

Attitude Towards Understanding In Respecting The Existence of Differences

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ABSTRACT

Islam as the majority religion of Indonesia has an important role and maintains harmony between religious communities. As is known in the Qur'an it is written that Islam is a religion of rahmatan lil alamin so that Islam must provide peace and tranquility everywhere, including in Indonesia. This has an impact on the process of Islamic education in Indonesia. However, the reality is that there is still often justification for the truth from each party, religious learning is still doctrinal, and the material in Islamic education is formulated and delivered with only one perspective. This study is based on the understanding of pluralism that occurs in the Islamic education system and instills an inclusive attitude in religion. This study aims to educate students to have an inclusive attitude that is able to understand the perspectives of others in terms of friendship or religion. This study uses an approach method and also an introduction to diversity and differences in terms of ethnicity, race, religion and culture in Indonesia. The results of this study are to create a future generation that can appreciate the differences and diversity that occur in Indonesia. This is based on the attitude of students who do not yet have a sense of caring and understanding of each other, whether of the same ethnicity, race, religion, or culture.

Keywords: pluralism, inclusive attitude, diversity

1. INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a country that consists of many different communities, tribes, ethnicities or social groups, beliefs, religions and cultures that differ from one region to another that dominate the cultural treasures in Indonesia.

With the many different communities and cultures, of course each individual from the community has different desires from each region that has a different background, social structure, and character and has different views on how to think in dealing with life and their own problems. This allows for the emergence of

a conflict or division that is only based on emotions between individuals in society where the condition of the Indonesian population is very easily influenced by information without wanting to research or study it more deeply.

This is inseparable from the emergence of various forms of violence in the name of religion. Religion is seen as a source of conflict between religious groups. This kind of conflict is very likely to occur, if you look at the context of Indonesia, even higher because it is multi-religious and each religion teaches that they are right and the others are wrong. Therefore, religious conflict in Indonesia is classified as a vulnerable problem so that it requires the doctrine of religious pluralism. The Tasmanian Department of Education in Australia has developed the concept of inclusive education, which is education that accepts diverse students as an integral part of the school and feels belonging, ensuring access, participation, and achievement in all parts of the education they attend which is in accordance with the motto "Bhineka Tunggal Ika" which means different but still one,

In the "Encyclopedia of Knowledge" it is stated that pluralism can be understood as "a theory or system of thought that recognizes more than one, and usually more than two main principles". As understood from this term, pluralism is a theory or system of thought that recognizes more than one, and often more than two, main principles.

While in the Indonesian dictionary, pluralism comes from the word "jamak", which is interpreted as something that is plural or not plural, with different meanings. Pluralism is diversity based on virtue (uniqueness) and uniqueness.

While in the social sciences, pluralism is defined as "a framework of interaction in which groups show full respect and tolerance for each other, and they live side by side and interact productively without conflict or assimilation." or assimilation (assimilation/refraction).

Nowadays, modernization has had an impact on all aspects of life throughout the world, even in Indonesia. Where there is a lot of information that can be accessed by children who cannot distinguish between good and bad. We as parents and teachers must be able to follow the development of modern technology to be able to supervise and control children so that they do not fall into the sea of information that has a huge impact on the souls and mentality of children. Especially in western culture that differentiates everything, one of which is in terms of religion.

In this study, there is an alternative solution, namely teaching about pluralism and instilling an inclusive attitude in students or more precisely in Indonesian society. This study uses an approach method and introduction to the understanding of pluralism and the importance of an inclusive attitude in order to strengthen the unity of Indonesia.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This study adopts a case study method, namely library research, which is based on a review of journals or articles related to the related problems. The time and place of research used in this study are relative.

The target of solving this research problem is students and the community who do not or do not know about respecting differences, and instilling a spirit of tolerance or an inclusive attitude towards those differences.

The initial procedure in this study is to collect data from journals and articles related to the topic discussed. The next step is to sort the data that will be included in this research article, namely about the understanding of pluralism, where pluralism itself is diversity in a community group, this diversity is seen in terms of religion, ethnicity, race, and culture. The next step is how to instill an inclusive attitude, an inclusive attitude itself is an attitude of tolerance towards existing differences.

In this study we collect data using references from books, journals, articles about pluralism and inclusive attitudes towards Islamic education.

The data analysis obtained from this study is about the problems that occur in Indonesian society and students who are influenced by factors within themselves such as considering other religions to be wrong and hating an ethnicity or religion because an event occurs that gives rise to the hatred itself.

3. RESULT AND ANALYSIS

The results of this study indicate that there are still many problems in the non-acceptance of differences in society. Many people are led by the opinions of someone's thoughts which are then provoked to hate a difference or even hostility towards the difference itself. This study will discuss what pluralism is both in society and in the world of education and instill an attitude of tolerance or inclusiveness.

Educating Inclusive Attitudes

Inclusive education gives courage to every person to accept differences as well as readiness to build this world to be more peaceful and comfortable to live in together. In relations between fellow and inter-religious people, it is necessary to develop solidarity together that can create harmony between adherents of religions and beliefs. Do not let the destruction of places of worship of other religions happen again as happened in Temanggung.

More specifically, harmony between adherents of Islam. Do not let Muslims destroy places of worship of fellow Muslims again as happened in Kuningan district a few months ago, there were people who "claimed to be Muslim", but destroyed the Ahmadiyah Kuningan mosque. Do not let the massacre of

Ahmadiyah followers happen again like what happened in Cikeusik Pandeglang. With this inclusive education, it is hoped that it can form attitudes and behaviors of Muslims to be able to respect, appreciate, and tolerate differences in religion, ethnicity, race and opinion.

There are 3 dimensions in Islamic teachings to teach each other inclusive attitudes, namely: first; rationality, second; care, and third; civilization. First; Islam is a rational religion. If there is an invitation or doctrine stating that "angels have been waiting for the mujahideen" by means of suicide bombings, it is a ridiculous and irrational act.

Second; Islamic teachings with the concept of *sirahmatanlil'alam* have logical consequences to always care for others who need help or assistance without looking at whether they have the same religion or not. This is a form of concern, because helping is the core teaching of the universal Islamic religion.

Third; Islam is a religion of civilization. The Prophet Muhammad SAW was sent to this earth to build civilization. This can be seen from his teachings in freeing slavery, respecting women, respecting religious differences, and upholding science.

Religious inclusivity has recently become a central issue in developing theology. The emergence of this issue is due to the increasingly blurred public awareness of plurality that ensures multi-ethnicity and multi-religion that grow in a diverse society. At this time, ethnic and religious tolerance in Indonesia has become an important agenda since the rise of ethnic religious violence, as well as the frequent cases of terror in the name of religion in Indonesia.

Religion, as we know, is more related to the heart (faith). So religion contains a subjective dimension, in the sense of individual religious experience, which is difficult to trace. While the normative approach is an attempt to explain a religion by emphasizing doctrinal truth and the superiority of the value system. This approach will use persuasive apologetic methods in defending its superiority. This is where it happens in comparing one religion with another, with the emphasis on the elements of "weakness and deficiency" always being highlighted.

Based on the above reality, many ideas for interpreting religion (Islam) are associated with the diverse patterns of life in Indonesia. Some of them try to offer what is called "inclusive Islam" which is generally interpreted as open Islam, meaning recognizing the value of truth in other religions for the sake of harmony and peace of the people. However, it should be noted that recognizing the truth of other religions does not mean mixing other religious beliefs with Islam. "Inclusive Islam" seeks to take the universality of Islam as a religion that is *rahmatanlil'alam* which is implemented in everyday life. The inclusive nature of its teachings is expected to be able to answer global issues such as humanism, pluralism, gender and so on. Let's just say, there are two terms that need to be considered, namely inclusive and exclusive. Inclusive identifies as an open, tolerant attitude and willing to accept others. While exclusive is a closed, rigid and

rigid attitude. Let's just say, inclusiveism seeks to achieve the unity of other religions. Of course, it is different from exclusivism which tries to make the many religions as one phase (aspect) of one religion. So what is often referred to as pluralist inclusiveness and theological inclusiveness developed.

In the concept of "inclusive Islam" itself, borrowing Alwi Shihab's term, it must be built on the basis of one understanding of the differences that are the sunnatullah, containing the spirit of religious pluralism and tolerance. While efforts to realize this by conducting comparative studies of religions, and interfaith dialogue to find the sentence *hsawa* (meeting point) with other religions. If associated with education, there needs to be awareness of educational institutions including universities to instill more open values, not feeling right, blaming each other. These values can be adapted to inclusive Islamic thinking.

Adapting these inclusive values is important to strive for considering that the intolerant religious attitudes of society, in general, even in Indonesia, are influenced by education in society, especially religious education taught in schools/universities which tend to be exclusive. Indeed, the world of education is not the only institution that must be responsible, but it cannot be said that the world of education has a significant role in the two processes of tendency; tolerating diversity or conversely, making diversity a part of the source of violence, because education is an institution that instills values in Indonesian people. Let's just say, the tendency of intolerant education, exclusive vision, denying the reality of the Pancasila nation, will easily become a trigger for the tendency of violence based on exclusive beliefs. That way, it will give rise to a learning that prioritizes common truth and does not favor one particular group. In addition, it provides learning to students that as social beings, especially in this diverse Indonesia, we cannot arbitrarily curse and judge those who are different from us astray.

The Problem Of Not Accepting Differences In Society

Many people are led by the opinions of someone's thoughts which are then provoked to hate a difference or even hostility towards the difference itself. This study will discuss what pluralism is both in society and in the world of education and instill an attitude of tolerance or inclusiveness.

Pluralism encourages freedom, including freedom of religion and is a pillar of democracy. There is no true democracy without pluralism. Pluralism here means state protection of the rights of its citizens to embrace religion according to what they believe. Pluralism means building tolerance must recognize that every religion with its adherents has the same right to exist. So what must be built first is a feeling and attitude of mutual respect, namely tolerance in the active sense.

Inclusive education gives courage to every person to accept differences as well as readiness to build this world to be more peaceful and comfortable to live in together. Failure to develop a tolerant and inclusive attitude in religious education will only give birth to radical wings in religion. Borrowing Paulo Freire's

educational philosophy, it is time for religious education to be directed towards the arena of liberation from the shackles of exclusive and intolerant religious doctrines towards the formulation of inclusive religious education. Because from the beginning education must be a process of liberation, not the taming of an exclusive culture.

4. CONCLUSION

Islam is a religion that teaches about the understanding of great tolerance which is mentioned in the Qur'an, Surah Al-Hujurat verse 13. We were created into nations, tribes and various religions so that we can all recognize the beauty that exists in a difference. Pluralism is the understanding of appreciating the existence of differences in a society, whether in terms of race, tribe or religion where all are the same, there is no discrimination against one of them. But unfortunately, there are so many people who do not appreciate the differences that exist and consider them a joke or even consider them as material to divide the nation. In fact, it is from these differences that make a country like Indonesia stronger, therefore it is our obligation as a society and also as Muslims to be able to instill an inclusive attitude in ourselves, to our children who will later continue the Indonesian nation.

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