

## Pesantren-Based Economic Empowerment (Case Study of Saifullah An Nahdiyah Pesantren Deli Serdang)

Muhammad Ikhsan Mufti<sup>1</sup> Muhammad Ikhsan Harahap<sup>2</sup>, Imsar<sup>3</sup>, Muhammad Imam Daei<sup>4</sup>  
<sup>1,2,3,4</sup> Faculty of Islamic Economics and Business, Universitas Islam Negeri Sumatera Utara, Medan

---

### Article Info

#### Article history:

Received 04 May 2024  
Revised 15 May 2024  
Accepted 30 May 2024

---

#### Keywords:

Economy Based;  
Empowerment; Islamic  
Boarding Schools; Pesantren

---

### ABSTRACT

*Islamic boarding schools have the potential to develop economic independence. To support pesantren-based economic empowerment, a community service was held using the Community Based Research (CBR) method which was carried out at Saifullah An Nahdiyah Namorambe Deli Serdang Islamic boarding school. There are several strategies that can be implemented to realize pesantren-based economic empowerment, namely the Circulation Strategy, Supply-Chain and Economic Integration, Joint Stakeholder Economic Empowerment, Collaboration with Surrounding Communities, Empowerment of Zakat, Infaq, Sadaqah and Waqf Funds. The results of the service show that this activity provides positive value for pesantren managers with a high level of enthusiasm.*

*This is an open access article under the [CC BY-SA](#) license.*



---

### Corresponding Author:

Name: Muhammad Ikhsan Mufti  
Department: Islamic Economics  
Faculty: Faculty of Islamic Economics and Business  
Afiliasi: Universitas Islam Negeri Sumatera Utara  
Email: ikhsanmufti2@gmail.com

---

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Islamic boarding schools have an important role as a place to develop religious education for the Indonesian Muslim community. Pesantren have a very large share as a sub-system of education and socio-cultural development. Based on data from the Directorate of Early Education and Islamic Boarding Schools of the Ministry of Religious Affairs, until the second semester of 2023 there were 39,167 Islamic boarding schools, with a total of 4.85 million students. North Sumatra has 252 Islamic boarding schools with around 70,000 students. (Kominfo, 2023).

Based on the data on the large number of pesantren accompanied by the number of students and parents, pesantren have the potential to develop the people's economy. (Utama, 2020) Pesantren are an extraordinary force to change the face of the economy of the people and the nation. However, this great potential has not been fully realized by pesantren. (Widyastuti et al., 2020) Generally, pesantren have not developed economic independence. Pesantren have not developed the competencies that

pesantren should take. The boarding school economy has not been widely supported by the role of business units run by boarding school cooperatives.

The activities of boarding schools are mostly supported by ZISWAF funds, donations of santri education and government assistance. Pesantren can create its own socio-economic system because pesantren is an institution where pesantren managers, teachers, students and also stakeholders live in the institution all the time. This makes it easier for pesantren to create an independent and independent socio-economic system. Based on the literature study, it was found that the themes of economic empowerment include local wisdom-based economic empowerment, (Harahap, 2024) creative economy-based economic empowerment, (AR Chaerudin et al., 2020) mosque-based economic empowerment, (Ruslan, 2012) pesantren-based economic empowerment. (Fauroni, 2016) This attracts the author's attention to further research on pesantren-based economic empowerment. Based on literature studies, articles using the title "pesantren-based economic empowerment" in the Publish Or Perish application using google scholar search, it was found that there were 18 articles that discussed pesantren-based economic empowerment from 2020 to 2024. Furthermore, articles using the title "economic empowerment of pesantren" were found in 11 articles. One of the pesantren in North Sumatra is Saifullah An Nahdiyah pesantren, located in Batugemuk Village, Namorambe Subdistrict, Deli Serdang Regency. This pesantren has 121 students. Saifullah An Nahdiyah Islamic Boarding School was established in 1996. Currently Pesantren Saifullah An Nahdiyah is led by KH. Amir Panatagama, S.Pd.I.

Based on literature studies, no articles have been found that discuss economic empowerment at Pesantren Saifullah An Nahdiyah, so it is interesting for the author to discuss economic empowerment at Pesantren Saifullah An Nahdiyah. Pesantren Saifullah An Nahdiyah has an independent business, namely nurseries and fish ponds managed by teachers and boarding school students. This business still needs guidance and counseling so that it can develop.

Based on this problem, it is deemed necessary to carry out Community Based Research (CBR) based guidance and counseling by involving the leaders, teachers and students of the boarding school.

## **2. METHOD**

The service carried out is based on Community Based Research (CBR) in pesantren. The method used in this service is descriptive analysis. This community service is planned to be carried out at Saifullah An Nahdiyah Islamic Boarding School.

The stages of the activity carried out include preparing for the implementation of activities including surveys, conducting community service with pesantren managers and students, evaluating and analyzing discussions on the results of training, the stage of making reports.

## **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Saifullah An Nahdiyah Islamic Boarding School is located in Batugemuk Village, Namorambe District, Deli Serdang Regency. This pesantren has the potential for pesantren-based economic development because it has independent businesses in the form of nurseries and fish ponds managed by teachers and students. However, this potential has not been well developed due to the lack of guidance and counseling.



Picture 1. Saifullah An Nahdiyah Islamic Boarding School Fish Pond Business

Based on the results of surveys and interviews with the head of the pesantren KH Amir Panatagama, several problems faced by the pesantren were found, namely the pesantren has not been able to develop economic independence because it still depends on products from outside the pesantren, pesantren activities are still supported by santri education funds and government assistance.

After conducting a survey, the next activity is community service with the aim of providing economic empowerment strategies that can be carried out by pesantren. There are several strategies that can be implemented by pesantren, including:

1. Circulation, Supply-Chain and Economic Integration Strategies  
Circulate the needs of clothing, food and educational needs. Basic food needs such as rice, chili, onions and others should be supplied neatly by distributors and producers from Muslims. The needs of students and pesantren that can be produced and distributed by Muslims.
2. Economic Empowerment with Stakholder  
Message economic empowerment can be done by carrying out economic movements with existing stakeholders. For santri guardians, for example, it can be done by empowering a collaborative economy. So far, the role of parents is only as suppliers of money in the form of tuition payments and others. There are so many and varied potentials and abilities of santri parents that if empowered and collaborated will be a very large force. The great potential of the parents should be circulated in the pesantren considering that all guardians are under one umbrella. The pesantren education paradigm must use a collaborative paradigm where parents/guardians are also involved in the management of the pesantren through the santri parents' forum.
3. Collaboration with the surrounding community.  
Economic empowerment with the community around the pesantren. The pesantrens' economy will be more massive when they ground the teachings of Islam through economic empowerment of the surrounding community. In this context, pesantrens should not be exclusive in their towers without seeing the conditions of the surrounding community as well as seeing their economic potential. Pesantren must be inclusive of the surrounding community, one of which is mobilizing the economic sector that can be cooperated with pesantren. This effort will not only make the pesantren economically empowered but also further strengthen the mission of Islamic propagation itself.
4. Empowerment of ZISWAF Funds  
Pesantren can manage zakat infaq sadaqah and waqf funds for the welfare of teachers, then to add facilities that support the learning process of the students, as well as to support independent entrepreneurship programs implemented by the students.



Picture 2. Community Service Activities for Pesantren-Based Economic Empowerment at Saifullah An Nahdiyah Islamic Boarding School

#### 4. CONCLUSION

This community service activity aims to provide a pesantren-based economic empowerment strategy that is carried out at Saifullah An Nahdiyah Islamic Boarding School in Batugemuk Village, Namorambe District, Deli Serdang Regency. To realize pesantren-based economic empowerment, there are several strategies that can be implemented by pesantren, namely: Circulation Strategy, Supply-Chain and Economic Integration, Joint Economic Empowerment with Stakeholders, Collaboration with Surrounding Communities, Empowerment of Zakat, Infaq, Sadaqah and Waqf Funds.

#### 5. REFERENCES

- AR Chaerudin, Bambang Setiadi, & Ahmad Munawir. (2020). Pemberdayaan Ekonomi Masyarakat Berbasis Ekonomi Kreatif Di Desa Citaman Kecamatan Ciomas Kabupaten Serang Banten. *Jurnal Abdimas Bina Bangsa*, 1(1), 26–37. <https://doi.org/10.46306/jabb.v1i1.9>
- Fauroni, R. L. (2016). Model Pemberdayaan Ekonomi Ala Pesantren Al-Ittifaq Rancabali Kab. Bandung. *Inferensi*, 5(1), 1. <https://doi.org/10.18326/infsl3.v5i1.1-17>
- Harahap, R. D. H. M. I. (2024). Pemberdayaan Ekonomi Masyarakat Berbasis Kearifan Lokal: Studi Kasus Petani Salak Tapanuli Selatan. *Human Falah*.
- Kominfo. (2023). *Pemerintah Cetak Puluhan Ribu Santri Wirausaha*. Kementerian Infomasi Dan Telekomunikasi. <https://www.kominfo.go.id/content/detail/53326/pemerintah-cetak-puluhan-ribu-santri-wirausaha/0/berita>
- Ruslan, I. (2012). Pemberdayaan Ekonomi Masyarakat Berbasis Masjid Di Pontianak. *Jurnal Khatulistiwa – Journal Of Islamic Studies*, 2.
- Utama, R. E. (2020). Strategi Pembiayaan Pesantren Melalui Pemberdayaan Ekonomi Umat. *Jurnal Tahdzibi: Manajemen Pendidikan Islam*, 5(2), 117–134. <https://doi.org/10.24853/tahdzibi.5.2.117-134>

Widyastuti, M., Andreas, Aldo, & Alfredo. (2020). Pemberdayaan Ekonomi Santri Melalui Pelatihan Keterampilan Hand Made Di Pondok Pesantren Darussalam Bangunsari Ponorogo. *Abdimas Galuh*, 2(2), 99–108.