

The Effectiveness of Using Media Technology in Islamic Religious Education in an Independent Curriculum: Technocultural Study of Religious Education

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### **ABSTRACT**

The study aimed to assess the impact of media technology on the teaching and learning process of Islamic religious education within an independent curriculum. Through interviews, observations, and document analysis, the study found that integrating media technology positively influenced the teaching and learning experience. Multimedia presentations, educational websites, and digital applications enhanced students' engagement, motivation, and understanding of Islamic principles and teachings. Interactive and collaborative learning was facilitated, allowing students to participate actively in discussions and group activities. Media technology also provided opportunities for personalized learning, allowing students to explore Islamic concepts at their own pace and according to their learning styles. It fostered creativity and critical thinking skills by encouraging students to analyze and interpret religious texts through interactive media platforms. However, challenges such as limited access to technology resources, technical difficulties, and concerns about content authenticity were identified. The study emphasized the need for appropriate teacher training and support to integrate media technology into the curriculum effectively. In conclusion, the study demonstrated the effectiveness of media technology in Islamic Religious Education within an independent curriculum. It was integrating media tools enhanced engagement, motivation, and understanding among students while enabling interactive and personalized learning experiences. Addressing resources, technical issues, and content reliability challenges is essential for successful implementation.

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# INTRODUCTION

Islamic Religious Education (IRE) is a crucial subject that plays a significant role in fostering individuals' spiritual and moral development within the Muslim community (Dagnew et al., 2019; Suroso et al., 2021; Manullang et al., 2021; Aslan & Pong, 2023). There has been a growing interest in integrating media technology into educational practices to enhance the teaching and learning experience across various

academic disciplines in recent years (Hendriarto et al., 2021; Cahyono et al., 2021; Hanafiah et al., 2023; Pramesti, M., & Amelia, W. 2022). However, more research has yet to be conducted to explore the effectiveness of media technology, specifically within the context of IRE, particularly within an independent curriculum (Tuhuteru et al., 2023; Aslan, 2023). This study aims to bridge this gap in research by examining the impact of media technology on the teaching and learning process of IRE at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. UIN Antasari Banjarmasin is a renowned institution offering a comprehensive Islamic education program and an ideal setting for investigating media technology integration in Islamic Religious Education (Aristyasari, 2019; Putra et al., 2020).

The study employed a mixed-methods research design, incorporating quantitative and qualitative approaches to gather comprehensive data. The quantitative phase involved administering surveys to students and teachers to assess their perceptions of integrating media technology in IRE (Guetterman dkk., 2015). The survey focused on engagement, motivation, learning outcomes, and overall satisfaction with using media technology (Sudarmo et al., 2021). The qualitative phase will also involve in-depth interviews with teachers and students to gain deeper insights into their experiences and perceptions. These interviews will explore the specific media technologies utilized, their effectiveness in enhancing teaching and learning, and any challenges or limitations encountered. Furthermore, classroom observations will be conducted to observe the implementation of media technology during IRE lessons. This provided valuable information on the instructional strategies employed, the level of student engagement, and the overall impact of media technology on the learning environment (Clark, 2015).

The findings of this study are expected to contribute significantly to Islamic education and educational technology. The results provided empirical evidence of the effectiveness of media technology in enhancing the teaching and learning process of IRE within an independent curriculum. The insights gained from this research can inform curriculum developers, educators, and policymakers on integrating media technology in IRE, leading to improved instructional practices and a more engaging learning experience for students. Ultimately, the study aims to empower educators and institutions to leverage media technology effectively in Islamic Religious Education, thereby nurturing individuals' spiritual and moral development within the Muslim community (Jubba dkk., 2022).

Understanding the effectiveness of using media technology in Islamic Religious Education is crucial in adapting educational practices to meet the needs and expectations of modern learners. With the rapid advancement of technology and its increasing influence on education, it is essential to explore its potential in facilitating engagement, motivation, and understanding among students in religious education settings. This study's findings provided valuable insights and practical implications for educators, curriculum designers, and policymakers, enabling them to make informed decisions regarding integrating media technology into the curriculum. Furthermore, the study contributed to the existing body of knowledge in Islamic Religious Education and informed future research endeavors in this area.

This study has several key objectives that aim to examine the impact and effectiveness of media technology in the context of Islamic Religious Education within an independent curriculum. The first objective is to assess the effectiveness of using media technology in Islamic Religious Education. This involves evaluating how integrating media technology enhances teaching and learning, considering factors such

as student engagement, motivation, and understanding Islamic principles and teachings (Qazi dkk., 2021). By examining these aspects, the study seeks to determine the overall impact of media technology on the educational experience in IRE.

The second objective is to investigate the specific impact of media technology on student engagement, motivation, and understanding of Islamic principles and teachings. This objective focuses on understanding how media technology influences students' levels of involvement and interest in IRE, as well as their comprehension and retention of Islamic knowledge. By exploring these factors; the study aims to uncover the potential benefits of using media technology in IRE and its role in promoting effective learning outcomes (Namaziandost & Nasri, 2019). The third objective is to explore how media technology facilitates interactive and collaborative learning experiences in Islamic Religious Education. This objective examines the interactive features and capabilities of media technology tools and platforms and their ability to foster collaboration among students and teachers. By understanding how media technology enables interactive and collaborative learning, the study seeks to highlight the unique advantages it offers for engaging students in IRE.

The fourth objective is to examine the potential benefits and challenges of integrating media technology into Islamic Religious Education. This objective entails identifying the advantages of using media technology, such as enhanced access to resources, personalized learning opportunities, and the developing of creativity and critical thinking skills. Additionally, it aims to address the challenges and limitations related to implementing media technology, such as limited access to technology resources, technical difficulties, and concerns about the authenticity and reliability of digital content (McCoy dkk., 2016). The fifth objective is to provide practical recommendations for effectively integrating media technology into the curriculum of Islamic Religious Education. This objective involves synthesizing the study's findings and offering actionable suggestions for educators and curriculum developers. The recommendations may include strategies for overcoming challenges and maximizing the benefits of using media technology in IRE, emphasizing the importance of teacher training and support in effectively utilizing media technology. Overall, this study aims to contribute to the existing knowledge base on the effectiveness of media technology in Islamic Religious Education. Achieving these research objectives provides valuable insights for educational stakeholders and inspires further research in this field (Greenhow & Askari, 2017).

The followings are four research questions that can be explored in the study: 1) How does media technology integration impact Islamic Religious Education's teaching and learning process within an independent curriculum at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin?. This question investigates the effectiveness of media technology in IRE and its influence on instructional practices, student engagement, and learning outcomes. 2) What are the perceptions and experiences of teachers regarding the use of media technology in Islamic Religious Education at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin?. This question seeks to explore teachers' perspectives, attitudes, and experiences regarding integrating media technology, including their perceptions of its benefits, challenges, and instructional strategies. 3) How do students perceive the use of media technology in Islamic Religious Education, and how does it affect their engagement, motivation, and understanding of Islamic principles and teachings?. This question focuses on understanding students' perceptions of media technology in IRE, examining how it influences their engagement, motivation, and comprehension of Islamic concepts and teachings. 4) What benefits and challenges are associated with integrating media

technology in Islamic Religious Education within an independent curriculum at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin?. This question aims to identify and analyze the advantages and disadvantages of using media technology in IRE, including benefits such as improved access to resources, personalized learning opportunities, and fostering creativity, as well as challenges such as limited access to technology resources and concerns about content authenticity and reliability.

These research questions help explore the impact, perceptions, benefits, and challenges of integrating media technology in Islamic Religious Education within an independent curriculum at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin, contributing to a comprehensive understanding of the topic.

## **METHOD**

The research design for this study was a qualitative approach, aiming to gain indepth insights into the impact of media technology on the teaching and learning process of Islamic Religious Education within an independent curriculum at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin.

Data Collection Methods used In-depth interviews with teachers: In-depth interviews were conducted with a sample of teachers at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin who had experience integrating media technology in their Islamic Religious Education classes. These interviews provided valuable qualitative data on their perceptions, experiences, and instructional strategies for using media technology in IRE (McGannon dkk., 2021). In-depth interviews with students: In-depth interviews were also conducted with a sample of students enrolled in Islamic Religious Education courses at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. These interviews explored their perspectives, experiences, and perceptions of using media technology in their learning process, including engagement, motivation, and understanding of Islamic principles and teachings (Lown dkk., 2020).

By employing in-depth interviews with teachers and students, this study aimed to capture rich, qualitative data that provided a comprehensive understanding of the effectiveness of media technology in Islamic Religious Education within an independent curriculum at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. These data collection methods allowed for an in-depth exploration of the research objectives and provided valuable insights into integrating media technology in the specific educational context. The data collected from the in-depth interviews with teachers and students were analyzed using thematic analysis. The audio recordings of the interviews were transcribed verbatim, and the transcripts were coded and organized into themes and sub-themes. This process involved identifying recurring patterns, key ideas, and perspectives related to the effectiveness of media technology in Islamic Religious Education within an independent curriculum. The themes and sub-themes were then analyzed and interpreted to draw meaningful conclusions and provide insights into the research objectives (Wilfling dkk., 2020).

Ethical considerations were carefully addressed throughout the research process. Before conducting the study, ethical approval was obtained from the relevant institutional review board at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. Informed consent was obtained from all participants, ensuring they were fully informed about the study's purpose, procedures, and voluntary participation. Participants were assured of the confidentiality and anonymity of their responses, and their data was securely stored and used solely for research purposes. Additionally, the principles of respect, beneficence, and justice were upheld throughout the study to ensure the well-being

and rights of the participants. By adhering to these ethical considerations, this study aimed to conduct research responsibly and ethically, respecting the rights and dignity of the participants involved in the study (Friston dkk., 2016).

# **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

# Impact of media technology on the Teaching and learning process

Media technology in Islamic Religious Education within an independent curriculum has gained attention due to its potential to enhance teaching and learning. However, more research is needed on its effectiveness in this specific context. This study aims to fill this gap by examining the impact of media technology on the teaching and learning experience of Islamic Religious Education at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin, providing valuable insights into its effectiveness and potential benefits for educators and educational stakeholders.

Table 1 Impact of media technology on teaching and learning process based participants on interview session:

Impact of Media	Students Experiences and	Teachers' Experiences and
Technology on the	Perspectives	Perspectives
Teaching and Learning		
Process		
Increased engagement and	Students reported higher	Teachers observed
motivation	levels of engagement and	improved student
	motivation during IRE	engagement and
	lessons when media	motivation through media
	technology was integrated.	technology, as it made the
		learning experience more
		interactive and dynamic.
Enhanced understanding	Students expressed that	Teachers noted that media
of Islamic principles and	media technology helped	technology facilitated a
teachings	them visualize and	deeper understanding of
	comprehend complex	Islamic principles and
	Islamic concepts more	teachings, as students
	effectively.	could access various
		multimedia resources and
		interactive platforms.
Interactive and	Students appreciated the	Teachers observed
collaborative learning	interactive nature of media	increased student
experiences	technology, allowing them	collaboration, fostering a
	to participate, ask	sense of community and
	questions, and collaborate	peer learning, as media
	with peers actively	technology provided
		platforms for group
		discussions and
		collaborative projects
Access to diverse and	Students highlighted the	Teachers emphasized the
multimedia resources	benefit of accessing a wide	availability of diverse
	range of multimedia	multimedia resources that
	resources, such as videos,	enriched their instructional
	animations, and interactive	materials, making the

	modules, which enhanced	content more engaging and
	their learning experience	accessible
Technical challenges and	Some students mentioned	Teachers acknowledged
limitations	occasional technical	technical challenges and
	difficulties, such as slow	limitations, including
	internet connection or	adequate infrastructure,
	compatibility issues, which	technical support, and
	affected the seamless	training to use media
	integration of media	technology in the
	technology	classroom effectively

Source: Data Processing, 2023

This table summarizes the impact of media technology on the teaching and learning process based on the experiences and perspectives of students and teachers. It highlights the positive outcomes, such as increased engagement, enhanced understanding, interactive learning experiences, access to diverse resources, and the challenges and limitations of integrating media technology.

# Student engagement, motivation, and understanding of Islamic principles and teachings

Media technology has emerged as a potential tool to enhance student engagement, motivation, and understanding of Islamic principles and teachings in Islamic Religious Education. This study investigates the impact of media technology on these aspects through conversations with students, teachers, and faculty members, shedding light on its effectiveness within an independent curriculum at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. The findings provide valuable insights into the role of media technology in promoting active learning and deepening students' comprehension of Islamic concepts.

Table 2: Student engagement, motivation, and understanding of Islamic principles and teachings

principles and teachings			
Impact of Media	Student	Teacher	Faculty
Technology on	Perspectives	Perspectives	Perspectives
Student			
Engagement,			
Motivation, and			
Understanding of			
Islamic Principles			
and Teachings			
Increased	Students reported	Teachers observed	Faculty members
engagement during	being more	higher levels of	acknowledged that
lessons	engaged during	student	media technology
	Islamic Religious	engagement when	facilitated student
	Education (IRE)	media technology	engagement in IRE,
	lessons when media	was used in IRE,	contributing to a
	technology was	noting increased	more interactive
	incorporated, as it	participation and	and vibrant
	made the learning	active involvement	learning
	experience	in discussions and	environment

	interactive and	activities	
	dynamic	activities	
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Enhanced	Students expressed	Teachers noticed a	Faculty members
motivation to learn	increased	boost in student	recognized that
	motivation to learn	motivation when	media technology
	Islamic principles	media technology	enhanced student
	and teachings when	was utilized, as it	motivation in IRE,
	media technology	offered novel and	encouraging
	was integrated into	engaging ways to	students to
	the curriculum, as it	explore Islamic	participate and
	made the content	concepts, fostering	explore the subject
	more visually	a positive attitude	matter actively.
	appealing and	toward learning	
	interactive.		
Improved	Students found that	Teachers observed	Faculty members
understanding and	media technology	that media	acknowledged that
comprehension of	helped them better	technology	media technology
Islamic principles	understand and	facilitated a deeper	supported students'
and teachings	comprehend	understanding of	understanding of
	complex Islamic	Islamic principles	Islamic principles
	concepts, as it	and teachings	and teachings,
	provided visual	among students,	providing diverse
	representations,	enabling them to	learning materials
	interactive	visualize abstract	and opportunities
	simulations, and	concepts and	for active learning
	access to various	engage with	
	resources.	multimedia	
		resources	

Source: Processing data, 2023

This table presents the impact of media technology on student engagement, motivation, and understanding of Islamic principles and teachings based on conversations with students, teachers, and faculty members. It highlights the positive influence of media technology in terms of increased engagement, motivation, and improved comprehension of Islamic concepts from multiple perspectives.

## Facilitation of interactive and collaborative learning experiences

The integration of media technology has the potential to facilitate interactive and collaborative learning experiences in the field of Islamic Religious Education. This study explores the discussions between lecturers and students at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin, focusing on how media technology enhances interactive and collaborative learning in the context of Islamic principles and teachings. By examining the perspectives and experiences of both lecturers and students, this research aims to provide insights into the benefits and opportunities of media technology for fostering engagement, peer learning, diverse perspectives, and collaborative problem-solving. The findings of this study contribute to a deeper understanding of the role of media technology in promoting interactive and collaborative learning experiences in Islamic Religious Education.

Table 3: Facilitation of interactive and collaborative learning experiences based

on participant interview session:

on participant interview session:  Facilitation of Interactive Student Perspectives Lecturer Perspectives			
	Student rerspectives	Lecturer Perspectives	
and Collaborative Learning			
Experiences	C: 1 : 1:1 :	T , 1 11:1	
Increased participation and	Students expressed that	Lecturers observed higher	
interaction in-class	media technology	levels of student	
activities	encouraged active	engagement and	
	participation and	collaboration when media	
	interaction with classmates	technology was utilized, as	
	during group discussions,	it provided platforms for	
	presentations, and	real-time interaction and	
	collaborative projects	sharing of ideas.	
Promotion of peer-to-peer	Students appreciated the	Lecturers recognized the	
learning and knowledge	opportunity to learn from	value of media technology	
exchange	their peers through online	in promoting peer-to-peer	
	forums, chat platforms,	learning and knowledge	
	and collaborative	exchange, as it fostered a	
	document sharing, which	sense of community and	
	allowed for the exchange of	allowed students to learn	
	ideas and perspectives	from each other's	
		experiences and insights.	
Access to diverse	Students highlighted that	Lecturers acknowledged	
perspectives and global	media technology enabled	that media technology	
connections	them to connect with	facilitated access to diverse	
	students from different	perspectives and global	
	backgrounds, cultures, and	connections, providing	
	geographical locations,	opportunities for virtual	
	expanding their	collaborations, guest	
	understanding of Islamic	speakers, and online	
	principles through diverse	resources worldwide	
	perspectives		
Collaborative problem-	Students found that media	Lecturers observed the	
solving and project-based	technology supported	positive impact of media	
learning	collaborative problem-	technology on	
	solving and project-based	collaborative problem-	
	learning, allowing them to	solving and project-based	
	collaborate on challenging	learning, as it promoted	
	tasks, share resources, and	critical thinking,	
	receive immediate	teamwork, and the	
	feedback	development of 21st-	
		century skills	

Source: Data Processing, 2023

This table summarizes the discussions between lecturers and students regarding facilitating interactive and collaborative learning experiences through media technology. It emphasizes the benefits of media technology in promoting student participation, peer-to-peer learning, global connections, and collaborative problem-solving in Islamic Religious Education.

# Benefits and Advantages of using media technology in Islamic Religious Education

Integrating media technology into Islamic Religious Education offers numerous benefits and advantages. This study explores the understanding shared by students and lecturers regarding the benefits of media technology, including enhanced access to diverse resources, personalized and self-paced learning experiences, fostering creativity and critical thinking skills, and facilitating engagement and active learning. By examining their perspectives, this research sheds light on the advantages of incorporating media technology in Islamic Religious Education, providing valuable insights for educators and stakeholders.

Table 4: Benefits and Advantages of using media technology in Islamic Religious Education

Education			
Benefits and Advantages of	Student Understanding	Lecturer Understanding	
Using Media Technology			
in Islamic Religious			
Education			
Enhanced access to diverse	Students recognized that	Lecturers acknowledged	
learning resources	media technology provides	that media technology	
	access to a wide range of	expands access to diverse	
	multimedia resources, such	learning resources,	
	as videos, interactive	allowing for incorporating	
	modules, and online	multimedia materials,	
	libraries, enriching their	digital texts, and online	
	learning experience and	platforms that enhance the	
	enabling a more profound	depth and breadth of	
	exploration of Islamic	learning in Islamic	
	concepts.	Religious Education	
Personalized and self-	Students understood that	Lecturers recognized that	
paced learning experiences	media technology allows	media technology supports	
	for personalized learning	personalized and self-	
	experiences, as they can	paced learning, allowing	
	engage with the content at	students to engage with the	
	their own pace and revisit	material quickly and	
	materials as needed. This	enabling differentiated	
	flexibility enables a tailored	instruction to cater to	
	approach to their	varying learning styles and	
	individual learning needs	abilities	
	and preferences		
Fostering creativity and	Students perceived that	Lecturers acknowledged	
critical thinking skills	media technology	that media technology	
	stimulates creativity by	fosters creativity by	
	offering interactive	allowing students to create	
	platforms, multimedia	multimedia projects,	
	presentations, and	presentations, and	
	opportunities for creating	collaborative discussions. It	
	digital content related to	also promotes critical	
	Islamic Religious	thinking by exposing	
	Education. Moreover, it	students to diverse	
	Laucanon, moreover, n	students to diverse	

	encourages critical	viewpoints, encouraging
	thinking through engaging	analysis of Islamic
	with diverse perspectives	principles, and fostering
	and analyzing complex	more profound reflections
	issues.	on religious concepts
Facilitating engagement	Students understood that	Lecturers recognized that
and active learning	media technology	media technology
	enhances engagement	promotes student
	through interactive	engagement by providing
	elements, such as quizzes,	interactive and dynamic
	simulations, and	learning experiences. It
	gamification, making the	encourages active learning
	learning experience more	through multimedia tools,
	enjoyable and captivating.	online discussions, and
	It promotes active learning	interactive activities,
	by encouraging student	leading to a deeper
	participation, discussion,	understanding and
	and application of	application of Islamic
	knowledge	principles

Source: Data Processing, 2023

This table summarizes the benefits and advantages of using media technology in Islamic Religious Education based on the understanding expressed by students and lecturers during interviews. It highlights the shared knowledge regarding enhanced access to diverse resources, personalized learning experiences, fostering creativity and critical thinking skills, and facilitating engagement and active learning through media technology integration.

# Challenges and limitations associated with the integration of media technology

The integration of media technology in Islamic Religious Education brings about both opportunities and challenges. This study explores the challenges and limitations voiced by students and lecturers, including limited access to technology resources, technical difficulties, concerns about content authenticity and reliability, and potential distractions. By examining their perspectives, this research sheds light on the challenges associated with integrating media technology, providing insights for educators and stakeholders in effectively addressing these issues.

Table 5: Challenges and limitations associated with the integration of media technology

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	Challenges and Limitations	Student Concerns	Lecturer Concerns
	of Integrating Media		
	Technology in Islamic		
	Religious Education		

Source: Processing, 2023

This table summarizes the challenges and limitations associated with integrating media technology into Islamic Religious Education based on the concerns voiced by students and lecturers during interviews. It highlights the shared concerns regarding limited access to technology resources, technical difficulties and maintenance, authenticity, and reliability of online content, as well as the potential for

distraction and loss of focus. Addressing these challenges is crucial to ensure media technology's practical and responsible use in Islamic Religious Education.

Several key points can be addressed in the study's discussion section on the effectiveness of using media technology in Islamic Religious Education in an independent curriculum at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. Firstly, it is essential to discuss the impact of media technology on student engagement and learning outcomes. Research has shown that using media technology in religious education can significantly enhance student engagement and motivation (Tran & Nguyen, 2021). Interactive multimedia presentations, online resources, and educational applications have improved students' understanding and retention of Islamic religious concepts and teachings (Hassan dkk., 2019).

Furthermore, analyzing the advantages and challenges of integrating media technology into the independent curriculum is crucial. Integrating media technology provides opportunities for interactive and personalized learning experiences (Bentli dkk., 2017; Rohibn et al., 2022; Suhono et al., 2022)). Students can engage with digital content self-paced, allowing for more individualized instruction (Salman dkk., 2020). However, challenges such as limited access to technology and resistance to change from educators and students may hinder the successful integration of media technology (Sofi-Karim dkk., 2023). The role of technocultural factors should also be examined in the discussion. Islamic culture and values play a significant role in shaping the acceptance and utilization of technology in religious education settings (Agha dkk., 2016). Understanding the cultural context and ensuring that media technology aligns with the values and norms of the local Islamic culture is essential for effective implementation (Bentli dkk., 2017). Moreover, reflecting on the pedagogical implications and best practices of using media technology in Islamic Religious Education is essential. Adopting learner-centered approaches, incorporating multimedia elements, and providing opportunities for collaborative and inquiry-based learning can enhance the effectiveness of media technology integration (Setiawan dkk., 2018). Professional development programs for educators should also be considered to ensure their competence in utilizing media technology effectively in the classroom (Khong dkk., 2016).

This study contributes significantly to the knowledge of effectively integrating media technology in Islamic Religious Education. The study fills a gap in the literature by focusing on an independent curriculum at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. It provides valuable insights into the unique context of religious education in this setting. The findings highlight the benefits and challenges of utilizing media technology, shedding light on its potential impact on student engagement and learning outcomes in Islamic religious instruction.

The findings of this study have practical implications for educators and policymakers involved in Islamic Religious Education. Integrating media technology can be a powerful tool to enhance student engagement and motivation. Educators can leverage interactive multimedia presentations, online resources, and educational applications to create dynamic and personalized learning experiences. Educators must receive adequate training and support in effectively utilizing media technology in the classroom. Furthermore, the alignment of media technology with Islamic cultural values and norms ensures its relevance and acceptance among students, promoting a meaningful integration of technology in religious education.

While this study provides valuable insights, there are several areas for future research. Firstly, further investigation is needed to explore the long-term effects of

integrating media technology into Islamic Religious Education, including its impact on students' knowledge retention and overall understanding of Islamic concepts. Additionally, the research could focus on the specific strategies and best practices for overcoming the challenges associated with limited access to technology and resistance to change. Furthermore, comparative studies could be conducted to analyze the effectiveness of media technology integration across different educational settings and contexts. Lastly, exploring the perceptions and experiences of teachers and students regarding the use of media technology in religious education would provide valuable insights for improving instructional practices and addressing potential concerns.

In conclusion, this study on the effectiveness of using media technology in Islamic Religious Education at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin contributes to knowledge by highlighting the benefits and challenges of integration in an independent curriculum. The findings have practical implications for educators and policymakers, emphasizing the importance of aligning media technology with Islamic cultural values and providing appropriate training and support for its effective utilization. Future research should focus on the long-term effects, strategies to overcome challenges, comparative studies, and exploring the perceptions of teachers and students in this domain.

In terms of future implementation and research, recommendations can be made to enhance the use of media technology in Islamic Religious Education at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin. These may include increasing access to technology through infrastructure development, providing ongoing support and training for educators, and exploring innovative approaches to integrate technology into the curriculum (Scherer dkk., 2019). Additionally, further research is needed to delve deeper into the effectiveness and impact of media technology on religious education outcomes, specifically in the context of the independent curriculum at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin.

# **CONCLUSION**

The study on the effectiveness of using media technology in Islamic Religious Education in an independent curriculum at UIN Antasari Banjarmasin yielded several key findings. Firstly, integrating media technology into the curriculum positively impacted student engagement and motivation, leading to increased interest and active participation in learning activities. Interactive multimedia presentations, online resources, and educational applications facilitated a more dynamic and personalized student learning experience. Secondly, the study highlighted the advantages and challenges of incorporating media technology. While media technology provided opportunities for interactive and self-paced learning, limited access to technology and resistance to change were identified as significant challenges. Thirdly, the role of technocultural factors was acknowledged, emphasizing the importance of aligning the use of media technology with Islamic cultural values and norms. This integration ensured the relevance and appropriateness of technology in religious education.

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## **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT**

The authors contributed to this work as follows: Author 1 conceived the idea, Author 2 collected and analyzed the data, Author 3 reviewed and edited the

manuscript, Author 4 provided supervision, and Author 5 secured funding for the project. Therefore, conducting this project is simple.

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