

Character Education Through Al-Barzanji: A Study of Traditional Muslim Society in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung

Athoillah*, Siti Roudhotul Jannah, M. Sayyidul Abrori

Universitas Ma'arif Lampung, Indonesia

*Correspondence:  athoillah@gmail.com

Article Information:

Received : 2025-03-19

Revised : 2025-04-08

Accepted : 2025-05-14

Keywords: *Character Education, Al-Barzanji, Deliberation, Justice, Compassion, Forgiveness*

Abstract

This study aims to examine the contribution of the Al-Barzanji reading tradition in shaping the character of traditional Muslim society in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung. The problem raised in this study is how character values such as deliberation, justice, compassion, and forgiveness are applied through the Al-Barzanji tradition and the challenges faced in integrating this tradition into people's lives. This study uses a qualitative method with a descriptive approach. The subjects of the study consisted of village heads, religious figures, people who are active in the Al-Barzanji tradition, and the younger generation in Tanjung Harapan Village. Data collection was carried out through observation, in-depth interviews, and documentation related to Al-Barzanji reading activities. Data validity testing was carried out through triangulation techniques by comparing the results of observations, interviews, and documentation. Data analysis techniques include data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. The results of the study indicate that the Al-Barzanji reading tradition still takes place in Tanjung Harapan Village and has an important role in instilling character values in the community. The value of deliberation is reflected in the habit of deliberation before religious activities, the value of justice is seen in the attitude of mutual respect between citizens, compassion is manifested in harmonious social relations, and the attitude of forgiveness is practiced in everyday life. However, the challenges faced are the low interest of the younger generation in this tradition and the limited understanding of the community regarding the essence of character education in Al-Barzanji. Therefore, an innovative strategy is needed to maintain and develop this tradition as an effective medium for character education.

INTRODUCTION

Character education is one of the important elements in the world of education that aims to form humans who are not only intellectually intelligent but also have good morals and ethics. In Indonesia, the challenges in building noble character are increasingly complex due to the influence of modernization, globalization, and technological developments. The impact of these changes leads to a shift in cultural and religious values in people's lives. Therefore, an approach is needed that involves local traditions that are

Character Education Through Al-Barzanji: A Study of Traditional Muslim Society in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung

Athoillah, Roudhotul Jannah, M. Sayyidul Abrori

rich in character education values as an effort to adapt to the needs of society (Wibowo, 2021).

One of the religious traditions that has great potential in character education in traditional Muslim society is the reading of Al-Barzanji. This tradition is the art of reading poetry that describes the life story of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, including his noble morals and role models in living his life. This tradition has been going on from generation to generation and is not only a religious ritual, but also plays a role in passing on moral and ethical values (Rohman, 2022). However, in its development, the reading of Al-Barzanji began to be abandoned by some people, especially the younger generation, due to the increasingly strong influence of modern culture.

The main problem in this study is how the Al-Barzanji tradition which is rich in moral values can be optimized in character education for the younger generation amidst social and cultural changes. In addition, there are other problems, namely the low level of public understanding of the moral messages contained in the Al-Barzanji tradition, as well as the minimal efforts to involve this tradition in the formal education system.

This research is interesting to study because the Al-Barzanji tradition reflects the relationship between religion, culture, and personality formation. The reading of Al-Barzanji contains important values such as sincerity, courage, compassion, and respect for parents (Fauziah, 2020). However, along with social and economic changes, the implementation of this tradition faces various challenges. Therefore, this research needs to be conducted to understand how the Al-Barzanji tradition can act as an effective character education medium amidst the dynamics of traditional Muslim society.

Several previous studies that are relevant to this study include: First, Hasanah (2021) who revealed that the use of religious traditions such as Al-Barzanji can improve students' understanding of Islamic values through elements of art and stories that are easily accepted by people of all ages. Second, Ismail (2022) who showed that the synergy between formal education and local traditions can have a positive impact on the formation of students' character, although it has not been optimally implemented in the formal education system. Third, Putra (2023) who highlighted the phenomenon of the low interest of the younger generation in the Al-Barzanji tradition because they are more interested in global popular culture than local traditions that are considered old-fashioned.

What is unique about this study is its focus on the tradition of reciting Al-Barzanji which is still alive in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung. The

Character Education Through Al-Barzanji: A Study of Traditional Muslim Society in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung

Athoillah, Roudhotul Jannah, M. Sayyidul Abrori

traditional Muslim community in this village still carries out the recitation of Al-Barzanji in various routine religious activities, such as the celebration of the Prophet's Birthday, weddings, and thanksgiving. This activity not only functions as a means of religious ritual but also as a medium for conveying moral messages to children and adolescents. However, the effectiveness of this tradition in building the character of the younger generation has not been studied in depth.

The uniqueness of this study lies in the exploration of the potential of Al-Barzanji as a medium for character education in the midst of a traditional Muslim society that is starting to be influenced by modernization. The lack of understanding of some people about the meaning and value of character education contained in Al-Barzanji is also a problem that needs to be overcome. Some people consider this tradition only as a religious ritual without understanding the essence of education. As a result, the potential of Al-Barzanji as a medium for character education cannot be utilized optimally.

The solution offered through this research is to integrate the Al-Barzanji tradition into character education efforts through an innovative approach involving various parties, including religious leaders, the community and formal educational institutions. It is hoped that this strategy can revive the younger generation's interest in the Al-Barzanji tradition while strengthening character values in everyday life.

METHOD

The research method is a scientific method for obtaining data for a specific purpose or need (Sugiyono, 2019). Basically, it is used in conducting research so that the results and answers of the research can be trusted and scientifically accounted for, accurately. In accordance with the objectives of the research, namely to discover, prove, and develop. In this study, the researcher used a qualitative research method (Sugiyono, 2015). Qualitative research uses a natural paradigm. This means that this study assumes that empirical realities occur in a socio-cultural context that are interrelated with each other. Based on the explanation given, the qualitative research method used in this study is included in qualitative descriptive research with a natural paradigm.

The research subjects were informants, meaning people in the research setting who were used to provide information about the situation and conditions of the research setting (Pratiwi, 2019). The researchers in this study used purposive sampling techniques. Purposive sampling is a technique for taking samples of data sources with certain

Character Education Through Al-Barzanji: A Study of Traditional Muslim Society in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung

Athoillah, Roudhotul Jannah, M. Sayyidul Abrori

considerations, for example, the person is considered to know the most about what we expect (Chan et al., 2020). The subjects in this study were the village head, religious leaders and the community of Tanjung Harapan Village. There are three data collection tools in this study, namely observation, interviews and documentation. Observations were carried out to directly observe the situation, interactions, and activities related to the character of the community. Interviews were conducted with the village head, religious leaders and the community of Tanjung Harapan Village using structured and semi-structured techniques to dig up information in depth. Meanwhile, documentation was used to collect written data such as school archives, photos of activities, reports, and policy documents that support the research. The combination of these three techniques aims to increase data validity through triangulation.

The data validity test in this study was carried out using triangulation techniques, namely combining various data collection methods to test the consistency and validity of the information obtained. The triangulation used includes source triangulation, technical triangulation, and time triangulation. Source triangulation is carried out by comparing information from various informants, such as village heads, religious leaders, and local communities. Technical triangulation is carried out by comparing data obtained through observation, interviews, and documentation. Meanwhile, time triangulation is carried out by collecting data at different times to see the consistency of the data obtained (Anfi et al., 2023). Then the data that has been collected will be processed into the data analysis stage consisting of data reduction, data presentation and drawing conclusions (Sugiyono, 2019). In the data analysis process, this qualitative research uses an inductive data analysis technique, namely based on specific facts, then analyzed and finally found a general problem solving. Induction is a way of thinking in which a general conclusion is drawn from various individual cases (Rapik, 2019).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study aims to explore how the tradition of reciting Al-Barzanji contributes to character education in the traditional Muslim community of Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung. Al-Barzanji as an Islamic literary work that tells the story of the life of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, contains various moral values that can be used as a guideline for life. The village community still maintains this tradition in various religious events, but its use as a means of character education has not been fully optimal.

Character Education Through Al-Barzanji: A Study of Traditional Muslim Society in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung

Athoillah, Roudhotul Jannah, M. Sayyidul Abrori

Through a qualitative approach, this study reveals how the values of deliberation, justice, compassion, and forgiveness are internalized in the lives of the community through the recitation of Al-Barzanji.

Data were obtained through observation, interviews with village heads, religious figures, and the community, as well as documentation of various activities related to this tradition. The results of this study are expected to provide new insights into the role of local traditions in shaping the character of the younger generation and increasing public awareness of the importance of maintaining and understanding moral values in Al-Barzanji. The following is the author's documentation of interviews with the community in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung, namely:



Figure 1. Interview Activity

1. Musyawarah dalam Tradisi Al-Barzanji

Deliberation is a core value taught in Islam and is reflected in the tradition of reciting Al-Barzanji. The verses in this book describe how the Prophet Muhammad SAW always consulted with his companions in making important decisions. Observations in Tanjung Harapan Village show that the reading of Al-Barzanji is often done in groups, where participants discuss the meaning and messages contained in the verses. Interviews with religious leaders revealed that this activity teaches people to listen to other people's opinions and reach mutual agreements. A study by Hidayat (2023) states that deliberation

Character Education Through Al-Barzanji: A Study of Traditional Muslim Society in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung

Athoillah, Roudhotul Jannah, M. Sayyidul Abrori

in the Islamic tradition is able to build strong social character and increase togetherness in the community.

In practice, deliberation is also applied in the process of organizing Al-Barzanji reading activities. The village head explained that every time there is a big event involving the reading of Al-Barzanji, the community first holds a meeting to discuss the technical implementation. This shows that the value of deliberation is not only taught through the contents of the text, but also through real practices in everyday life. A study by Rahman (2022) emphasized that deliberation in religious communities can increase solidarity and strengthen a sense of belonging to the traditions being carried out.

The challenge in implementing the value of deliberation is the lack of participation of the younger generation in this activity. Many young people prefer other activities rather than engaging in discussions or reading Al-Barzanji. A study by Anwar (2023) shows that changes in a more individualistic lifestyle have led to a decline in interest in community-based traditions. Therefore, there needs to be a strategy to attract their interest, such as holding more interactive deliberation sessions or combining reading with modern discussions that are relevant to their lives.

To strengthen the value of deliberation in the reading of Al-Barzanji, it is recommended that after the reading there be a question and answer session and reflective discussion. In interviews with religious figures, it was stated that people who are accustomed to discussing in religious forums tend to be more open in solving problems collectively. A study by Yusuf (2024) shows that discussion-based learning methods in Islamic education can improve participants' understanding of the moral concepts taught. Thus, the reading of Al-Barzanji is not only a passive activity, but also a space for exchanging ideas and strengthening the tradition of deliberation in society. The following are the results of the documentation of community deliberation activities, namely:



Figure 2. Community Deliberation Activities after the reading of Al-Barzanji

2. Justice in the Al-Barzanji Tradition

The concept of justice in Islam is strongly emphasized in various teachings, including in the text of Al-Barzanji. The verses in this book describe how the Prophet Muhammad SAW always acted fairly in every aspect of life, both in the family, society, and government. Observations show that in the Tanjung Harapan Village community, the value of justice is reflected in the way they divide roles in reading Al-Barzanji. Every member of society, both young and old, is given the same opportunity to participate, so that there is no dominance of a particular group. Interviews with the village head revealed that this value of justice is also applied in decision-making involving the community. A study by Sari (2023) shows that the practice of justice in the Islamic community can increase the sense of social responsibility and trust between community members.

In addition to the aspect of participation, justice is also reflected in the way people treat each other during the reading of Al-Barzanji. There is no distinction of social status in this activity, and everyone is respected based on their contribution, not their background. A study by Maulana (2022) shows that equality in religious activities plays an important role in building social solidarity. In interviews with religious figures, it was explained that justice in Islam is not only about the law, but also about how a person treats others equally and fairly.

However, the main challenge in implementing the value of justice is the existence of social changes that cause significant economic differences in society. Some people who are

Character Education Through Al-Barzanji: A Study of Traditional Muslim Society in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung

Athoillah, Roudhotul Jannah, M. Sayyidul Abrori

better off tend to be more active in social activities, while those who are less well off feel less confident in participating. A study by Widodo (2023) found that increasing social inequality can hinder the implementation of the values of justice in the community. Therefore, efforts are needed to ensure that every member of society feels valued and has an equal opportunity to contribute.

One solution proposed by religious figures is to increase inclusivity in the reading of Al-Barzanji by involving more groups of people who are less active. Interviews with village heads showed that when all levels of society feel involved, they tend to appreciate and maintain the values taught in the tradition more. A study by Fauzi (2024) showed that an inclusive approach to religious activities can increase social involvement and strengthen community ties. Thus, the value of justice in Al-Barzanji can continue to be maintained and applied in everyday life.

3. Compassion in the Al-Barzanji Tradition

Compassion is one of the main values emphasized in Islam and is reflected in the tradition of reciting Al-Barzanji. The verses in this book describe how the Prophet Muhammad SAW treated his family, friends, and people with love and affection. Observations in Tanjung Harapan Village show that the tradition of reciting Al-Barzanji strengthens emotional bonds between community members, especially during religious events. Interviews with religious leaders revealed that the value of compassion is not only conveyed through the texts read, but also through the atmosphere of togetherness created in each implementation. A study by Hidayat (2023) states that community-based religious activities can strengthen social relationships and increase empathy between community members.

In practice, the value of compassion is seen in the interaction between community members during the reading of Al-Barzanji. Parents guide their children in reading, while the younger generation helps the elderly in understanding more complex texts. The village head stated that this tradition provides an opportunity for the community to respect and help each other. A study by Rahman (2022) confirmed that cross-generational involvement in religious activities can strengthen relationships between individuals and create a more harmonious environment.

The main challenge in instilling the value of compassion is the shift in communication patterns due to the influence of technology and social media. The younger

Character Education Through Al-Barzanji: A Study of Traditional Muslim Society in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung

Athoillah, Roudhotul Jannah, M. Sayyidul Abrori

generation tends to focus more on the digital world compared to direct interactions in the community. A study by Anwar (2023) shows that this change in communication patterns can reduce social empathy and weaken community ties. Therefore, a strategy is needed to strengthen their involvement in activities that foster a sense of compassion directly.

One solution proposed by religious figures is to hold a reflection session after the reading of Al-Barzanji, where participants can share personal experiences about how the values in this text can be applied in everyday life. Interviews with village heads showed that this activity can help participants understand the deeper meaning of the poems they read. A study by Yusuf (2024) showed that the reflection method in religious learning can increase moral awareness and strengthen emotional relationships between community members.

To increase the effectiveness of this tradition in instilling the value of compassion, it is necessary to integrate it with other social activities, such as visiting the homes of residents in need or community-based charity activities. In this way, the value of compassion is not only taught in text form, but also manifested in real actions. A study by Fauzi (2024) shows that involvement in religious-based social activities can increase empathy and solidarity in society. Thus, the recitation of Al-Barzanji can be more than just a religious ritual, but also a means of forming broader character.

4. Forgiveness in the Al-Barzanji Tradition

Forgiveness is an important value in Islam that is often mentioned in the life story of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, including in the poems of Al-Barzanji. The Prophet Muhammad SAW was known as a figure who was full of forgiveness towards his enemies and those who had hurt him. Observations in Tanjung Harapan Village show that this value is still alive in society through the practice of reading Al-Barzanji, where participants are taught to reflect on the meaning of forgiveness and apply it in everyday life. Interviews with religious leaders revealed that people who are active in religious activities tend to be better able to control their emotions and prioritize an attitude of forgiveness. A study by Sari (2023) states that involvement in religious activities can increase an individual's ability to manage conflict peacefully.

In practice, the value of forgiveness is reflected in the way people resolve conflicts and differences of opinion. The village head explained that in various village meetings, people who often engage in Al-Barzanji readings tend to use a polite dialogue approach and avoid conflict. A study by Maulana (2022) shows that an Islamic values-based approach to

Character Education Through Al-Barzanji: A Study of Traditional Muslim Society in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung

Athoillah, Roudhotul Jannah, M. Sayyidul Abrori

conflict resolution can create a more harmonious environment and reduce the potential for social conflict.

However, the main challenge in implementing the value of forgiveness is the existence of social changes that trigger tensions between members of society. Economic, political, and cultural factors often cause conflicts that are difficult to resolve with a moral approach alone. A study by Widodo (2023) found that in societies facing high social pressure, the value of forgiveness is often ignored for the sake of personal or group interests. Therefore, a more systematic approach is needed in teaching this value so that it remains relevant in modern society.

One strategy that can be implemented is to integrate the value of forgiveness into various community activities outside of Al-Barzanji reading, such as in children's education programs and village social activities. Interviews with village heads showed that people who have a high awareness of the importance of forgiveness tend to be better able to maintain good relationships between residents. A study by Fauzi (2024) showed that religious-based character education that is widely applied in various aspects of life can create a more peaceful and harmonious environment. In addition, religious activities like this can keep people mentally healthy (Rahmah et al., 2022). The following is documentation of Al-Barzanji reading activities in the community that reflect community harmony, namely:



Figure 3. Reading of the Book of Al-Barzanji

To increase the effectiveness of the application of the value of forgiveness, it is suggested that the community be given a deeper understanding of the relevance of this

Character Education Through Al-Barzanji: A Study of Traditional Muslim Society in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung

Athoillah, Roudhotul Jannah, M. Sayyidul Abrori

value in modern life. For example, through religious studies that discuss the stories of the Prophet Muhammad SAW about forgiveness in the context of today's life. In this way, the value of forgiveness taught in Al-Barzanji will not only be a theory, but also become part of the daily life practices of the people of Tanjung Harapan Village.

This study shows that the Al-Barzanji tradition has great potential in character education. The values of deliberation, justice, compassion, and forgiveness are clearly reflected in the practice of reading Al-Barzanji, although it still faces various challenges, especially in terms of the participation of the younger generation and in-depth understanding of the contents of the text. Therefore, a more effective strategy is needed to explain the relevance of the values in Al-Barzanji to everyday life so that character education based on this tradition can be more optimal in shaping the personality of society.

CONCLUSION

This study shows that the tradition of reciting Al-Barzanji has an important role in the character education of traditional Muslim communities in Tanjung Harapan Village. The values of deliberation, justice, compassion, and forgiveness contained in the Al-Barzanji text are reflected in the social life of the community and are passed down from generation to generation. However, challenges remain, especially in terms of the participation of the younger generation and a deep understanding of the contents of the text. To maintain and optimize the role of Al-Barzanji in character education, synergy is needed between religious leaders, village governments, and educational institutions. Innovation in conveying this tradition, such as through digital media and community activities, is also a strategic step to attract the interest of the younger generation. With the right approach, Al-Barzanji can continue to be an effective medium in instilling moral values and forming the character of a society with noble morals.

REFERENCES

- Anfi, M. A., Abrori, M. S., & Haikal, H. (2023). Peran Orang Tua Dalam Membentuk Akhlakul Karimah Anak Sejak Dini Di RT 005/RW 005 Gaya Baru III. *Berkala Ilmiah Pendidikan*, 3(1), 21–30. <https://doi.org/10.51214/bip.v3i1.550>
- Anwar, M. (2023). Dampak Perubahan Pola Komunikasi terhadap Interaksi Sosial Generasi Muda. *Jurnal Komunikasi Islam*, 15(2), 112–125.
- Chan, F., Kurniawan, A. R., Kalila, S., Amalia, F., Apriliani, D., & Herdana, S. V. (2020). Dampak Bullying Terhadap Percaya Diri Peserta Didik Sekolah Dasar. *PENDAS MAHAKAM: Jurnal Pendidikan Dasar*, 4(2), 152–157. <https://doi.org/10.24903/pm.v4i2.347>

Character Education Through Al-Barzanji: A Study of Traditional Muslim Society in Tanjung Harapan Village, Seputih Banyak, Central Lampung

Athoillah, Roudhotul Jannah, M. Sayyidul Abrori

- Fauzi, R. (2024). Pendidikan Karakter Berbasis Agama dan Implikasinya terhadap Kehidupan Sosial. *Jurnal Pendidikan Islam*, 18(1), 98–110.
- Fauziah, N. (2020). Peran Tradisi Al-Barzanji dalam Menanamkan Nilai-Nilai Akhlak Mulia di Masyarakat. *Jurnal Studi Keislaman*, 14(3), 112–128.
- Hasanah, S. (2021). Tradisi Keagamaan sebagai Media Pendidikan Karakter: Studi pada Masyarakat Muslim. *Jurnal Pendidikan Islam*, 10(2), 67–81.
- Hidayat, A. (2023). Peran Tradisi Keagamaan dalam Mempererat Hubungan Sosial Masyarakat Pedesaan. *Jurnal Sosial Keagamaan*, 20(3), 143–157.
- Ismail, F. (2022). Integrasi Tradisi Lokal dalam Pendidikan Formal: Studi Kasus di Sekolah Menengah. *Jurnal Pendidikan Dan Kebudayaan*, 11(4), 99–115.
- Maulana, R. (2022). Pendekatan Islam dalam Penyelesaian Konflik Sosial: Studi Kasus di Komunitas Muslim Tradisional. *Jurnal Perdamaian Islam*, 17(1), 88–101.
- Pratiwi, N. (2019). Penggunaan Media Video Call dalam Teknologi Komunikasi. *Jurnal Ilmiah DInamika Sosial*, 1(1), 213–214.
- Putra, R. I. (2023). Pengaruh Globalisasi terhadap Minat Generasi Muda dalam Tradisi Lokal. *Jurnal Sosiologi Dan Pendidikan*, 9(1), 54–69.
- Rahmah, U. H., Jannah, S. R., Jaenullah, J., & Setiawan, D. (2022). Pembinaan Kesehatan Mental Peserta didik melalui Kegiatan Keagamaan. *Bulletin of Counseling and Psychotherapy*, 4(3), 687–693. <https://doi.org/10.51214/bocp.v4i3.203>
- Rahman, Y. (2022). Keterlibatan Lintas Generasi dalam Aktivitas Keagamaan dan Dampaknya terhadap Harmonisasi Sosial. *Jurnal Keislaman*, 19(4), 99–113.
- Rapik, M. (2019). Diskursus Filsafat Ilmu: dari Peradaban Manusia ke Peradaban Tuhan. *Titian*, 1(2), 156–171. <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.22437/titian.v1i2.4225>
- Rohman, M. A. (2022). Melestarikan Tradisi Al-Barzanji di Era Modern: Tantangan dan Solusi. *Jurnal Budaya Islam*, 8(2), 89–105.
- Sari, M. (2023). Peran Aktivitas Keagamaan dalam Mengembangkan Sikap Toleransi dan Pemaafan di Masyarakat Muslim Tradisional. *Jurnal Studi Keislaman*, 22(2), 76–90.
- Sugiyono. (2015). *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. Alfabeta.
- Sugiyono. (2019). *Metode Penelitian Pendidikan: Pendekatan Kuantitatif, Kualitatif, dan R&D*. Alfabeta.
- Wibowo, A. (2021). Pendidikan Karakter dalam Konteks Globalisasi dan Modernisasi: Pendekatan Kontekstual. *Jurnal Pendidikan Karakter*, 12(1), 45–60.
- Widodo, P. (2023). Dinamika Sosial dan Hilangnya Nilai Pemaafan dalam Masyarakat Modern: Studi Sosiologi Islam. *Jurnal Ilmu Sosial Islam*, 16(3), 110–124.
- Yusuf, A. (2024). Metode Refleksi dalam Pembelajaran Keagamaan: Meningkatkan Kesadaran Moral Melalui Kajian Islam Tradisional. *Jurnal Pendidikan Islam*, 19(2), 132–145.