

**INCREASING COMMUNITY'S READING INTEREST THROUGH
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A READING GARDEN
(CASE STUDY OF THE JENDELA AKSARA READING GARDEN IN
JOGOKERTEN HAMLET, TRIMULYO VILLAGE, SLEMAN DISTRICT,
SLEMAN REGENCY)**

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***Abstract-** The existence of a 'reading garden' in the hamlet of Jogokerten is an important instrument to be realized in order to increase the reading interest of the people there. The number of existing education-based institutions has not been equipped yet with adequate supporting facilities for increasing people's reading interest. The community service program carried out by Group 122 of KKN batch 105, Sunan Kalijaga State Islamic University, Yogyakarta, aims to increase public interest in reading through the provision of a reading corner in the hamlet of Jogokerten. The reading corner, namely "Jendela Aksara", is a manifestation of the real action of the Group's dedication to the problem of reading interest in the hamlet. This research aims to identify the role of the "Jendela Aksara" reading corner on people's reading interest in Jogokerten hamlet. The type of this research is descriptive-qualitative. The results showed that the "Jendela Aksara" reading corner had an effect on a significant increase in people's reading interest.*

***Keywords:** Public's Reading Corner, Reading Interest.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Interest in reading is something that can help the development of a country, because a good reading culture in a society is a sign that a society has a desire to gain broad knowledge from various fields. Reading is also a way to increase awareness in opening up insights about the world, especially for the younger generation such as children and teenagers. They are the generation of future leaders of the nation who will be the hope to improve the quality of life and the development of a country to be more advanced.

Reading is a person's activity by using observation through the eyes to translate and interpret signs or symbols on paper or other materials. So reading is a process of memory, judgment, thinking, delusion, organizing thoughts and problem solving. Reading is a tool for learning and to get pleasure, the information contained in a reading so that it gains knowledge and skills experience to meet human or person needs (Kamah & Rachmanata, 2002).

Reading gardens are a means of learning resources that help all groups of people, from those who want to find or overcome something to simply seek new knowledge and as a means for the community to seek information from reading. The quality of human resources can be improved through high reading interest, the more an individual has a lot of knowledge, the better the quality will be. Improving the quality of education can also be done by improving reading culture. This Reading Garden aims to increase interest in reading so that people are encouraged to learn and want to know, so that they are knowledgeable, skilled and have an advanced culture. It is hoped that the public can grow or have the awareness to equally cultivate a love of reading so that all people can use books without having to be limited by age, occupation, culture and appearance. Management of the reading garden is one of the efforts to improve the quality of education, which is included in the management of education (Arikunto, 2010)

Jogokerten Hamlet, which is located on Jalan Turi KM 2, Trimulyo Village, Sleman District, Sleman Regency, is a very strategic hamlet. This has led to the establishment of many educational-based institutions such as: Pon. bubonic plague. Al Barokah, Al Barokah TPA, SDN 02 Kadisobo, Pon. bubonic plague. Darussalam, Mts Darussalam, TPQ and others.

However, of the many students who are in these educational institutions, the infrastructure that supports literacy has not been matched. In this Jogokerten hamlet there are no reading facilities and infrastructure available for the community, such as libraries, reading rooms or others, so that is the reason for the KKN group to realize and help the Jogokerten community by facilitating interest in reading in this hamlet so that it can be realized properly, the existence of books This reading book can support community learning in adding insight to apply skills.

After seeing the existing problems, real action is needed to create

people who have an interest in reading. This Community Service or Community Service activity aims to create new generations who have a desire to improve reading culture or become a community group who likes to read. It is hoped that the pioneering program for a reading garden in Jogokerten can help realize this desire.

2. METHOD

The research conducted by the author is a qualitative research, namely by looking for data and facts in the Jendela Aksara Community Reading Garden in increasing reading interest in the Jogokerten hamlet community, then collecting it into data to be researched and analyzed so as to obtain a conclusion in the form of data presentation and sentences. which describes the conditions that occur at the research site. According to Moleong, qualitative research can be used by researchers who are interested in studying an object of research from various aspects, such as background, motivation, role, values, attitudes and one's perception of an object. (Moleong, 2007). This qualitative study presents the data used by the author in order to present the data obtained in a more complete, comprehensive, accurate for reader.

The data collection technique used by the author is to make observations. Observations made by the author through visits and observations of the Jendela Aksara Reading Garden which were adjusted to the results of the questionnaire. The questionnaire conducted by the author is based on Purposive Sampling, namely by selecting informants based on certain criteria. Researchers are more inclined to choose informants who do know valid information, understand the problem in depth and are credible in providing information (Nugrahani, 2014). The criteria selected to become informants are:

- People who know the problem of reading interest in their age group.
- People who know about the Jendela Aksara reading garden program
- Pleased to be taken information.

The approach used in this study uses a qualitative research approach with descriptive methods. The approach is done by describing the phenomena that occur in the community, especially the Jogokerten hamlet community, Trimulyo Village, Sleman District, Sleman Regency. The problems discussed in this study are not related to numbers, but involve the description, decomposition and depiction of a problem that is currently happening. This descriptive study aims to enable researchers to describe clearly and in detail about the Jendela Aksara reading garden.

The pioneering activity for the Jendela Aksara reading garden was carried out from 18 July-13 August 2021 with the following process:

- 1) Observation of people's reading interest
- 2) Construction of a reading garden

- 3) Procurement of reading materials
- 4) Management of reading garden collections

Furthermore, the existing findings are tested by validating a data so that the data obtained is truly accurate. Testing the validity of this data, the author uses a triangulation technique, namely data collection that combines various data collection techniques and is sourced from existing data (Sugiyono, 2007).

The data that has been tested is then processed with qualitative analysis. Miles and Hubberman explain that qualitative analysis techniques include Data Collection (data collection), Data Reduction (data reduction), Data Display (data presentation) and Conclusion Drawing (drawing conclusions). This can be seen in the following picture

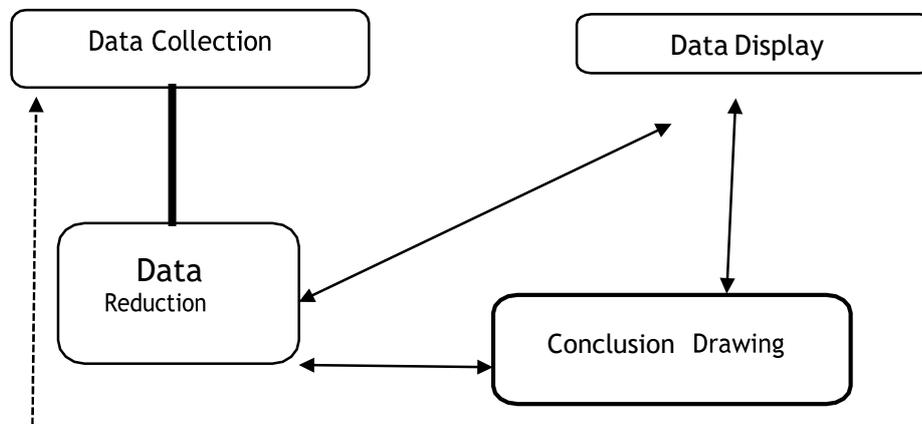


Figure 1: Qualitative Data Analysis Techniques According to Miles and Hubberman

Based on the explanation above, each stage carried out by the author uses qualitative descriptive, namely presenting data and information obtained and then analyzed using conclusions from the results of research that has been done. This qualitative descriptive analysis technique, the author did in order to describe the data that the researchers had obtained from the existing information and documentation. So that at the final stage, the author draws conclusions by looking at the results of data reduction and based on the formulation of the problem, so that the purpose of this research can be realized, namely answering every existing formulation.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

All stages of establishing a reading garden were carried out by the 122 KKN Mandiri Group of 105 UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta as a multidisciplinary-based program. The team consisted of 1 supervisor and 12 students from different majors, namely the Comparative Madhhab Department, Law Faculty, Syari'ah and Law Department, Islamic History and Culture Department, Arabic Language and Literature Faculty Adab and Cultural

Sciences, Qur'anic Science Department. an and Tafsir Faculty of Ushuluddin and Islamic Thought and Department of Psychology, Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities.

A. Observation of Community Reading Interest

The KKN group observed the community's interest in reading by giving a questionnaire to one of the representatives from SD, MI, SMP, MTs, MAN, SMK, D1, S1, students and youths. All totaled as many as 29 people. This questionnaire was given in order to determine the state of the public's interest in reading. The results of this observation can be seen as follows:

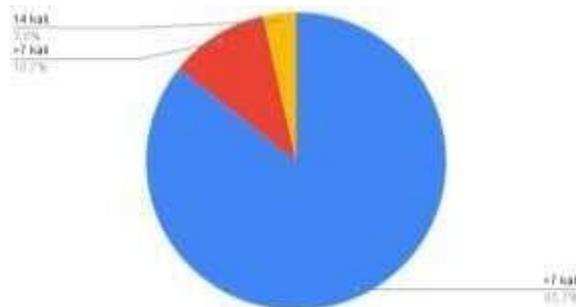


Figure 2. Condition of Community Reading Interest in a week

Based on the picture above, it can be seen that people who have high reading interest in a week only reached 13% while almost 81% less than 7 times. This indicates that the condition of reading interest in Jogokerten hamlet tends to be less.

Then from the data obtained, the collection of books that are mostly owned by the community at home is only around less than 50 books. While people who have a collection of more than 100 books only reach 12%. This can be seen in the following picture.

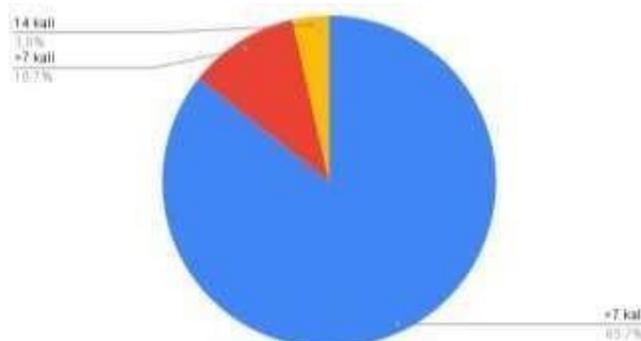


Figure 3. Number of books owned at home.

Seeing this problem, the KKN 122 group tried to start a reading garden among the people of the Jogokerten hamlet. In the Manual for Management of Community Reading Gardens published by the Directorate of Community Education, it is stated that Community Reading Gardens have a very important role. This can be seen as follows:

1) As a media that bridges sources of information and also as a source of

knowledge.

- 2) Has an active role as a facilitator, mediator, motivator for people who want to seek, utilize, develop their knowledge and experience.
- 3) Has a role as a non-formal educational institution for community members. enable the community to learn independently, conduct research, explore and utilize information and knowledge.
- 4) As an institution to build people in the habit of reading, reading habit and reading culture through providers of various reading materials in accordance with the wishes and needs of the community.
- 5) Act as an agent of change, agent of development and agent of human culture. (Directorate of Community Education, 2006).

From this explanation, it can be seen that the role of TBM can be a facilitator who connects the community and information. This can be realized by looking at the role of TBM as a unit that provides services in the form of access to information, in improving the quality of education or intelligence in a community group. In addition, the existence of TBM also functions as a field for extracting knowledge and entertainment in the community. (Riri Rizki M. , 2017)

B. History of Reading Garden Development

After seeing the existing potential and problems with reading interest in the Jogokerten hamlet, the 122 KKN Group coordinated with several components of the Jogokerten hamlet community. This component includes the head of the hamlet, Mr RW, the youth and also the participants who want to contribute to the interest in reading in the hamlet of Jogokerten. Seeing the enthusiasm of the community, the KKN group 122 was even more excited to establish this reading garden.

After going through various meetings, it was finally decided that the location of the reading garden would be placed in the house of the Dukuh. This placement is based on the number of residents who often hold gatherings at their homes. Then also, the house of the head of the hamlet is very strategic, so that it can be more easily accessed by residents.



Figure 4. Youth Enthusiasm and KKN Group members

Procurement of books at this reading Garden through donations distributed on social media. After 1 month, the books collected almost reached 200 books. After the books are collected, then design a community reading Garden to make it more interesting and comfortable to read. Designs made to follow current trends.

The last stage in making this reading garden is naming. After the meeting finally agreed on a name "JENDELA"AKSARA". Two words that have meaning. The window is a space where the access of air from outside enters into. While Aksara is another name for writing such as Pallawa script, Pegon script, etc. The hope is that with this reading garden, various existing writings can become a window to see the vastness of the world.



Figure 5. Reading Garden

Finally, on August 13, Taman Baca Jendela Aksara was officially inaugurated. The reading Garden initiated by the KKN 105 group is the first step that the Jogokerten community hopes can continue. With the realization of the Community Reading Garden, it can add to the knowledge of the community.

C. Procurement of Reading Garden Books

In order to organize a reading garden at the Jogokerten Jendela Aksara KKN 105 carried out a book donation program for Jogokerten. The purpose of this program is to collect reading books from various sources ranging from new books to used books that are still worth reading. The book donation program has succeeded in obtaining 197 books consisting of various themes, including books for children, education, fiction, religion and magazines. As shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Types of procurement of books in reading gardens

No	Book Type	Amount
1	Religion	13
2	Education	39
3	Motivation	7
4	Sport	5

5	Health	18
6	Novel	14
7	Story	21
8	Parenting	8
9	Business and Skills	30
10	Social	11
11	General Insight	31
Amount		197

In the process of processing reading garden books, book classification is also carried out based on the type of book according to each subject (table 1). This classification is done in order to make it easier for visitors to choose the desired reading book.

D. Interest Increase

After the establishment of the Jendela Aksara Reading Garden, almost 85% of respondents considered that the Jendela Aksara Reading Garden helped increase people's interest in reading. While 3.6% rate no. This can be seen in the image below:

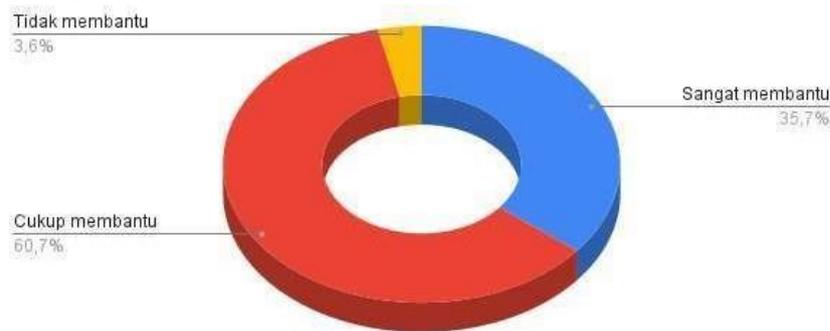


Figure 6. Community Assessment after the Jendela Aksara reading garden.

In addition, almost 93% of respondents also considered that the books in the Jendela Aksara Reading Garden were complete enough. This can be seen in the image below:

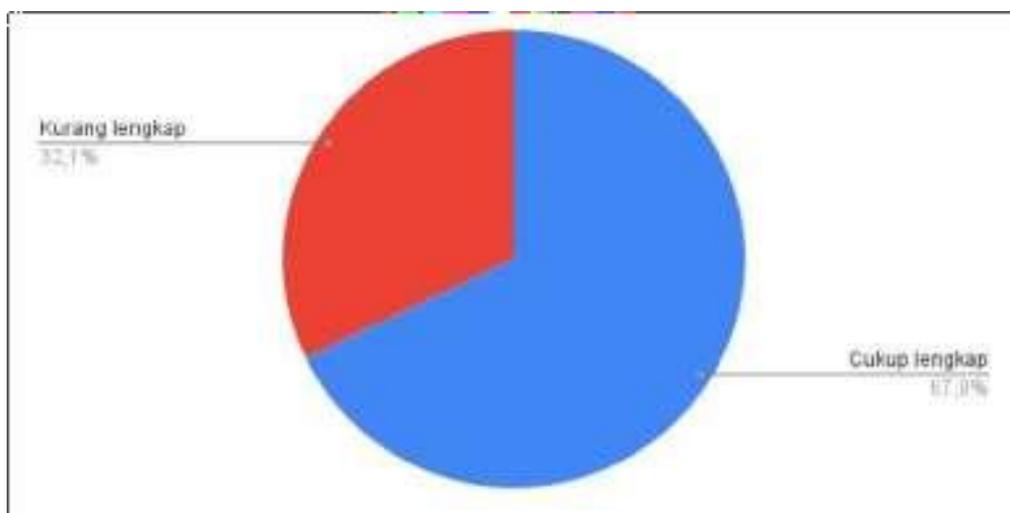


Figure 7. the Community's Assessment of the Completeness of the Book Collection

From the two pictures above, it shows a significant increase before and after the establishment of the Jendela Aksara Reading Garden. This is the hope of society to always improve the quality of individuals for the better. By getting used to reading, the quality of self will be wiser.

4. CONCLUSION

A real movement in order to increase people's reading interest has been carried out by KKN 105 Group 122 UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta with the realization of the jendela aksara reading garden. This reading garden has fulfilled the elements that must exist in a reading garden, namely the availability of books and their management. The existing book collections have been classified according to their subject. This is done so that visitors can easily find the book they want to read. With the existence of this reading Garden, people in Dukuh Jogokerten can feel the changes in their interest in reading firsthand. It is hoped that with this reading garden, the people in Dukuh Jogokerten will be more literate towards education and become better individuals.

The real activity of procuring a reading garden is a real step taken by the 122 KKN105 group of UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta. Departing from the reality that reading interest is less able to be improved. This is what we suggest to the government and everyone who cares about the state of reading interest in Indonesia, to organize reading gardens in villages with low reading interest.

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