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# The efforts of school librarians in providing students' learning resources in the madrasah library

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#### **ABSTRACT**

This study aimed to explore the efforts of the school library in providing learning resources for students at the Library of Jeneponto State Aliyah Madrasah (MAN Jeneponto). The study utilized descriptive research methods with a qualitative approach, gathering primary data through interviews with informants involved in the process. This approach enabled researchers to obtain an accurate understanding of the various issues being examined. Data collection methods included interviews, observation, and documentation. Interviews were conducted to gather information directly from school librarians and students regarding their learning resource needs. Observation was employed to observe library activities and the methods that the librarians use to provide learning resources. Documentation served as supporting evidence for the research findings while utilizing library records and relevant documents. The study revealed several initiatives school librarians undertook to provide student learning resources. Firstly, librarians conducted surveys and observations for identifying students' reading material requirement to better comprehending their interests and preferences and facilitating the provision of relevant collections. Secondly, librarians selectively curated reading materials to consider their quality and alignment with the curriculum. Additionally, they annually purchase books to update the library's collection. This study provides a comprehensive overview of the school library's efforts in supplying learning resources for students at the Library of MAN Jeneponto. The findings can serve as a basis for enhancing library services and ensuring students' access to relevant and high-quality learning resources.

**Keywords:** School librarian; learning resources; madrasah library

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Library is a very important and useful source of information for teaching and learning activities in education. Therefore, the Law of the Republic of Indonesia number 43 of 2007 stipulates that a library is an institution responsible for managing a collection of written works, printed works, and recorded works professionally. This institution uses a standard system to meet the needs of various users, such as for education, research, conservation, information, and recreation activities.

In managing a collection of works, the library refers to professional standards and principles that have been set. This aims to maintain the quality and reliability of the information provided by the library to the users. Libraries also pay attention to users with different needs, such as students, lecturers, researchers, students, and the general public. In order to meet users' needs, the library is responsible for providing adequate services such as borrowing, reference, browsing, and access to digital collections. Libraries also have an important role in preserving written, printed, and recorded works for the benefit of future generations.

Libraries are vital in supporting teaching and learning processes and research in education. By managing a collection of works in a professional and standardized system, the library can meet the needs of various users to obtain quality and reliable information. The library is a source of information with activities such as collection, processing, preservation and presentation, and dissemination of information (Lasa, 2005).

Based on the definition above, a library can be interpreted as a place dedicated to storing and managing various types of library materials, both printed and non-printed, such as books, journals, magazines, documents, and other multimedia collections. The collections are arranged systematically and use a certain system so that users can easily access and use them as a source of information to meet their information needs. The library has a very important role as an educational facility because it functions as a center for disseminating information that the general public can access. Therefore, the library is expected to be able to provide various kinds of information according to the needs and requests of users, in line with the rapid development of science and information technology. As an information center, the library is expected to meet users' needs for quality and trusted sources of information, as well as provide adequate services and meet established professional standards.

The school library is a very important facility in education because it stores and manages information that students and teachers can use to meet their information

needs. Currently, the school library not only functions as a place for storing and managing library materials but also as an information center, source of knowledge, recreation, and other services. In education, the school library has a very important role in improving the quality of teaching and learning. This can be seen from the library's various collections, such as textbooks on various subjects taught at school. Therefore, the school library has an important role in education in schools. As an information center, the school library is expected to provide adequate services, meet the needs of students and teachers, and provide quality library materials that are in accordance with the needs and developments of science.

As a means of providing information, the library is expected to provide various kinds of information according to the needs of users and the development of science. However, the number of collections owned by the library does not guarantee good quality. Collections owned by the library will only be useful if used by the user. Therefore, a good library is a library that can meet the needs of its users. The collections in the school library can be in the form of various sources of information, such as books or other collections that are managed to benefit learning and teaching resources at school. Existing collections must follow scientific developments and user needs so that users can make maximum use of these collections and improve the quality of teaching and learning in schools.

Adequate learning resources are very important in supporting the implementation of teaching and learning activities in educational institutions. Without this support, teachers and students will experience difficulty carrying out teaching and learning activities properly. The library can be a tool that helps stimulate students' enthusiasm for learning, fosters an interest in reading, and encourages independent study habits. With a good library, students and teachers can easily access the learning resources needed to deepen their knowledge. To carry out teaching and learning activities effectively in an educational institution, adequate learning resources are needed so that teachers and students can be well supported (Eskha, 2018). Libraries can be information and knowledge centers that help improve education quality in educational institutions (lyok, 2021). The role of a library is to facilitate users and provide sources of information and knowledge along with the facilities and infrastructure needed for the community it serves (Sutarno, 2006).

Fulfillment of learning resources is the right of students' needs at school; the library, as a provider of reading resources, plays an important role in meeting the needs of learning resources. Therefore, the library is obliged to provide learning resources to carry out its educational function where the library provides opportunities for students to increase their knowledge, and students can repeat lessons that have been given by the teacher (Sulistyo, 1991). The library is a place to collect and store various collections

of books and other reading materials as a source of information and as a means of fun learning. In schools, libraries make a valuable contribution to increasing student activity and the quality of education (Evawani, 2022).

Fulfilling and providing learning resources in the library, of course, must be connected to the librarian's role, which has responsibility for managing the library. Librarians play an important role in running the library management wheel so that library can function continuously (Nasrullah, 2022). This research seeks to reveal the librarian's efforts to meet the needs of students' learning resources, where the librarian's role is needed in providing learning resource materials to support the teaching and learning process in schools.

Based on previous research by Fahrudin (2020) where the research results showed that the MIN 4 Bandar Lampung library has a good role in supporting learning as an educational, informative, and recreational facility. The library at MIN 4, in terms of facilities and infrastructure, already meets library standards; but there may still be a lack of need to be equipped. Whereas, based on Sahril (2018), it showed that the SMP Negeri 6 Makassar library had improved the quality of student learning by adjusting the applicable curriculum. Therefore, decision-makers must pay attention to the obstacles that impede the learning process of SMP Negeri 6 Makassar students in the library, such as adding facilities and collections and involving library managers in every seminar or training so that library managers can play an important role in the process of academic students..

This research is more focused on the efforts of librarians in providing student learning resources in the library. In contrast, previous research is more helpful to libraries in supporting student learning process. The findings obtained will also differ from previous research because of the different variables studied and the different contexts. Therefore, the research findings is unique and can provide new insights about librarian efforts in providing student learning resources in the library.

### 2. METHODS

This study uses qualitative research methods that focus on the search for meaning, understanding, concepts, characteristics, symptoms, symbols, and descriptions of a phenomenon. This method combines several ways to gain a realistic and qualitative understanding of the phenomenon. The research results are presented narratively and prioritize the quality of the information obtained (Yusuf, 2019). This research is located in the Jeneponto State Madrasah Aliyah (MAN Jeneponto) library on Jalan Lanto Dg. Pasewang, Jeneponto Regency. This study used two main data sources: primary data obtained through direct observation at the Library of MAN Jeneponto and through

interviews with library managers and users. In addition, secondary data such as books, articles, documents, reports, and other relevant information are also used as a complement. Researchers used instruments like interview guides, cellphones, and themselves in collecting data. Data analysis and processing techniques included data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion.

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The school library plays a very vital role in improving the quality of the teaching and learning process. This can be seen from the various collections available, such as learning books on various school subjects. Therefore, the library is considered an effective means of supporting schools' teaching and learning process. The library's important role is not only as a provider of learning resources but also as an information center and knowledge resource center that all members of the school community can access. As a center for learning and information resources, the library can assist students and teachers in finding the information needed to improve their understanding of the subject matter. Therefore, the school library is considered an important element in education in schools.

In the context of education in schools, the library has a very important role as an effective means of improving the quality of teaching and learning. Libraries are vital in providing access to various learning resources, such as textbooks of various subjects taught in schools. With the availability of various collections in the library, students can develop their interests and knowledge, deepen their understanding of certain subjects, and broaden their perspectives on the world around them.

The library's role in schools is limited to providing access to various learning resources and assisting in strengthening students' literacy skills, which is very important for educational development. Libraries help students improve their reading, writing, and speaking skills. In addition, the library is also an educational, informative, and recreational facility for students, where they can explore their interests and learn about new things outside of the curriculum.

To fulfill its important role in education, libraries must have adequate facilities, infrastructure, relevant and high-quality collections. Therefore, related parties such as decision-makers and library managers must ensure that libraries in schools are properly managed and continuously improved to provide optimal benefits for students and the world of education in schools.

Following are some of the efforts that the librarian of MAN Jeneponto did in the process of providing sources of reading material to students or librarians, namely as follows:

# The Librarian Conducts Surveys and Observations on Students' Reading Material Needs

The school library has a very important role in the world of education. The library functions as an information center that provides various collections of books and information sources to meet the needs of users, teachers, students, staff, and other school communities. As the person in charge of developing the library collection, the librarian must understand how to manage the library and the community it serves.

Before procuring a collection at the library, librarians must have good planning. Therefore, the librarian should first conduct a study on the user to get to know the community involved. This survey activity is part of the library's administrative responsibility and must be carried out on an ongoing and scheduled basis to be more effective.

The school library must meet several predetermined standards to meet the information needs of users. Observation of library collections must be carried out so librarians can determine what types of collections users need. By making observations, the collections provided in the library can be used optimally by the users.

The Library of MAN Jeneponto has carried out observational activities by surveying users' needs by visiting student classes to obtain data related to the collections needed. This activity is carried out as an annual program before purchasing collections so that librarians can obtain accurate information about the types of books users need. It can ensure that library collections are in the best interest of users' needs.

To meet the needs of library users, the school library must meet certain predetermined standards. To ensure this, observations and surveys must be carried out periodically to find out the needs and interests of users of library collections. The Library of MAN Jeneponto has carried out observation and survey activities by visiting student classes to obtain data on the collections needed. From the survey results, library managers can find out the type and number of books that must be purchased to meet users' needs. This survey program is part of the library's administrative responsibility and an effective means of improving the quality of teaching and learning in schools. As the person in charge of developing the library collection, the librarian must fully understand the library being managed and the community it serves. Survey activities must be carried out on a scheduled and continuous basis to be more effective to obtain information about users' needs in the school library.

# **Librarian Selects a Collection of Reading Materials**

The collections available in the library have a very important role in meeting the information needs of users. The availability of adequate collections according to users' needs is the main attraction that can encourage library use. However, it is known that libraries cannot collect all recorded information from all fields of knowledge due to constraints such as limited funding, number of staff, and library space. Therefore, libraries need to select collections to ensure that users' information needs can be met appropriately and effectively. In this case, the librarian of the MAN Jeneponto selected collections by considering the relevance of the applicable curriculum to the collections provided, thereby ensuring that the available collections follow library policies and can meet users' information needs optimally.

A librarian has an important role in selecting reading materials at school. This selection process involves selecting and collecting relevant reading materials that are in accordance with the needs and interests of users at school. The librarian must consider factors such as school curriculum, age and interest levels of users, and information needs that may arise occasionally. In addition, librarians must also consider budget factors and available collection space. Librarians need to know sources of information that can assist in the selection process, such as library catalogs, book reviews, and online sources.

When choosing reading material, the librarian of MAN Jeneponto paid full attention to various types of reading material, including textbooks, magazines, reference books, novels, comics, and others. In addition, librarians pay attention to the collection's diversity of authors and genres. After the reading material is selected, the librarian ensures that the reading material is available and easily accessible to users. In addition, the librarian also monitors the use of reading materials and conducts periodic evaluations to ensure that the collection continues to be relevant and meets users' needs at the school.

# **Make Book Purchases Every Year**

Procurement of collections is one of the important stages in developing collections in the library. This process involves collecting library materials that will be used as collections in the library and must be carried out selectively and planned so that the collections provided can meet users' information needs. Libraries must pay attention to the relevance of collections to users' needs. Therefore, the procurement of collections must be based on analyzing the information needs of various users, such as information needs for study, research, hobbies, and others.

Procurement of collections can come from various sources, such as gifts, donations, exchanges between libraries, and purchases. However, at the library of MAN

Jeneponto, collections were sourced only from annual purchases by a predetermined budget. The process of procuring collections at MAN Jeneponto involved several stages, from planning, selecting, and purchasing to processing the library materials obtained. At the planning stage, the library considered the information needs of users, the available budget, and the desired collection development. After that, the selection of library materials was carried out according to the predetermined selection criteria. The selection of library materials must consider factors such as novelty, relevance, and quality of materials. Then, purchasing library materials according to a predetermined budget.

After the library materials are obtained, the librarian performed the processing of library materials, such as publishing labels and the layout of library materials on collection shelves. Furthermore, the library also paid attention to the sustainability factor of the procurement of collections by evaluating existing collections and adding or replacing collections that are no longer relevant or damaged. By procuring collections in a planned and selective manner, the MAN Jeneponto library could ensure that the collections provided could meet the information needs of users and could improve the quality of library services for users.

### 4. CONCLUSION

The librarian of the MAN Jeneponto made several efforts to provide sources of reading material for students. They conducted surveys and observations to identify students' reading material needs, selected collections relevant to the curriculum, and carried out book purchases yearly to update and expand the library collection. This effort ensures that the library could provide learning resources that suit the needs and interests of students and meet the standards set by the school curriculum. Thus, the library of MAN Jeneponto is important in increasing students' access to quality learning resources.

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