

## THE ROLE OF THE TEACHER IN TURNING THE CHARACTER OF STUDENTS DURING PANDEMIC ENVIRONMENTS IN SUMBANG DISTRICT SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT

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### Abstract

*The formulation of this problem is: How to bring the character to life during the Covid-19 pandemic. The purpose of this study is: To find out and describe how to bring characters to life during the Covid-19 pandemic. This approach is an approach that focuses on research that is oriented to obtaining findings that cannot be obtained through a quantitative approach. Data collection in this study used several data collection techniques, including: Observation is one of the data collection techniques that is carried out through systematic observations of phenomena in the field. Since the government announced the first case of the 2019 corona virus disease (covid 19) in March 2020 ago, Indonesia has been faced with a pandemic. Almost all sectors of life are affected, including the education sector. Even though this is the case, the school continues to implement and improve the roles of teachers in animate characters, some of the roles of teachers are: teachers as teachers as well as evaluators, teachers as controllers in learning, teachers make learning with various good methods, and teachers be a guide in learning.*

**Keywords:** *The Role Of The Teacher, The Character, Environments School*

### INTRODUCTION

Various theories in one's research in the realm of organizations or institutions can explain in detail the importance of progressing Human Resources, especially the factors of individuals and institutions that affect the organization, including: innovation, leadership and programs in education (Prabowo, 2015). Innovation is the development of new ideas, methods, methods and techniques that aim to advance and solve problems that occur. Nowadays, an innovation is very expensive if it is

indeed an innovation that is presented as a solution or development in a better direction. In the world of education, innovation is always associated with inventions that can be utilized in an education used as a solution to various problems to be more effective and efficient in achieving existing educational goals (Syahrul, 2015)

Education is a process of teaching and learning activities that have an orientation to realize clear and structured learning goals in order to hone personal skills, form students' morals, and prepare individuals who are beneficial to the wider community (Akbar, 2017). According to Kristin, education is considered as a right that is intended for all people and becomes something valuable in one's life (Lanford, 2019). Education as a complex activity has the aim of growing, conditioning, and shaping humans as human beings (perfect beings).

The design of education in Indonesia is structured to develop the Indonesian nation's confidence in the importance of education and is structured to continuously improve self-efficacy with the aim of creating good generations in the future (Nuraini, 2019). Educational design must be well prepared to answer the demands of the problems and challenges of life in the future. In accordance with the Law of the Republic of Indonesia (UU RI) Number 20, Article 3, 2003 which discusses the National Education System (National Education System): The function of education in Indonesia is to develop self-ability and shape the character and civilization of a dignified nation in order to educate the nation's generation. The purpose of education is to increase one's ability to have faith and piety to God Almighty (YME), have good morals, be smart, innovative, independent, and be democratic and have a high sense of responsibility (UU RI No. 20, 2018). Within the scope of education, teachers have a strategic role in achieving educational goals. Because the success or failure of the implementation of learning is very dependent on the presence of the teacher. Teachers have the task of presenting learning strategies that are able to make children fall in love with learning and get amazing experiences. The success of the learning process can be measured through the ability of students to understand and reflect well on the material (Norhayati, 2017).

At the elementary school level, the character of students is different. In line with this, Wardani is of the opinion that education at the elementary school level is included in

the basic education level. At this level, it becomes the initial foundation for character education at the next level (Puspita, 2020). The problem of the low ability of students to receive learning about character has been experienced by several students in three schools. The problem is partly because most of them think that online learning only sends assignments and then they are finished, there is no follow-up. From this mindset, it has indirectly reduced students' learning motivation so that when online learning students do not concentrate (HU, Yuan-yuan, 2019). After observations were made by teachers during online learning during the pandemic, many were less active in collecting assignments. Such conditions certainly have an impact on students' low understanding of the lessons given. Based on the results of interviews with several teachers in three schools. the teacher took the initiative to present a learning concept that could bring character to life during the Covid-19 pandemic to students (Cheng, 2020).

Based on the function of national education as stated in the Law of the Republic of Indonesia No. 20 of 2003 above, one of which is to shape the character/character of the nation. Today, the government and the people of Indonesia are incessantly implementing character education in educational institutions: starting from the early level (PAUD), elementary school (SD/MI), middle school (SMA/MA), to universities. The emergence of awareness to apply character education, shaped by the phenomenon of the degradation of the morality of today's young generation, which is already on the verge of "dying". Through character education implemented in educational institutions, it is hoped that the crisis of character or moral degradation of the nation's children can be resolved soon. More than that, it is hoped that in the future generations of people with high character or character will be born (Agus Wibowo, 2013).

This is certainly a concern considering that students want to continue their further studies. From the results of the value documentation data, then observations were made on the implementation of character planting learning (Franchi, 2020). From the observations obtained notes that when learning activities take place, learning runs slowly because of low student motivation. Whereas the purpose of learning character planting according to Wakiman in his book entitled *Fostering the Fun of Learning*

Through Games, one of which is learning has the aim of stimulating and building students' thinking in character planting. In addition, character planting is also expected to condition students to have high self-confidence and perseverance in overcoming problems that exist in the surrounding environment.

In Law Number 2 of 2003, the term learning is defined as one-way or more interaction activities carried out between teachers and students in teaching and learning activities. In carrying out this activity, there are a number of approaches that can be applied. Hosnan mentions learning as an activity to present a conducive situation with the aim of carrying out teaching and learning activities that are smooth and in accordance with what is idealized. Learning as a system in which there is a learning component must of course be integrated with something else. Both in terms of objectives, strategies, assessments, and evaluations. These four things must be considered by a teacher in sorting and choosing an approach in the learning process.

From this description, educators during the COVID-19 pandemic are required to be innovative and creative in using learning approaches and choosing the right method so that the learning atmosphere becomes conducive and the material can be conveyed properly. Educators are the spearhead in basic education. Educators are one of the determinants of the success of the learning process. In order for the implementation of material delivery activities to run optimally, educators must be good at choosing and sorting out methods, approaches, and learning strategies that are acceptable to students as a whole (Astutik, 2021). In this learning activity, it is not only limited to transferring knowledge but how students can master new understandings, especially to solve problems inherent in everyday life. In the perspective of cognitive learning, students are individuals who are always on the move and cannot stay still in accessing new knowledge and understanding (Batubara, 2021). From here there is a creative process of acquiring, storing, analyzing, and exploring individual knowledge when learning something. So that the involvement of students in learning activities becomes something important to consider so that students get a meaningful learning experience.

The main plan is conveyed regarding the rules of learning through the cognitive activities of students when obtaining and implementing the knowledge that students

have received from educators. The flexibility and participation regarding the rules of study are taken into consideration so that students can be more animated when learning. In forming active learning, educators need learning methods. According to Luh and Lukman learning rules in educational institutions or classes, educators are more focused on guidance from learning modules when delivering learning materials (Hartikainen, 2019). Which in the end educators become rigid and less flexible when delivering material.

The learning model is a design that describes the way of exposure and the formation of social conditions that make students feel the relationship that arises from what students have done and practiced. From Joyce to Triatno, it was recorded in the book *Integrated Learning Model*, explaining that learning models are methods and techniques that are applied and become guidelines for learning activities in school institutions in examples as determinants in the use of media that will be used in the continuity of teaching and learning. This is necessary for educators in the final process, namely learning assessment.

Learning steps like this require students to be active in learning activities and explore the material provided by educators and other students. This learning step has positive values, including encouraging students to study hard, increasing the enthusiasm of students because there is an evaluation of competition. Increase the concentration of students in receiving lessons given by educators. Education in educational institutions makes students have an educated personality and skills that can be used in real life later or in the community. This is due to the rapid growth and modification of the outlook on life (Tyas, 2020). The government always strives to grow the quality of national education. Maximum learning activities bring out the best quality of student learning. Judging from this, the researchers got inspiration to conduct research on the steps to inculcate character during the Covid-19 pandemic.

On this basis, it is necessary to conduct a descriptive qualitative research on "The Role of Teachers in Reviving the Character of Learners during the Pandemic in the Sumbang District School Environment". The basic considerations for selecting MIM Gandatapa, MIMA Ciberem, MIMA Banteran, MIMA Karangturi because these schools based on teacher observations can overcome the obstacles faced in learning

character cultivation in the Subdistrict of Sumbang, so that the character planting goes in a balanced way. In addition, heterogeneous students with various economic backgrounds are also the basis for consideration because each has a different mindset so it will be very interesting to be united in the implementation of learning that can represent all students with various backgrounds so that they are able to instill character during the pandemic. The formulation of this problem is: How to bring the character to life during the Covid-19 pandemic. The purpose of this study is: To find out and describe how to bring characters to life during the Covid-19 pandemic. Strategy or how to turn on the term strategy comes from the Greek strategy (stratos = military and ag = lead), which means the art or science of becoming a general. Strategy can be interpreted as a plan for the distribution and use of military and material forces in certain areas to achieve certain action goals.

Strategy is the science of planning and determining the direction of large-scale business operations, mobilizing all company resources that can be actually profitable in business, John A. Bryne defines strategy as a fundamental pattern of goals and plans, deployment of resources and interaction of the organization with market, competitors, and environmental factors (Denicol, 2020). According to David, strategy is a unified, broad and integrated plan that links the company's strategic advantages with environmental challenges, designed to ensure that the main objectives of the company can be achieved through proper implementation by the organization.

The author can conclude that the strategy of bringing life to life is a plan carried out by someone to generate or re-create an idea and make it come to life. Character in the Time of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Character or character comes from the Greek word "Charassein", which means an item or tool for scratching, which was later understood as a stamp or stamp. So the character or character is a stamp or stamp, the characteristics that are attached to a person. Character as a person's nature can be formed, meaning that a person's character can change, even though character contains an innate element (internal potential), which each person can be different. However, character is strongly influenced by external factors, namely family, school, community, social environment and others (Sutrho Adisusilo, 2017).

The definition of a pandemic is an epidemic that has spread to various continents and countries, generally affecting many people. While the epidemic itself is a term that has been used to determine the sudden increase in the number of cases of a disease in a population of a certain area. The reason is, the term pandemic is not used to indicate the high level of a disease, but only shows the level of its spread. Please note, in the case of the COVID-19 pandemic, this is the first and is caused by the corona virus which has existed since the end of last year. The author can conclude that character during the covid-19 pandemic is a character or character or inherent nature that starts from a mindset and produces a high-spirited attitude or behavior in looking at oneself, which is not easy to depend on others who are instilled by teachers or others. institutions during the time of covid-19.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This research uses field research which is descriptive qualitative. Descriptive research is research that is used to describe and answer the problems of existing phenomena. Descriptive research tries to describe an event or events that are the center of attention without giving special treatment to the event (Arifin, 2012). This study uses a qualitative approach. This approach is an approach that focuses on research that is oriented to obtaining findings that cannot be obtained through a quantitative approach. Data collection in this study used several data collection techniques, including; Observation is one of the data collection techniques that is carried out through systematic observations of phenomena in the field. Interview is a two-way communication carried out with a specific purpose (Aspers, 2019).

This conversation or communication is carried out by two or more people, namely the researcher as the interviewer and people who have the potential to know the data related to the object of research that provides answers to the researcher's questions. Internal and external documentation is the type of documentation used in this research. Internal documents include documents originating from schools, namely student data, teachers, and school profiles (Brown, 2021). Meanwhile, unofficial documents are literature that supports research. Data and documents that have been

obtained through data collection techniques will be processed through the steps below; Editing, Classifying, Verifying, Analyzing, Concluding (Chun Tie, 2019).

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

Sumbang sub-district is an area in Banyumas, in these sub-districts there are MIM Gandatapa, MIMA Ciberem, MIMA Banteran, MIMA Karangturi, which apply character-building learning. Since the government announced the first case of the 2019 corona virus disease (covid 19) in March 2020 ago, Indonesia has been faced with a pandemic. Almost all sectors of life are affected, including the education sector. In the education aspect, the government through the Ministry of Education and Culture (Kemendikbud) has implemented a policy learning for home, especially for education units located in the yellow, red and black zones. For education units located in the green zone, they can carry out education by referring to health protocols.

Based on this phenomenon, the atmosphere and the educational process have changed, the change is motivated by the rise of the COVID-19 outbreak so that it becomes an obstacle to the establishment of social and emotional relationships directly in education in Indonesia. The COVID-19 pandemic is expected not to hamper the implementation of our education, considering today's technological assistance can support the creation of learning with students. Teachers can also apply the method hypnoteaching to increase student learning motivation (Sari, Saadati & Sadl, 2019) while still following the government's recommendations to implement health protocols in the era of the COVID-19 pandemic (Taufan & Fachri, 2014). In an educational institution, the teacher has the role of determining a strategic policy. The teacher is the leader in the class, the teacher is the key driver for the development and progress of students. Teachers are also responsible for increasing the success of students and programs in schools. In order for this to be achieved properly, the teacher in determining a policy in the era of the COVID-19 pandemic must be with the right considerations. This will certainly affect learning activities in schools, so in this case teachers are expected to be able to play a role in accordance



with their duties, authorities, and responsibilities (Khadijah, 2015), because achieving optimal learning cannot be separated from government policies and teacher policies.

Therefore, the role of the teacher in determining and reviving character during a pandemic is very important:

- a. The role of the teacher's efforts in bringing character to life during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The implementation of the character education program is one of the programs that has become the hallmark or identity of the 2013 curriculum learning. Under normal circumstances, the implementation of learning programs is carried out every day from Monday to Saturday. In each lesson, character planting is carried out or applied by the teacher. However, in times like this, learning and even the process of reviving characters cannot be done face-to-face.

This is due to the Covid-19 pandemic which makes all activities based online. The main implementing coordinator of the learning program said that all learning activities that were originally carried out face-to-face were replaced with online. Even so, the learning program which is carried out online is also quite effective for students, especially in character building. It is said to be effective because when the research instrument was distributed, many students responded positively and gave good responses regarding the characters that have been taught by their school. Apart from school principals and teachers of MIM Gandatapa, MIMA Ciberem, MIMA Banteran, MIMA Karangturi said the level of progress was significant towards character improvement from time to time. Even though learning is online, teachers can or usually take the time and schedule a day for face-to-face meetings or evaluations, usually once a week. Apart from that, in implementing the learning program, -based online this, the teacher It also involves parents to be able to control, participate and assist students in carrying out their learning tasks at home. The teacher gives a mandate to every parent or family to be able to observe and report to the teacher while at home, every reporting to the teacher maximum at 21.00 WIB.

The student character learning program at MIM Gandatapa, MIMA Ciberem, MIMA Banteran, MIMA Karangturi does not only stop at reporting and observing teachers

once a week. only, but there is an evaluation of learning or commonly referred to as an increase in level. This level increase is carried out by students with a given exam. When students pass in If this level increases, it can be recommended to continue to the next level. On the other hand, if a student has not passed, he or she must repeat the evaluation in the future.

- b. The role of the teacher and the methods used in bringing character to life during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Under normal circumstances, the method or way of implementing learning is done face-to-face. However, during this pandemic period, the implementation of programs online is carried out through various applications that support and adapt to existing conditions or circumstances. Applications that are often used in the online learning process are WhatsApp, Google Meet, or manual dialing facilities such as telephones regular (non-internet). This program is carried out at the agreed time, at which time the teacher contacts the students to inform them that they are learning, and then the teacher contacts each student who is ready to be considered as learning and mastering all that is being taught, including the characters that are instilled with various questionnaires that have been prepared. distributed.

- c. Factors that hinder the formation of character during the covid 19 pandemic.

Even though the teacher's role is very good and has effectiveness in bringing the character to life at MIM Gandatapa, MIMA Ciberem, MIMA Banteran, MIMA Karangturi, there are still some obstacles, such as: constraints on parent quotas, constraints the busyness of parents to meet with the teacher, the teacher's time constraint in dividing the meeting even once a week, the obstacles of students who are confused about online learning, especially lower grade students.

## **CONCLUSION**

Sumbang sub-district is an area in Banyumas, in that sub-district there are MIM Gandatapa, MIMA Ciberem, MIMA Banteran, MIMA Karangturi, all of which apply character-building learning. Since the government announced the first case of the 2019 corona virus disease (covid 19) in March 2020 ago, Indonesia has been faced with a pandemic. Almost all sectors of life are affected, including the education

sector. Even though this is the case, the school continues to implement and improve the roles of teachers in animate characters, some of the roles of teachers are: teachers as teachers as well as evaluators, teachers as controllers in learning, teachers make learning with various good methods, and teachers be a guide in learning.

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