP Annakhil Darunnajah 6 includes five stages, including: (1) The library planning stage, which includes the vision, mission, and goals of the library, has been carried out well. (2) The stage of organising the library includes the division of tasks and coordination, which still needs to be improved. (3) The implementation stage of library management consists of borrowing, reading, and literacy services, which are running well. (4) The supervision stage of library management is carried out by the person in charge with direct observation and written reports; and (5) The evaluation stage of library management, which is carried out weekly and monthly by the library team and the principal. Overall, the library management at this school has been running well, but improvements are still needed in coordination and continuous evaluation.*

**Keywords:** Teaching and Learning; Library Management; Students' Interest in Reading; Junior High School; Strategy.

## INTRODUCTION

The development of the current era is characterised by various changes in various aspects of life, especially in education. One of the critical factors supporting the progress of education is the library. Libraries play an essential role in expanding knowledge, improving skills, and becoming a means of learning for the community. Both directly and indirectly, libraries educate the community and the nation (Perpusnas.go.id, 1995). The development of libraries in the world of education cannot be separated from the history of the glory of Islam, especially during the Abbasid Dynasty. Science developed rapidly then, and various study centres were established, including extensive libraries such as *Bait Al-Hikmah*. Founded by Caliph Harun al-Rashid and reaching its peak during the time of Caliph Al-Ma'mun, Bait al-Hikmah was not only a library but also an academic centre, a place for translation, book publishing, and stargazing (Rhoni, 2019).

Until now, libraries remain essential in supporting the educational process as a source of information, cultural preservation, and learning centres. Following Article 3 of Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 43 of 2007 concerning Libraries, libraries function as a means of education, research, preservation, information providers, and recreation to increase intelligence and empower the nation (pusdiklat.perpusnas.go.id, n.d.). One of the important roles of libraries is to increase students' interest in reading. Reading is the key to educational progress because it is a cognitive activity that develops a mindset. Most of the knowledge is gained through reading activities. As Farr said, *"Reading is the heart of education"*. The more books students read, the wider their knowledge and insight (Kanusta, 2021).

In a religious context, reading is also a direct command from Allah ﷻ. The Al-Qur'an, Surah Al-Alaq ayat 1-5, contains the command to read and emphasises the importance of science (Kementrian Agama Republik Indonesia Cipta Bangsa Segara At-Thayyib, 2020).

اقْرَأْ بِاسْمِ رَبِّكَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ (١) خَلَقَ الْإِنْسَانَ مِنْ عَلَقٍ (٢) اقْرَأْ وَرَبُّكَ الْأَكْرَمُ (٣) الَّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ (٤) عَلَّمَ الْإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ (٥)

*"Recite in the name of your Lord who created (1), He has created man from a clot of blood (2), Read and your Lord is the Most Exalted (3), Who teaches (man) with the pen (4), He teaches man what he does not know (5)"*

Ibn Kathir explained that this verse shows the beginning of the mercy of Allah ﷻ to man through knowledge, which distinguishes man from other creatures. This verse contains educational values such as skills (reading, writing), divine, and intellectual values. So reading is not only an educational need, but also a religious command. For this reason, a library with a quality and well-managed book collection is an important facility in supporting teaching and learning activities.

Libraries as part of the education component must be managed optimally to function optimally as a support for Teaching and Learning Activities (KBM). Good management

requires proper planning, organisation, implementation, and evaluation to be effective and efficient. Good library management can encourage students to develop critical and creative thinking skills to compete in the modern and future era (Anwar et al., 2019). One of the educational institutions that has a library as a means of supporting learning is Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Junior High School, located in Mukomuko, Bengkulu. This school has a library building supporting the student learning process. However, the effectiveness of the library's role depends mainly on how it is managed.

Based on the research results, library management at Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Junior High School has been planning, organising, implementing, supervising, and evaluating to develop students' interest in reading. However, several obstacles still hinder the optimal management of the library. One obstacle is the limited time of librarians or teachers assigned to manage libraries because they also have other school responsibilities. This impacts the lack of optimal library management, including data collection for book borrowing, collection supervision, and room cleanliness.

Another finding was that most students only came to the library when they got an assignment from the teacher. The lack of regular visit schedules and borrowing records prevents some books from returning to their proper places. In addition, the absence of a cleanliness picket schedule makes the library room uncomfortable and untidy. This condition certainly reduces students' interest in coming to the library voluntarily.

Based on the research data obtained over the past six months, here is an average list of students who visited the library:

**Table 1.1:** List of Average Library Visitors

Month	Days							Sum
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
January	19	9	22	18	3	10	35	116
February	23	21	17	30	10	12	18	143
March	14	17	19	10	15	13	12	100
April	4	3	5	6	2	3	1	24
May	25	17	21	27	13	7	15	125
June	9	12	7	10	2	4	3	47

This data shows that the number of library visits is unstable and tends to decrease in certain months. This indicates that libraries' roles and functions have not been running optimally.

## METHOD

In this study, the method used is a qualitative approach. Qualitative research aims to understand the phenomena experienced by the research subjects through descriptions in the

form of words and language (Moeleong, 2016). This approach aims to obtain more complete and meaningful data (Sugiyono, 2023). This means that it is actual data, which is a value behind it, providing more concepts related to a phenomenon or phenomenon of data that appears in the management of the Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Village Junior High School library. Sido Makmur sub-district. Teramang Jaya Mukomuko, Bengkulu. The research procedure is carried out in three stages: planning, implementation, and report writing. The data collection techniques include direct observation of library activities, interviews with principals, librarians, teachers, and students, and documentation such as activities and library program documents. The data source consists of primary data obtained directly from the source person and secondary data from documents and institutional archives.

The data analysis techniques used include data reduction to filter important information, presentation of data in descriptive form, and conclusion drawing (verification) to obtain the validity of the results. The validity of the data was tested using the triangulation technique by comparing the results of various methods and sources, such as observations, interviews, and documentation. This aims to ensure the credibility and accuracy of findings regarding library management in supporting the student learning process.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

Planning, including library management, is a critical initial stage in the program's implementation. Effective management plays a significant role in the smooth implementation and achievement of program objectives, especially in increasing students' interest in reading. As expressed by Lasa H.S., planning is a systematic process in formulating steps that must be taken to achieve the desired goals (HS, 2018). In the context of libraries, planning involves determining the vision, mission, and goals of the library that must be aligned with the goals of educational institutions. Careful planning will help library management run more effectively and efficiently.

### **School Library Planning to Foster Students' Interest in Reading**



**Figure 1.1:** Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Junior High School Library

The study results show that Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Junior High School has involved several parties in formulating the library's vision, mission, and goals. However, these components have not been optimally measured, so their achievement has not been maximised. Planning should also include preparing library work programs for a specific period on an ongoing basis. A structured work program can be a guideline in implementing library operations and developing the library's main objectives. In addition, planning also includes the procurement of reading collection materials, which is carried out regularly through BOS funds of 18% every year, to support students' interest in reading.

However, based on the interviews, observations, and documentation results, the researcher found that the Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Junior High School library did not have a specifically scheduled plan and work program. The procurement of reading materials has not been carried out regularly and organised, so it has not fully met the needs of library users. This shows that the planning stage is still not running optimally and needs to be improved. Thus, even though library planning at Annakhil Junior High School has shown quite reasonable efforts, improvements are still needed in a more structured, scheduled, and measurable planning system to achieve library goals more optimally.

### Organising the School Library to Foster Students' Reading Interest



**Figure 2.1:** Library Organisational Structure

Organising is a follow-up step in management after the planning stage, which aims to organise various resources so that library management runs efficiently and effectively. According to Lasa H.S., organising is a systematic process in arranging and managing resources to achieve the goals set optimally (HS, Lasa, 2018). This stage is critical because it directly impacts the effectiveness of library management and service quality. The main components in organising include the formulation of objectives, division of labour, division of authority, unity of command, and the implementation of coordination.

Based on the research findings, the organisation in Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Junior High School library has begun with the collaborative formulation of goals between the principal, the teacher council, and students to equalise and create clear goals. The division of duties and authorities is also carried out regularly at the beginning of each school year, involving students in the learning process. This activity aims to make each individual understand their responsibilities and be able to carry out their functions independently. However, implementing coordination between parties in the library still needs to be improved to be more focused and optimal.

The observations, interviews, and documentation show that the library organisation at Annakhil Junior High School is quite structured and running well. The determination of duties and functions has been adjusted to the needs and capacities of each member. However, improvements are still needed to adjust the organisational structure to the evolving operational needs of libraries. Therefore, even though the organising stage is sound, improvements in coordination and adjustment of the work structure will be beneficial in creating more effective and efficient library management.

### **Implementation of Library Management to Foster Students' Interest in Reading at Annakhil Darunnajah Junior High School 6**



**Figure 3.1:** Library Loan Notebook

Library programs are implemented after careful planning and organisation. Library management includes three main components: book lending and return services, reading services, learning places, and literacy activity services. Based on the research results, the three services have been running in the library of Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Junior High School. Book borrowing and return services are carried out manually through notebooks, so collection management is more controlled. However, obstacles remain, such as delays in students returning books.

To overcome this, the library collaborates with the Darunnajah Annakhil Santri Organisation (OSDA) by providing sanctions following applicable regulations. The reading service and study place went well through the visit schedule and attendance recording. However, the use of libraries as a place to learn during teaching and learning activities (KBM)



is still not neatly scheduled due to the different needs of each subject. Even so, the library can manage these needs so that it continues to run well. This shows that the services provided are quite organised but still need improvement.

Meanwhile, literacy activity services are held to form a literate environment and increase students' interest in reading. Some of the literacy activities carried out include library visits, making scientific papers, and wall magazines. These activities are a form of real implementation of the library program in encouraging literacy culture in the school environment. Thus, overall, the implementation of library management at Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Junior High School is quite good. However, there is still a need for improvement in terms of order and more systematic management.

### **Supervision of Library Management to foster students' interest in reading at SMP Annakhil Darunnajah 6**

Supervision is an important part of management to ensure that the implementation of library programs runs according to the plan, rules, and standards set. Based on the theory of Lasa HS, supervision aims to keep all activities on track following the initial policies and goals (HS, Lasa, 2018). At Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Junior High School, supervision is carried out by the person in charge of each section through direct observation and reports, including the collection of reading materials, service quality, and library activity programs. Even so, obstacles exist, such as limited time for the person in charge to supervise optimally.

In addition, the principal also plays a role in controlling the library's management. Other research suggests that supervision should ideally include routine evaluation, accountability reporting, and attention to supporting means such as the relevance of reading collections. The interviews and observations show that supervision is carried out separately from the evaluation, but is still carried out by each person in charge of the section. Through this approach, it is hoped that library management can run more directly and effectively.

Obstacles such as a lack of professionalism of managers, limited facilities and infrastructure, and a lack of reading materials are also concerns. The solutions offered in this study include preparing a work program with structured time to overcome time constraints and regularly procuring books to increase the collection according to users' needs. Thus, the supervision of library management at SMPS Annakhil Darunnajah 6 is quite good, but it still needs improvement, especially in scheduling and planning to be more effective and optimal.

### **Evaluation of Library Management to Foster Students' Interest in Reading at Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Junior High School**

The evaluation is carried out to measure the extent to which the library can carry out its functions optimally. This stage plays a significant role in determining the effectiveness of library operations. Based on the research findings, the evaluation of library management running at Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Junior High School has been carried out regularly and

systematically using a report format that includes performance results, challenges faced, solutions to challenges and plans. So, according to the theory of Lasa HS, the library evaluation system running in junior high schools differs from the library evaluation system. In addition, the evaluation carried out at Annakhil Junior High School prioritised how the library operated, so that some components received less attention, such as the collection of reading materials that did not meet the National Standards.

Thus, it can be concluded that the evaluation of library management at SMP Annakhil Darunanjah 6 is quite good. However, attention needs to be paid to components that also influence the library's effectiveness and efficiency.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the research results, the management of the Annakhil Darunnajah 6 Junior High School library in fostering students' interest in reading has gone quite well through five stages of management, namely planning, organising, implementing, supervising, and evaluating. At the planning stage, the establishment of the vision, mission, and goals of the library has been well implemented. Organising includes the formulation of goals, division of labour and authority, unity of command, and coordination, although coordination still needs to be improved. Implementing library services has also been effective, including borrowing, reading, and literacy activities that support students' reading interests.

Meanwhile, supervision is carried out by the person in charge through direct observation and reports, assisted by the principal, who also monitors the management. Evaluations are conducted regularly on a weekly and monthly basis, including performance reports, constraints, solutions, and development plans. This shows continuous efforts to maintain the quality of library services. However, several aspects, such as coordination between departments and evaluation systems, still need to be strengthened so that library management can be more optimal. With improvements in these aspects, libraries are expected to be more effective in fostering students' interest in reading.

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