Internalization of Religious Values Using the Argument-Driven Inquiry Model to Improve Critical Thinking Skills during the COVID-19 Pandemic

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ABSTRACT

This research aimed to describe students’ activities, the improvement differences of students’ critical thinking skills, and explain students’ responses toward the internalization of religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry model on reproductive system material at eleventh-grade students of MAN 1 Kuningan. The method used in this research was the quantitative method with the experimental pretest-posttest control group design. This research population was all eleventh-grade students of MAN 1 Kuningan, which consisted of eight classes, five science classes, and three social studies classes. The research sample was taken using a random sampling technique. This research sample was class XI IPA 1 as the experimental class (35 students) and XI IPA 3 as the control class (34 students). The data collection techniques employed were observation, tests, and questionnaires. The data was analyzed using SPSS v.25 software. The results obtained showed that the highest learning activity was at the data collection stage. There was an improvement in students’ critical thinking skills in the experimental class and the control class. The average N-Gain of the experimental class was 0.69, and the control class was 0.33. The sig statistical test results were 0.000 < 0.655, meaning that H₀ was rejected and Hₐ was accepted. Thus, there was a significant improvement in students’ critical thinking skills between the experimental and control classes.

Internalisasi Nilai-nilai Religius Menggunakan Model Argument Driven Inquiry Untuk Meningkatkan Keterampilan Berpikir Kritis di Masa Pandemi Covid-19

Abstrak: Tujuan dari penelitian adalah mendeskripsikan aktivitas siswa; menganalisis perbedaan peningkatan keterampilan berpikir kritis siswa; dan menjelaskan respon siswa terhadap internalisasi nilai-nilai religius menggunakan model Argument Driven Inquiry pada materi sistem reproduksi untuk meningkatkan keterampilan berpikir kritis siswa. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kuantitatif yang bersifat eksperimen dengan desain penelitian pretest posttest control design group. Teknik pengumpulan data dalam penelitian ini adalah observasi, tes dan angket. Analisis data menggunakan software SPSS v.25.
terdiri dari uji prasyarat dan uji beda. Hasil yang diperoleh aktivitas belajar siswa menunjukkan aktivitas belajar tertinggi pada tahap pengumpulan data; terdapat perbedaan peningkatan keterampilan berpikir kritis siswa kelas eksperimen dan kontrol meningkat dengan rata-rata N-Gain kelas eksperimen 0,69 dan kontrol 0,33 dan hasil uji statistik sig. 0,000 < 0,655, artinya H0 ditolak dan Ha diterima, sehingga terdapat perbedaan peningkatan keterampilan berpikir kritis siswa yang signifikan antara kelas eksperimen dengan kelas control; angket respon siswa terhadap penerapan internalisasi nilai-nilai religius menggunakan model Argument Driven Inquiry menunjukkan 57% dengan kriteria sangat kuat dan 43% dengan kriteria kuat, sehingga pembelajaran dapat diterima dengan baik oleh siswa.

INTRODUCTION

Education is a fundamental thing that must be possessed by every individual (Bangun, 2016; Saat, 2015; Wahyuni et al., 2013). Education is not only aimed at gaining knowledge for young generations (Brata & Sudirga, 2019; Irhandayaningish, 2013) but also aims to obtain individuals who have noble character and skills as to live in a society (Romdoni & Malihah, 2020; Setiardi & Mubarok, 2017; Shawmi, 2015). Education is closely related to the students’ learning process. Learning is a process of changing behavior due to education experiences (Aditya, 2016; Asrori, 2013; Aziz, 2012).

Dewi et al. (2015) state that learning in schools in modern times emphasizes disciplines with strict specialization without integration between disciplines and religious sciences. The process of internalizing religious values is fundamental in learning biology in everyday life, be it in the school, family, and community environment (Azhar & Sa’idah, 2017; Mumin, 2018; Muspiroh, 2016; Sofanudin, 2015). The internalization of religious values in biology learning needs to be done so that students can understand religious values related to problems in everyday life, especially the reproductive system material (Bahri, 2015; Hanif et al., 2016; Okmarisa et al., 2016) so that it affects good morals and can stay away from what is prohibited by religion (Ginanjar, 2017; Juraini et al., 2018). Adolescents must know their sexual organs’ function and dangerous venereal diseases through education, especially in schools, by integrating character values (Fauziah, 2018; Rachmayanie, 2017). Someone who has a religious character can be a good person (Cahyono, 2016; Kautsar & Edi, 2017; Khotimah, 2016; Syafe’i, 2017).

Learning by internalizing religious values is also attempted to train students’ critical thinking skills to understand the concept of the material they learn in everyday life (Hanif et al., 2016; Rosyad, 2019; Widyaningsih et al., 2014). Learning that involves students directly, especially in mental activities, is one of the factors that can encourage someone to think critically (Adnyana, 2012).

Critical thinking skills in the learning process can train students to carefully, thoroughly, and logically decide based on various points of view (Nisa et al., 2019; Zubaidah, 2010). By thinking critically, students are expected to show the superiority of information, correct themselves, and examine the various gifts and pleasures they receive from Allah (Husna Nafila et al., 2016). Increasing critical thinking skills requires a stimulating learning environment and atmosphere (Husamah et al., 2017; Lestari et al., 2016; Novrizawati et al., 2017). Based on this explanation, critical thinking skills need to be empowered or stimulated. This habituation or stimulus cannot be carried out in conventional atmospheres, strategies, and learning models. Therefore,
it requires systematic efforts as an alternative through the application of the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model. Argumentation-based science learning activities will encourage students to develop thinking skills and habits (Nafi’ah & Prasetyo, 2015; Rustaman, 2011).

Previous research regarding the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model has been carried out on the ability to think and argue (Hidayat, 2017; Marhamah et al., 2017). Widyaningsih et al. (2014) conducted a study on the internalization of religious values based on junior high school students’ phenomenological perspective. Thus, there has never been any research that specifically examines the internalization of religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry model and critical thinking skills. Regarding critical thinking skills, several previous studies have been carried out, including the impact of using a station learning model (Abdurrohman & Djuniadi, 2016), cycle 7E model (Adnyani et al., 2018), and the discovery learning model (Haeruman et al., 2017). Based on the background, it is necessary to conduct research that examines the internalization of religious values, the Argument-Driven Inquiry model, and critical thinking skills. The purpose of this research was to describe students’ activities, analyze improvement differences in students’ critical thinking skills, and explain students’ responses to the internalization of religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry model on reproductive system material.

METHOD

The method used in this research was the quantitative method of experimental research with the pretest-posttest control group design. This research was conducted at MAN 1 Kuningan. The research sample was taken using a random sampling technique. The samples consisted of two classes, the experimental class, and the control class. The research data were collected through observation, tests, and questionnaires. The observations were made using the observation sheet and learning assessment rubric developed based on the syntax of the Argument-Driven Inquiry model and the indicators of students’ critical thinking skills aimed to measure student activity in the learning process. The data were analyzed using SPSS v.25 software, which consisted of a prerequisite test and an independent sample t-test.

![Figure 1. Research Data Analysis Techniques](image-url)
As the treatment, the research carried out online learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation, which requires students to learn remotely using online learning applications. Researchers' application to support the online learning process was the WhatsApp application that uses WAG (WhatsApp Group) to carry out discussions in the learning process.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results obtained in this research consisted of students’ activity during the internalization of religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry Model and the improvement differences of critical thinking skills between the experimental class and the control class. The following are the results of research conducted at MAN 1 Kuningan.

Students’ activities in learning were observed through observation. Figure 1 displays the average value of students’ activity in the experimental class at each meeting.

Figure 2 shows the average percentage of students’ activity in the experimental class at each meeting. Based on the graph, the average percentage value of students’ activity at each meeting has always increased with an average of 4.4%. The average percentage increases indicated an increase due to the internalization of religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model.

Based on the data analysis, the lowest student activity occurred at the first meeting but then increased until the fourth meeting. Students’ activity at the first meeting was lower because they were confused since it was their first time applying the model. Many students asked questions during the first meeting; then, the teacher explained the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model applied with religious values.

The following is the average percentage of students’ activity at each meeting.

![Figure 3. Graph of the Average Percentage of Student Activities in the Argument-driven Inquiry Model Stage for Each Meeting](image)

Figure 3 shows the average percentage of students’ activity during applying the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model at each meeting. Based on the observations’ results, the first meeting to the fourth meeting at all stages continued to increase. The highest students’ activity occurred at the fourth meeting, namely at the task identification stage, with a percentage of 87% (excellent category). The lowest students’ activity occurred at the report review stage and the report revision process with a percentage...
of 63% (moderate category). A more detailed explanation can be seen in the description below.

The pretest and posttest mean scores between the experimental and control classes are presented in Figure 4.

Figure 4 shows the average results of the pretest and posttest scores of students' critical thinking skills in the experimental class and the control class in general. The experimental class was higher than the control class but the difference between the two was not too far away. This result showed that the students' initial abilities were similar.

The average posttest score in the experimental class and control class increased compared to the pretest value. However, the average posttest score in the experimental class was higher than the control class. This difference occurred because, in the experimental class, students received treatment from the researcher to internalize religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model.

One factor that causes the same initial knowledge between the experimental class and the control class was that the two classes did not know the material to be studied. This phenomenon is also explained by Lipianto, who states that initial knowledge is crucial because students often experience difficulty understanding certain knowledge (Lipianto et al., 2013; Sari et al., 2012). One of the reasons is because the new knowledge does not have a relationship with previous knowledge. In this case, initial knowledge becomes the main requirement and becomes very important for students to have.

The difference in students' critical thinking skills in the experimental class and the control class can also be seen from the gain index. In this research, the N-gain used had been normalized so that the N-gain value obtained did not exceed score 1. Figure 5 displays the average obtained N-gain values.

Figure 5 shows that the experimental class and control class's average N-gain values were in the moderate category. However, the average N-Gain value in the experimental class was higher than the control class. These results indicate that students' critical thinking skills in the experimental class were better than in the control class. The difference might be caused by the internalization of religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model.

Based on the analysis, there was an increase in the experimental and control classes' critical thinking skills. However, the highest increase was in the experimental class because the
experimental class got treatments to internalize religious values by using the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model. The Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model is one of the learning models related to argumentation skills. This argumentation skill is also related to critical thinking skills. Following Ariyanto’s statement (Ariyanto et al., 2020), critical thinking skills can be improved by developing the ability to argue since argumentation is the main thing that underlies students in learning to think, act, and communicate critically. The prerequisite tests in the experimental class and the control class are described in table 1.

Table 1. General Normality and Homogeneity Test Results

| Data | Classes    | Normality test | Homogeneity |
|------|------------|----------------|-------------|
|      |            | Sig.           | Result      | Sig.         | Result       |
| Gain | Experimental | 0.028          | Abnormal    | 0.655        | Homogeneous  |
|      | Control      | 0.200          | Normal      |              |              |

Table 1 presents the results of the normality test and the homogeneity test of the N-Gain data. The experimental class data were not normally distributed because the significant value was 0.028, smaller than 0.05. The data of the control class was normally distributed because the significant value was 0.200, greater than 0.05. The results of the N-Gain data homogeneity test showed that the data were homogeneous because of the sig. 0.655 was greater than 0.05. Based on the results of the prerequisite tests, the data was not normally distributed and homogeneous. Therefore, the test performed on the N-Gain data was the non-parametric Mann Whitney Test. The results are presented in Table 2.

Table 2. Statistical Calculation Results

| Data   | Difference Test | Sig. | Result          |
|--------|-----------------|------|-----------------|
| N-Gain | Mann Whitney     | 0.000| Significant Differences |

Table 2 shows the N-Gain test result. The significance value was 0.000, which means that Hₐ was accepted and H₀ was rejected. Based on these data, it can be concluded that there was a significant difference in students' learning outcomes between the experimental class and the control class. This difference can be seen in Figure 3, which shows that the average posttest score of the experimental class was different from the average posttest score of the control class. Figure 4 shows the N-Gain average of the experimental class where the difference was too far from the average N-Gain of the class control. The results indicated that the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model was effective in increasing students’ critical thinking skills.

Based on the results of the analysis, it can be seen that the learning process improved students' critical thinking skills. The experimental class that internalized religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry model increased its critical thinking skills higher than the control class. It was possible because, during the learning process, the students played an active role in the investigation while the teacher acted as a moderator and supervisor. Therefore, the students obtained knowledge based on the investigations they criticized themselves based on claims, evidence, and rationale. Those aspects were correlated with religious values sourced from Quran and Hadith.
The results are consistent with research conducted by (Demircioglu & Ucar, 2015), which states that the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model can improve students’ critical thinking skills because they were allowed to design their research and find their research results. Thus, students will be involved a lot in scientific argumentation that will support the strengthening of their critical thinking skills. Hasnunidah (Hasnunidah, 2013) argumentative inquiry-based learning is appropriate for providing learning experiences to students in practicing their scientific argumentation skills because students will be required to construct their explanations and contribute their ideas.

The analysis results are also in line with the research conducted by Ajwar (Ajwar et al., 2015; Wulanningsih et al., 2012) that there are differences in the achievement of critical thinking skills between students who learn using the ADI learning model and the conventional model. In other words, the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model is very effective in the learning process to improve students’ critical thinking skills because it has many advantages. Student responses toward the internalization of religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model were investigated using questionnaires. The questionnaires were filled according to their circumstances, experiences, and opinions. The questionnaires were filled at the end of learning via Google Form.

The statements of the questionnaires were developed based on three dimensions. First, Receiving, namely, students’ acceptance of the given learning model. Second, Responding (attitude to respond), namely the students’ response to the given learning model. Third, Valuing (an attitude that assumes what is done is based on value), namely the given learning evaluations. The results of the analysis of the questionnaires are presented in Figure 5.

![Figure 6. The Results of Questionnaire Per Dimension](image)

Figure 6 shows the average results of the questionnaire in each learning dimension. Based on the questionnaire analysis results, the three dimensions' highest average value was the Valuing dimension. In contrast, the lowest average value was the Receiving and Responding dimensions with the same average value. The results showed that the student evaluations' results were excellent and high. The following is a diagram of the experimental class students' questionnaire responses.

![Figure 7. Experimental Class Students' Responses](image)

Figure 6 shows a diagram of students' questionnaire responses percentage toward the internalization of religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry.
learning model. Based on the diagram, 57% of students gave excellent responses, and 43% gave high responses.

Based on the analysis results, biology learning by internalizing religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model provided a new learning process for students in understanding reproductive system material. The internalization process of religious values in reproductive system material can increase students' knowledge, both cognitive and affective. The results of students' activity and learning processes can improve their critical thinking skills. Besides, it also produced positive excellent students' responses.

This statement was proven by the data obtained, which indicated that the internalization of religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model on reproductive system material obtained a good response from students in the experimental class. Good students' response to the integration of religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model in biology learning to improve critical thinking skills can be a solution so that students can understand the concept as a whole material content and the religious perspective.

The results showed that the internalization of religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model in biology learning could be used as an alternative that can support effective and fun teaching and learning activities to achieve learning objectives. Teachers' success in transferring knowledge to students depends on the learning method applied and the teaching materials to absorb the knowledge transferred by the teacher. Internalization of religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry learning model in biology learning is expected to develop students' intellectual intelligence, which then impacts students' awareness. The students are not only provided with learning materials but also accompanied by religious attitudes and behaviors.

**CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

Based on the research results, it can be concluded that biology learning by applying the internalization of religious values using the Argument-Driven Inquiry model can be essential to apply because it can improve students' learning activities and critical thinking skills. Applying this research to other materials and maximizing learning time in improving critical thinking skills is suggested.

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