PEACE EDUCATION TAUGHT BY THE FEMALE MUSLIM NOBEL PEACEPRIZE LAUREATES IN THE 21st CENTURY

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Abstract

Women have a very important role in upholding world peace and security because they have the power that is not possessed by men, namely the maternal instinct which naturally can create peace with love, care and harmony. This study aims to find out Muslim women who received world peace awards in the 21st century and analyze the points of peace education that they teach and implement. This research was a qualitative descriptive study with the content analysis of the peace speech they deliver. Based on the analysis, it can be seen that there are three Muslim women who received world nobel Peace Prize in the 21st century, namely Shirin Ebadi, Tawakkul Karman and Malala Yousafzai. The messages of peace that become their focus are efforts for democracy and human rights, especially the struggle for human and children’s rights (Shirin Ebadi), nonviolent struggle against women’s security and women’s rights for full participation in peace-building work (Tawakkul Karman), struggle against the oppression of children and young people and the right of all children to get education (Malala Yousafzai).

Keywords: Peace education, Female muslim, Nobel peaceprize, 21st century
A. Introduction

Women are considered to have enormous potential to become agents of world peace. Unfortunately, the role of women in maintaining world peace and security is still very minimal. Indonesian Foreign Minister Retno LP Marsudi said that women have a very important role to uphold world peace and security because they have one advantage that is not possessed by men, namely maternal instincts that naturally can create peace with love, care and harmony.

Women actually have a very valuable potential to contribute even more in upholding world peace and security.
Retno LP, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia in the “Regional Training on Women, Peace and Security” event in Jakarta stated that she believes that the role of women in peace and security must continue even stronger because many women and children are involved in various conflicts and at the same time women can also play a significant and constructive role in creating peace (Intan, 2019). Retno regretted the still minimal role of women in peace and security. Data from the United Nations (UN) 2018 shows that only around eight percent of women are negotiators and around two percent are mediators at the United Nations. Even though women, added Retno, had diplomacy skills that were not inferior to men.

From the above background, the writer conducted a study entitled “Peace Education Taught by the Female Muslim Nobel Peace Prize Laureates in 21st Century”. This study was categorized as descriptive qualitative research. For the analysis of data, the researcher used the content analysis. He analyzed the messages or educational points of the speech delivered by the female Muslim Nobel Peace Prize Laureates in 21st Century. They are Shirin Ebadi, Tawakkul Karman and Malala Yousafzai.

In conducting this research, the researcher used the documents or literature as the data. For that reason, this research was categorized as library research. The researcher tried to find out Muslim women who received world peace awards in the 21st century and analyze the points of peace education that they teach and implement.

B. Discussion

Holding the presidency of the UN Security Council in May, Indonesia raised the theme of Menebar Benih Perdamaian or Spreading the Seeds of Peace: Improving the Safety and Performance of the UN Peacekeeping Mission or Misi Pemeliharaan Perdamaian (MPP)” in an open debate at the UN headquarters in New York. The appointment showed that UN peacekeeping mission is still is one of the most effective way and has strong legitimacy in maintaining international peace and security.
During the meeting, the Indonesian Foreign Minister said that the UN peacekeeping force was a clear example of global partnership, collective leadership and shared responsibility for peace. “The Blue Helmets Corps is a peacekeeper who protects hundreds of millions of people worldwide. They are the face of the UN Security Council and one of the best portraits of multilateral cooperation.

Indonesia stated four important points to realize MPP. They are paying attention to the specific needs of the mission (mission-specific approach); the ability to interact with local communities (community engagement); promoting the role of women, and strengthening training through global partnerships.

Advancing the role of women in MPP is a crucial point. This is because women play an important role in conflict prevention, conflict management, and post-conflict peace building. (Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Kemenlu, 2019). In terms of sending peacekeepers, Indonesia has sent peacekeepers since 1957. It currently occupies 8th position out of 124 countries with the largest personnel contributors, with 3,080 personnel, 106 of whom are women (female peacekeepers), serving in 8 UN peacekeeping missions.

In many countries where peacekeeping missions are carried out, gender based violence (Gender Based Violence / GBV) and Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) occur in alarming numbers. Both as civilians and fighters, women and children are the most victims in a conflict. For example, women who are considered members of combatant families are often targets of violence and harassment in their communities. This certainly affects their ability to move freely and meet the needs of their families.

In areas where conflict-affected civilians receive humanitarian assistance, women and girls are forced to provide sexual rewards and bribes to receive part of the humanitarian assistance.

If we see NAP development over time and the Global Peace Index, we can know the condition of women and peace in the countries around the world. NAP developed and changed everytime. From 2005 to 2009, NAP for the implement United
Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325 on Women, Peace and Security increased little by little. Finally, in 2010, it reached the top. There were so many countries that took a part in these actions. Nevertheless, the years after 2010 decreased. For the detail information, it can be seen from the figure below.

Figure 1: Infographic showing NAP development over time.
Source: Peace Women (www.peacewomen.org/member-states).

Moreover, peace around the world changed easily. Many countries needed the reinforcement to implement and realize the peace in their own country and in the world so the peace index can be stable.
That index shows that in this world, there are so many countries that do not have full peace yet. Conflict exists in all countries and in every level of society (Agbalajobi, n.d: 7). For that reason, all people around the world should struggle for the peace in the world.

Because of the crucial need of peace, the role of women peacekeepers is crucial to overcoming issues related to GBV and CRSV in conflict areas. Indonesia believes that the existence of women as peacekeeping personnel will contribute greatly to the success of a mission, due to the role of women in social construction in society as well as the psycho-social aspects that make women have a ‘privilege’ in humanitarian missions.

Women are considered to be more sensitive to the local environmental and cultural situation thereby increasing community acceptance of the existence of women’s peacekeepers; The presence of female peacekeepers provides a sense of security and comfort, especially for children and women who often become victims of sexual violence in a conflict; Women’s peacekeepers also play the role of early peace-builders & role models for local women in encouraging peace-building activities, including those relating to security aspects such as the ceasefire, demobilization and reintegration, and negotiations.
Lieutenant Colonel Ratih Pusporini became one of the first Indonesian women who was deployed as peacekeepers in conflict areas in 2008. Her role as Military Observer in the Garuda contingent serving in Congo confirmed the role of women in a peace mission. “We (women peacekeepers) managed to get into a village and get information about sexual violence that occurred there ... the previous team failed to get the information needed, because there were no women there ... while we knew the victims were women” said Lieutenant Colonel Ratih. (Kemenlu RI, 2019).

The approach to women and children in conflict areas is also not easy. One of Indonesia’s approaches in the UN Peace Mission is through community engagement. Community engagement activities are usually carried out in the form of Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) which is usually in the form of humanitarian assistance (teaching, providing medical facilities) as well as facilitating a ceasefire and the peace process.

Indonesia has several CIMIC-based programs in various UN peace missions, including through health facilitation for the local community, providing smart cars (mobile libraries) for local schools, and sharing Indonesian culture and arts with the local community. Recently, the Peace Forces in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO) succeeded in facilitating the process of Disarmament, Demobilization, Repatriation, Reintegration and Resettlement (DDRRR) especially the process of surrendering weapons by one of the warring parties. The surrender of weapons to the Indonesian Army proves the confidence of the local people in the forces’ ability to ensure peace and security in the Regions in which they operate.

“I was touched when a child in Congo approached me and said ma’am I want to be like you! Because of you, we can go to school ... “Lt. Col. Pusporini recalled the success of one of the missions in Congo to secure road access, so that children could go to school. (Kemenlu RI, 2019)

Although the role of women in maintaining peace is crucial, women’s involvement in the peace process is still very limited. Based on analysis from UN Women, as many as 1,187 peace
agreements in 1990-2017, there were 2% of women mediators; 5% women negotiators and 5% witnesses and signatories to the women’s peace agreement. As of March 31, 2019, there were 3,472 female military personnel and 1,423 female police personnel out of a total of 89,681 peacekeeping personnel, or 5.46%.

That is the little description of the condition from Indonesia for the role of women in peace. Here, the writer will focus on the role of women in 21st century who get the peace nobel prize. Hopefully, all women in the world can study and struggle to the peace. The Nobel Prize is a prize given to those who have contributed to the lives of many people, whether they contribute in the fields of Physics, Chemistry, Literature, Medicine, until Peace.

The Nobel Prize, which was first given in 1901, has been received by many great and dedicated people in their respective fields. The number of recipients has exceeded 900 people. The Nobel Prize is awarded annually by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, the Swedish Academy, the Karolinska Institute and the Norwegian Nobel Committee to people who make amazing services in Chemistry, Physics, Nobel Prize in Literature, Peace, Physiology or Medicine and Economics (Alfred Nobel). All of them, except economic awards, were founded in 1895 at the will of Alfred Nobel, who stated that the award must be taken care of by the Nobel Foundation. The Economic Novel, or Sveriges Riksbank Award on Economics in Commemoration of Alfred Nobel, was founded in 1968 by Sveriges Riksbank, the Swedish central bank, to people who have contributed to the field of Economics (The Nobel Prize). Each award is awarded by a separate committee; The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences awarded the Physics, Chemistry, and Economics Awards, the Swedish Academy awarded the Literature Award, the Karolinska Institute awarded the Physiology or Medicine Award, and the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the Peace Prize (The Nobel Prize Awarders). Each recipient receives a medal, a diploma and prize money that varies throughout the year (The Nobel Prize).

In 2015, the Nobel Prizes were awarded to 822 men, 48 women and 26 organizations (Nobel Laureates Facts). Sixteen women won the Nobel Peace Prize, fourteen won the Nobel
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Prize in Literature, twelve won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, four won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, two won the Nobel Prize in Physics and one, Elinor Ostrom, won the Nobel Prize in Economics. The first woman to win the Nobel Prize was Marie Curie, who won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1903 with her husband, Pierre Curie, and Henri Becquerel. Curie is also the only woman to win multiple Nobels; in 1911, she won Chemistry. Curie’s daughter, Irène Joliot-Curie, won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1935, making them both the mother-daughter couple who won the Nobel Prize. The most recent Nobel Prize given to women in a single year was in 2009, where five women became recipients. The most recent women to be awarded the Nobel Prize are Tu Youyou and Svetlana Alexievich (The Nobel Foundation 2015 Annual Review).

Meanwhile, in the 21st Century, these are the three female Moslem women who received the Peace Nobel Prize.

1. Shirin Ebadi

Shirin becomes the first Muslim woman who got this award. She is a human rights activist in Iran. She is passionate about fighting for the rights of women and children. For her services, she was awarded the Nobel Prize in 2003 in the field of Peace.

Shirin Ebadi was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for her work in defence of human and children’s rights recently. The woman from Iran works as a lawyer. Ebadi is the 11th Nobel laureate since the award was held in 1901. Myanmar Warriors Aung San Suu Kyi and Amartya Sen, Indian Economics professors have also been awarded the Nobel Prize. Ebadi received an award as well as money worth 10 million Swedish krona on December 10, 2003, in Oslo, Norway.

Ebadi was born in Tehran in 1947. The young Ebadi took a law degree at Tehran University, which also made her the first female lawyer in Iran. She then served as head of the high court in Tehran, for five years since 1975. Ebadi resigned after the revolutionary war in 1979. Now, this woman returns to work as a lawyer and teaches at her alma mater.
During his career, Ebadi is famous for persevering in fighting for the human rights of women and children. Ebadi actively leads the Association for Support of Children`s Rights in Iran. She also often writes books and articles on human rights, such as “A Study of Legal Aspects of Children`s Rights in Iran”. This book was published by a special United Nations agency that takes care of the problems of children worldwide (UNICEF) in 1994. A record of the history and documentation of human rights in Iraq was also published in New York, three years ago.

Ebadi won over 165 of his competitors, including Pope John Paul the Second and former Czech President Vaclav Havel. Ebadi`s victory was welcomed by many people. The Pope also congratulated the Vatican, Italy. Iranian Vice President Ali Abtani believes that Ebadi`s victory will encourage the enthusiasm of Iranian women to play an active role in the country`s development efforts. (Pinta, 2003).

The peace is so close with Islam. The 2003 Nobel Peace Prize winner from Iran, Shirin Ebadi, said that Islam could not be identified with bad behaviour or violence because any bad behaviour could be done by people or groups from any group who made religion or ideology a shield. “I Oppose the Abuse of Islam. I am convinced that Islam is not a doctrine of terror and violence”, Ebadi told reporters in Jakarta in 2006, after the closing of the seminar she attended, entitled “Islam and Universal Values: The Contribution of Islam in the Formation of the Plural World”. While convincing that the Ummah Islam can live safely and securely, Ebadi also criticized those who held narrow-minded views of bad behavior and violence as identical to Muslims, acknowledging that indeed many governments today use Islam as a shield to justify the tyrannies they have committed by making various interpretation of Islamic teachings, however, she stressed, the abuse is not only done by Muslims. “How can we forget the terrible Stalin camps in Siberia or the massacres of students in China, all of which occurred as a result of tyranny committed through justification of the theory of Marxism,” she said when delivering the speech.
in the seminar held in collaboration with the Swedish Embassy in Jakarta and the International Center for Islam and Pluralism (ICIP). She reminded that Islam does not teach violence and terror at all so that if there is violence or murder in the name of Islam, it must be seen that Islam has been abused. Likewise with other religions which also cannot be generalized as a party that justifies the occurrence of violence. “Just as violence by a number of groups in Bosnia cannot be said to be carried out in the name of Christianity because Jesus Christ Himself is a prophet sent by God to bring peace,” she said.

In addition, she said that Israel’s actions not to comply with various UN resolutions cannot be said to represent the teachings of Judaism. “Because Moses was appointed by God as the messenger of truth and justice,” she said. To eliminate the misuse of religion as a shield, said Ebadi, efforts should be made to make all parties aware of the justifications behind the power exercised by any party. “That seems to be the main task of intellectuals who want freedom and democracy,” she said in front of around 300 participants from various circles, including figures from various religions, domestic and foreign diplomats, academics, and NGO activists. In another part of his remarks, Ebadi also said that Islam does not conflict with the Declaration of Human Rights. She said that Islamic countries have signed most international treaties dealing with human rights because they do not see any fundamental difference between the treaty and Islamic principles.

2. Tawakkul Karman

Tawakkul is a journalist, politician, and human rights activist. She is the leader of a group of women journalists that she founded in 2005. The woman, who was born in 1979, then won her 2011 Nobel Prize in the Peace category. She is the first Arab woman to receive this award. She is called as “Mother of the Revolution” in Yemen. She fought for democracy in a country that was still dominated by men. (Sollich & Setyarini, 2011)
For Tawakkul, the act of killing without a valid reason is a criminal act against all mankind as the Qur’an has affirmed since centuries ago. However, assassinations in the Arab Revolution by the ruling regime are still ongoing.

It goes on to say, “Peace in a country is no less important than peace between nations. War is not just a conflict between nations. There is still another more bitter type of war, namely war waged by despots who blackmail their own people. This is a war waged by rulers where people trust their lives and destinies, but they have betrayed that trust. This is a war by rulers to whom the people have entrusted security, but instead weapons are aimed at their own people. Tawakkul in her Nobel speeches straightforwardly called on young Arabs to undermine these uncivilized regimes.

For Tawakkul, peace does not merely stop war, “... but it also stops oppression and tyranny. In Arab region, there has been a brutal war between the government and the people. Humanitarian awareness cannot be in peace, while people watch young Arabs in this age which is in bloom is being bombarded by death machines released over them by tyrants. “It is these tyrants who ask for fatwas from royal clerics to justify the continuation of their wrongdoing power. Now everything has changed thanks to an increasingly educated youth revolution.

Until now, there are only 12 Nobel Muslim laureates. When compared with non-Muslim recipients numbering more than 900 people, maybe we will be a little inferior. Plus, most of the Nobel awards received were in the Peace category. Categories that, she said, are not as flashy as the fields of science. Hopefully there are other Muslim scientists or scholars who can add to the long list of Muslim Nobel laureates in the world.

3. Malala Yousafzai

Malala is an activist who is actively fighting for the right to education for underprivileged children in Pakistan. Malala Yousafzai (ملالہ یوسفزی) Malalay Yúsafzay, (born July 12, 1997; age 22) is a school student and educational activist from Mingora city
in Swat District of the Pakistani province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. She is known for her education and activism for women’s rights in the Swat Valley, where the Taliban banned girls from going to school. In early 2009, around the age of 11 and 12, Yousafzai wrote on her blog under a pseudonym for the BBC in detail about how terrible life was under the Taliban government, their efforts to control the valley, and her views on promoting education for girls. In 2014, she and Kailash Satyarthi received the 2014 Nobel Prize for peace in their struggle against the oppression of children and youth and to get their education rights. The unique fact from Malala is that this woman is the youngest Nobel laureate in the world to date. He received the Nobel Prize simultaneously with Kailash Satyarthi in 2014 at the age of 17.

In an event at the UN Headquarters on Monday that was broadcast live to the rest of the world via Facebook and YouTube, Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai was appointed as the UN Peace Ambassador by focusing on the education of girls. Nobel laureate Malala Yousafzai has been appointed as UN Peace Ambassador by focusing on the education of girls.

During an event at the UN Headquarters on Monday that was broadcast live to the world via Facebook and Youtube, UN Secretary General António Guterres welcomed Malala Yousafzai, age 19, and said I am a former physics professor who was desperate to face the most famous students in the world. You are not only a hero but also a very committed and generous person."

He read out the appointment from the framed certificate handed over to the young activist by mentioning his devotion to the ideas and goals of the United Nations especially the UN’s vision of a dignified life for all people. Guterres also mentioned Yousafzai’s courage to defend the rights of all people including women and children to receive education and equality and to respect him for showing «unwavering service for peace» despite facing great danger and a desire to build a better world.

Yousafzai was the youngest Nobel prize winner, who received the international award in 2014 when she was only 17 years old. She is now also the youngest UN Peace Ambassador. She was a
proponent of girls’ education when she was only 11 years old and lived under Taliban rule in the Swat Valley, Pakistan. There, she began secretly writing a blog for the Urdu language site, in BBC, fighting for the right of girls to get an education. »Education is the right of every child and especially for girls, this should not be ignored,» Yousafzai told diplomats and girls who packed the room at the UN on Monday. «If we want to progress, we must educate girls, if we educate girls then we change the whole community, all society.» She said that the role of men in making a difference in society was very important and she praised her father for always supporting her (voaindonesia.com).

From those three women, all people must understand that women have the capacity to take action in solving the conflict. It is like the statement of Nwadinobi (2017, p. 1) that the women have the capacity regard to conflict and in some areas. The challenge can be national or international. Therefore, all people must help the women to participate in realizing peace in the world. It can be supported by having supporting policy (George & Shepherd, 2016, p. 297), and, investing in women and girls will increase productivity in this generation and will promote sustainable growth, peace and better health for the next generation (British Council Nigeria, 2012, p. i).

C. Conclusion

Based on the discussion, there are two results. The first result showed that there are three Muslim women who received world Nobel peace prize in 21st century. They are Shirin Ebadi, Tawakkul Karman and Malala Yousafzai. The second result showed that the messages of peace that they propose. Those messages are efforts for democracy and human rights, especially the struggle for human rights and children. It is from Shirin Ebadi. Then, the second message is nonviolent struggle against women’s security and women’s human rights for full participation in peace-building work from Tawakkul Karman. And the third message is struggle against the oppression of children and young people and the right of all children to get education from Malala Yousafzai.
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