# Professionalism of *AqidahAkhlak* Teachers in the Utilization of Digital-Based Learning Media

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## ABSTRACT

*Teacher professionalism is a necessity that cannot be postponed anymore. Based on field supervision and document data (Teacher Competency Test), it is predicted that several causes of low student achievement include: 1) most teachers still use the teacher centered learning approach with lecture dominance and less variation in learning models; 2) the level of teacher professionalism is still not as expected. For this reason, teachers must be demanded to be more professional in using media and methods in the learning process, while the media itself is a tool that has the function of conveying messages, especially in learning aqidah morals. This study aims to analyze how professional AqidahAkhlak teachers are and the obstacles they face in utilizing digital-based learning media. This research uses a descriptive qualitative approach. The results of this study found that the professionalism of teachers in using digital-based media was sufficient because it was supported by teacher training in using digital-based learning media, one of which was Google E-learning. As for some of the obstacles faced by the teacher, including the age factor which resulted in delays in studying the media and some students who worked during class hours and the data packages that were owned by students so that it slightly hampered learning.*

*Keywords: Teacher Professionalism; Instructional Media; Aqidahakhlak.*

## INTRODUCTION

At this time education providers need efforts to improve the quality of education, especially starting from the teacher, because teachers as educators are at the forefront whose duties and functions are directly related to students, teachers have the main task of learning in schools to create a learning atmosphere fun so that it has a positive impact on student achievement. Based on field supervision and document data (Teacher Competency Test), it is predicted that several causes of low student achievement include: 1) most teachers still use the teacher centered learning approach with lecture dominance and less variation in learning models; 2) the level of teacher professionalism is still not as expected. For this reason, teachers must be required to be more professional in using media and methods in the learning process (Rhomadhoni & Sulaikho, 2021).

From the explanation above, it can be concluded that during the Covid-19 pandemic which has been going on for almost a year until now. The widespread spread of the corona virus has caused the government to issue a large-scale social restriction policy at a time like now which requires us to be socialdistancing or social restrictions, namely by limiting all activities carried out from home, such as work, study, worship, and others. After the imposition of large-scale social restrictions, it begins with a new life order, namely the application of the new normal which affects education (Rahmawati & Munika, 2021). The learning process is not done face-to-face but online. The learning process carried out is distance learning.

With the above constraints, a teacher is required to be professional in providing the learning strategies used. As for professionals themselves, etymologically come fromEnglish professional,which means acknowledging, acknowledging being able to, or being experts in carrying out certain jobs (Yunus, 2016). So that teachers professionally can take advantage of existing learning media as for media according to experts, including: According to Bovee (1997), media is a tool that has the function of conveying messages. Therefore, it can be concluded that media is anything that can be used by teachers and students in order to achieve learning goals that make it easier to achieve goals and can enrich

students' insights(Assidik, 2018). Media in the learning process can be interpreted as all forms of physical communication equipment in the form of software and devices that must be created or developed, used and managed for learning needs in achieving the effectiveness and efficiency of the learning process (Shofiyani & Sholihah, 2021). Media is no longer seen only as an assistive medium for educators to teach, but more than that, namely as a means of conveying messages from teachers to students(Okra, R & Novera, 2019).

Digital-based learning media in the New Normal era are expected to be able to increase teacher professionalism in the use of digital-based learning media. The author wants to find out whether the existence of digital-based learning media is able to influence the professionalism of teachers in utilizing digital-based learning media and whether there are obstacles faced by teachers in the use of digital-based learning media in the New Normal era. This research will be conducted at Madrasah AliyahNegeri 9 Jombang. The reason the authors conducted research at Madrasah AliyahNegeri 9 Jombang were (a) in that location the learning system had developed well. (b) MAN 9 Jombang is one of the schools that received accreditation "A" because there is something unique and interesting to be studied by researchers.

**METHOD**

In this paper, researchers used descriptive qualitative methods. This study uses literature review data and field data obtained by observation during the Covid-19 pandemic. Researchers first collect the results of existing data through analysis of literature studies and analysis of field studies. Study assessment datais used in order to further strengthenauthentically presented evidence rationally with the legal theory that could help strengthening existing hypotheses. According to Bogdan and Taylor in Moleong (1993: 3) "qualitative research methods are research procedures that produce descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people and observable behavior(Muhajirin& Maya, 2017). In this study the researcher acts as a key instrument. The data collection technique is done by triangulation (combined), the data produced is descriptive and the data analysis is done inductively. The results of the study emphasize meaning rather than generalization so that this study is used to determine the professionalism of teachers in MAN 9 Jombang in utilizing digital-based learning media in the New Normal era. The data source in the study is the subject from which the data was obtained (Suharsimi, 2012). Based on the above view, it can be seen that the data obtained in the study can be used as material for study in research analysis. For this reason, the researcher formulates several sources of data obtained in the study, namely:

- Head of MAN 9 Jombang
- Head of TU MAN 9 Jombang
- Teacher AkidahAkhlak at MAN 9 Jombang
- Deputy principal of the MAN 9 Jombang curriculum field.

To get the data needed in this study, the authors use data collection techniques as follows:
The observation: Method is a technique or a way of collecting data by systematically observing and recording the symptoms that appear on the object of ongoing research. Documentation Mthod: Is a method of collecting data by collecting existing documents and is a storage place for a number of data or information. In this case the researcher collected data about school data, Teacher AkidahAkhlak, photos of interview activities. Qualitative data analysis is the process of systematically searching for and compiling data obtained from interviews, field notes and other materials so that they are easy to understand and the findings can be shared with others. Data analysis in qualitative research is carried out during data collection and after completing data collection within a certain period(Sugiyono, 2015). The analysis according to Sugiyono is as follows: Reduction Data: Analysis can be needed with data reduction, because the data obtained are relatively many and varied. The amount of data obtained by the field is quite large, therefore it is necessary to record it carefully and in detail. Reducing data means summarizing, selecting main things, focusing on important things, looking for themes and patterns to make it easier for researchers to carry out further data collection, and looking for them if needed. In the implementation process, the researcher reduced the interview data from the informants, then selected the important things to be used as research-related data. Presentation Data: Presentation techniques in qualitative research can be carried out in various forms such as tables, graphs, and the like. Data presentation can also be done in the form of brief descriptions, charts, and the like. This research in presenting the data will use descriptive narrative text. Withdrawal of Conclusions: The initial conclusions put forward are still provisional, and will change if there is no strong evidence to support them at the collection and subsequent stages. But if the conclusions put forward at an early stage are supported by

valid and consistent evidence when the researcher returns to the field to collect data, then the conclusion is credible.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Teacher professionalism in utilizing digital-based learning media from the results of research interviews with vice principals in the field of curriculum and teachers is aqidah akhlak supported by training for teachers in using Google E-learning which based on this training results in teachers becoming professionals in the use of digital media google E-learning so as to improve learning for teachers and students. Based on the results of interviews with vice principals in the field of curriculum and aqidah akhlak teachers, it resulted in research on the constraints of teacher professionalism in utilizing digital learning media, namely the delay of teachers in learning Google E-learning caused by age factors and data packages on students and students who work during class hours.

### Result

Based on the results of the interview, the vice principal in the curriculum field groups the use of media in the teaching and learning process in several forms, including the use of  YouTube, WA groups and Google E-learning as a medium for assigning and delivering material by utilizing the internet in learning such as using google E -learning, this is as expressed by the teacher aqidah akhlak  in MAN 9 Jombang.Based on the results of an interview with a teacher creed Akhlak on (01.04.2021) he explained that in making a teacher professional in the use of digital-based learning media, especially the subject Aqidah Akhlak in MAN 9 Jombang, namely by utilizing google E-learning, the teacher was held training how to use it so that with E-learning teachers Aqidah Akhlak find it helpful to deliver material during this period New Normal.

Based on data obtained from interviews conducted by researchers with school representatives in the field of curriculum where training on the use of digital-based media, namely Google E-learning, *is* very helpful in improving professional teachers Aqidah Akhlak in MAN 9 Jombang. So that in the learning process the teacher can master it easily as conveyed by MuhamadSidiq as the teacher of Aqidah Akhlak.The results of this study indicate that the steps taken by the vice principal in the field of curriculum to make professional teachers with technological advances, educators can link the strategy with the appropriate media.

Educators must also master E-learning as a learning medium. This research is that teachers make innovation and creativity in utilizing media and learning methods so that a teacher becomes a professional in the use of digital-based learning media.Based on the results of research that has been conducted at MAN 9 Jombang, it can be seen that the factors and constraints of teacher professionalism in the use of digital-based learning media include: The delay in the ability of the teacher in learning the instructional media that has been provided by the school institution and the age factor also influences the teacher's ability. The problem of budget funds for students is an obstacle in the use of information and communication technology media to improve teacher professionalism. Another obstacle is the presence of several students during working class hours due to the lack of an economic impact from the Covid-19 pandemic.Based on the results of this study, it can be concluded that the main obstacle is related to teacher professionalism, where students work during class hours and student internet data is limited so that it hinders learning.

### Discussion

Professionalism is a need that cannot be ignored anymore, the increasing competition is getting tougher in the era of globalization, it is necessary to increase the professionalism of a teacher. Professional is a job or activity that is carried out by a person and becomes a source of living income that requires expertise or skills that meet certain quality or norms and require professional education. This research is supported by Yusutria that the professionalism of teachers is reflected in the implementation of tasks which are marked by expertise in both material and method. Learning media is a teaching aid that influences climate, conditions, and the learning environment that is organized and created by the teacher and in essence teaching and learning activities are a process of communication between teachers and students or students. The communication process is realized through the delivery and exchange of messages or information between teachers and students. This message can be in the form of knowledge, expertise, skills, ideas, experiences, and so on. Aqidah is a number of truths that can be  generally accepted by humans based on reason, revelation, and nature. The truth is practiced by humans in the heart

and is believed to be valid and its existence is certain and everything that contradicts the truth is rejected. morals Al-Ghazali according to the nature of morality must include two conditions: The act must be constant, i.e. repeated (continuously) in the same form so that it can become a habit. That constant action should grow easily as a reflection of his soul without consideration and thought, that is, there is no pressure or coercion from others.

In this literature review, the researchers found several previous studies that have relevance to the research to be carried out, including: Thesis by "IrfanAntorida" in 2020 which examines Teacher Skills in the Use of Digital Learning Media in the Adaptation Period for New Habits (AKB) on Learning Outcomes Thematic in MIN Salatiga. Thesis, majoring in Madrasah IbtidaiyahTeacher Education (PGMI), Faculty of *Tarbiyah* and Teacher Training (FTIK), Salatiga State Islamic Institute (IAIN). Based on the results of the interviews which showed the skills of teachers in using digital learning media during the AKB period, it turned out to have an effect on student learning outcomes. High curiosity, more interest, increased achievement, completed assignments on time. Good grades, students are more able to respect time, foster a disciplined attitude, have a high sense of responsibility. So, it can be concluded that the skills of teachers in the use of digital learning media during the AKB period at MIN Salatiga show that the skills of teachers in the use of digital learning media are very good, creative, interesting, and innovative by teachers. The journal by "Ghoyatul Qoshwa and Evi Fatimatur Rusydiyah" in 2020 which examines Teacher Professionalism in Technology Implementation *at* Madrasah Aliyah Bustanul Ulum Glagah Lamongan. Journal by UIN SunanAmpel Surabaya. Based on the results of teacher professionalism in utilizing or implementing technology in the teaching and learning process in this study, the use of computers in the teaching and learning process takes several forms, including the use of multimedia presentations, and related to the benefits of the internet in learning such as using E-mail and Google Forms. Learning that makes maximum use of ICT can improve student achievement.

From the two research results above, it can be concluded that the advantages and advantages of this study are different from the two studies because in this study it focuses on student learning outcomes after using digital-based learning media while in this study it is focused on teacher professionalism and teacher constraints in using digital-based learning media. especially in this New Normal era. Based on the relevant research results that have been mentioned above, this research results in research that the professionalism of teachers in utilizing digital learning media in the new normal period carried out in MAN 9 Jombang from the results of interviews with vice principals in the field of curriculum and aqidah akhlak teachers produces research that is to make Professional teachers are held training using Google E-learning and the obstacles faced by Aqidah Akhlak teachers are the delay in learning Google E-learning due to the age factor and data packages of students and students who work during class hours. However, from these constraints the biggest were students who lacked data packages and worked during class hours.

## CONCLUSION

From the presentation of the results of the study, it can be concluded that the professionalism of aqidahakhlak teacher in MAN 9 Jombang is quite professional and disciplined even in the conditions of the Covid-19 pandemic. At this time the teacher continues to carry out his duties as a teacher who has professional competence. This indicates that teachers are still guided and given direction before starting distance learning, guidance in the use of digital media in the learning process and facilitate everything that teachers need in learning to take place effectively. Teachers are free to choose a platform that fits their learning method as a medium for implementing learning for their use. As for the learning process, there is always an obstacle that is expected or not, therefore the teacher is given the freedom to choose a platform that he is able to use and that is easy, and of course he is always guided and given directions so that the learning runs effectively, and always accepts and seeks solutions from reports of obstacles to students who have difficulty in following the lesson. However, the main obstacle lies in students who lack interest in learning by staying working during class hours and the lack of data packages in responding to learning. Therefore the best solution is communication from teachers to parents of students who play an active role in reviewing the development of students even in distance learning.

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