

Review

Embedding peace education in pesantren: Pedagogical and institutional pathways to anti-violence character formation

This manuscript addresses a topic that is highly relevant to the scope of *El-Tarbawi* and has the potential to make a meaningful contribution to the field of Islamic education, particularly regarding the implementation of peace education in pesantren. The manuscript is well organized, the research objectives are clearly stated, and the findings are supported by qualitative evidence. The authors also attempt to integrate the perspectives of peace education and character education within the context of Islamic boarding schools. Nevertheless, the manuscript requires substantial revision to meet the journal's publication standards. In particular, the study would benefit from a clearer articulation of the research gap, a more rigorous methodological description, deeper analytical engagement with the findings and existing literature, and a stronger explanation of its theoretical contribution. The following are my detailed comments for revision:

1. Title

- Consider using the term *Institutionalising Peace Education* if the primary focus of the study is the institutionalization of peace education within the pesantren setting.

2. Abstract

- Include the number of participants/informants and the sampling technique to ensure compliance with the journal's abstract guidelines.
- Condense the methodological description by combining the research design and data collection procedures into a single, more concise sentence.
- Streamline the presentation of the findings by highlighting only two or three principal findings rather than listing all aspects of implementation.
- Clarify the study's contribution by explicitly stating its novelty instead of merely indicating that it contributes to peace education in pesantren.

3. Keywords

- Consider replacing overly specific or lengthy keywords, such as *Pedagogical and Institutional Pathways*, with more widely recognized indexing terms, such as *Character Education* or *Violence Prevention*.

4. Introduction

- Strengthen the research gap by providing a critical synthesis of previous studies rather than a descriptive summary of the existing literature.
- State the novelty of the study more explicitly by identifying the specific aspects that have not been adequately addressed in prior research.
- Develop the theoretical framework by explaining how Peace Education, Social Learning Theory, and Character Education are conceptually connected and serve as the analytical framework for the study.
- Provide a stronger justification for selecting Annuqayah Islamic Boarding School as the research site by explaining its relevance or representativeness.

5. Research Method

- Specify the number and characteristics of the participants (e.g., the number of *kiai*, administrators, and students interviewed).
- Describe the inclusion criteria used in the purposive sampling process.

- Provide additional details regarding the interview procedures, including interview duration, recording methods, and transcription procedures.
- Explain the data analysis process more explicitly, including the coding procedures, category development, and theme generation.
- Strengthen the discussion of trustworthiness by describing the specific strategies employed, such as *member checking*, *peer debriefing*, or the forms of triangulation used.

6. Results and Discussion

- Deepen the discussion by moving beyond descriptive reporting toward more critical interpretation of the findings using the proposed analytical framework.
- Engage more consistently with previous studies and recent scholarly literature to demonstrate how the findings confirm, extend, or differ from existing research.
- Articulate the study's theoretical contribution more explicitly by highlighting the new insights generated from the findings.
- Reduce the reliance on list-based presentation (e.g., *First, Second, Third*) and develop a more integrated analytical narrative.
- Avoid normative claims unless they are adequately supported by empirical evidence or relevant scholarly literature.

7. Conclusion

- Emphasize the study's theoretical contribution to the development of peace education and Islamic education scholarship.
- Elaborate on the practical implications for educational policy and practice within pesantren.
- Provide more specific recommendations for future research based on the limitations of the present study.

8. References

- Incorporate more recent literature (2023-2026), particularly peer-reviewed international journal articles, to strengthen the theoretical foundation and discussion of peace education, Islamic education, character education, and violence prevention.
- Ensure that at least 80% of the references are drawn from primary sources, such as peer-reviewed journal articles or conference proceedings, in accordance with the journal's guidelines.
- Engage more extensively with recent scholarship in the *Discussion* section so that the findings are interpreted in light of the latest developments in the field rather than relying primarily on older studies.
- Review the reference list carefully to ensure full compliance with the latest APA Style guidelines. For example, the following reference is incomplete because the journal title is missing:
 - *Preventing Bullying in Integrated Islamic Boarding Schools of Lhokseumawe City: A Strategic Management Approach*. 7(1), 17–34.