

## ONLINE LEARNING CHALLENGES IN CENTRAL PANDEMIC VIRUS CORONA IN STAI MUHAMMADIYAH TULUNGAGUNG

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**Abstract :** *The impact of preventing the spread of the corona virus was also felt in Tulungagung district, especially the Muhammadiyah Islamic University (STAI) Muhammadiyah Tulungagung which was an appeal to learn from home. Precisely the appeal is March 2020 the second week. So online learning must be implemented. Of course, in practice, challenges will be found in the implementation of online learning. So on this occasion the writer will analyze the challenges of online learning in the midst of the corona virus pandemic at STAI Muhammadiyah Tulungagung. The research approach used is descriptive qualitative. In this study the authors conclude that the challenges of online learning in the midst of the corona virus pandemic at STAI Muhammadiyah Tulungagung include: some lecturers lack mastery in using online learning media, in addition some lecturers and students have difficulty with internet network signals in their respective locations of residence, and also the use of internet quota more than before this online learning.*

**Keywords:** *Challenges, Learning, Online, Viruses, Corona.*

### Introduction

Lately, all countries in the world have experienced the same concern, the corona virus pandemic.<sup>1</sup> Since a positive case was found

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<sup>1</sup>Suara.com, *Rupanya, Indonesia Pernah Dilanda Wabah Serupa Pandemi COVID-19 pada 1918*, <https://www.suara.com/tekno/2020/04/01/090000/rupanya->

announced on March 2, 2020, DKI Jakarta has become the epicenter of the spread of the corona virus because the results of positive case reports are increasing significantly every day. As a step to prevent the spread of the virus, the DKI Jakarta Provincial Government has made a number of efforts ranging from closed tourist attractions, school closures, restricted public transportation passengers, even oddly suspended, appealed to companies to implement policies working from home, activities at places of worship are abolished, in addition to that Anies forbid residents from leaving Jakarta.<sup>2</sup> Besides in Jakarta, the corona virus has spread to outside Jakarta, one of which is Tulungagung Regency, East Java Province.

The spread of the corona virus is still a special concern of the Indonesian government. A number of steps were taken to prevent the spread of the corona virus. Ranging from social distancing to forbidding people to carry out activities that create crowds.<sup>3</sup> Through a video conference Mr. Jokowi also explained that the government set a policy of large-scale social restrictions (PSBB). Policies are also regulated in a Government Regulation (PP) and a presidential decree establishing public health emergencies.<sup>4</sup>

The impact of preventing the spread of the corona virus was also felt in Tulungagung district, especially the Muhammadiyah Islamic University (STAI) Muhammadiyah Tulungagung, namely by appealing to learn from the homes that were applied from the early childhood education level to tertiary education institutions with an uncertain time limit. Precisely the appeal is March 2020 the second week.

From the appeal, STAI Muhammadiyah Tulungagung which is one of the private tertiary institutions in Tulungagung Regency took quick action by responding to the appeal by issuing a circular to conduct online lectures or learning.

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indonesia-pernah-dilanda-wabah-serupa-pandemi-covid-19-pada-1918, diakses pada 12 Juni 2020

<sup>2</sup>Suara.com, *Rupanya, Indonesia...*, diakses pada 12 Juni 2020

<sup>3</sup>Tribunjabar.id, *Awal Mula Pandemi Covid-19 di Indonesia, di Awali dari Klub Dansa Kini Tersebar di 16 Provinsi*, <https://jabar.tribunnews.com/2020/03/23/awal-mula-pandemi-covid-19-di-indonesia-di-awali-dari-klub-dansa-kini-tersebar-di-16-provinsi>, diakses pada 12 Juni 2020

<sup>4</sup>Merdeka.com, *Kronologi Munculnya Covid-19 di Indonesia Hingga Terbit Keppres Darurat Kesehatan*, <https://www.merdeka.com/trending/kronologi-munculnya-covid-19-di-indonesia-hingga-terbit-keppres-darurat-kesehatan-klm.html>, diakses pada 12 Juni 2020

The quick response taken by the STAI Muhammadiyah Tulungagung is one form of effort so that learning objectives are achieved and the material can be conveyed to students, so that the practice is entirely left to lecturers who are in charge in the even semester of the academic year 2019/2020 which coincides with the occurrence of a pandemic this corona virus. Online learning utilizes several supporting applications as learning media including whatsapp group, google classroom, zoom and so on. Of course, in practice, challenges will be found that are part of the implementation of online learning, which prior to the pandemic, the process of lecturing was carried out offline, namely face-to-face in class.

Several complaints from students arose because of this distance lecture including more lectures given from lecturers with fairly short deadlines, signal disturbances, inadequate internet networks in the area of residence and limited learning application facilities. In addition, not all lecturers master the use of technology in an effort to use it as a learning medium. Some lecturers only use telecommunications channels like whatsapp.<sup>5</sup>

On this occasion the author will conduct an analysis related to the challenges of online learning. So that writers and readers will find out what are the challenges of online learning in the midst of the corona virus pandemic at STAI Muhammadiyah Tulungagung.

## Method

The research approach used is descriptive qualitative. Regarding qualitative research methods, Creswell cited by J.R Raco defines it as an approach or search to explore and understand a central phenomenon. To understand the central phenomenon the researcher interviewed the study participants or participants by asking general and rather broad questions. Information submitted by participants is then collected, the information is usually in the form of words or text. Data in the form of words or text are then analyzed the results of the analysis can be in the form of depictions or descriptions or it can also be in the form of themes. From the data, the researcher makes an interpretation to capture the deepest meaning afterward, the researcher makes a personal reflection and explains it with other

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<sup>5</sup>Afidah Nur Aslamah, *Tantangan dan Peluang Pembelajaran Jarak Jauh bagi Mahasiswa*, <https://www.suara.com/yoursay/2020/04/07/104610/tantangan-dan-peluang-pembelajaran-jarak-jauh-bagi-mahasiswa>, diakses pada 12 Juni 2020

scientists' researches made before the end of the qualitative research is poured in the form of a written report.<sup>6</sup>

According to Denzin and Lincoln, quoted by Albi Anggito and Johan Setiawan, stated that qualitative research is research that uses a natural setting with the intention of interpreting phenomena that occur and is carried out by involving various existing methods.<sup>7</sup>

Data collection techniques, including: 1. Observation, Observation is a data collection technique that is done through an observation, accompanied by records of the state or behavior of the target object.<sup>8</sup> 2. Interview, Interview is a form of communication between two people that involves someone who wants to obtain information from others by asking questions, based on specific objectives.<sup>9</sup> 3. Documentation, document study is a complement to the use of observation and interview methods in qualitative research.<sup>10</sup>

Analysis of Miles and Huberman's model data, suggests that the activities in qualitative data analysis are carried out interactively and continue continuously until completion, so that the data is saturated. Activities in data analysis are: data reduction, data display and conclusion drawing / verification.<sup>11</sup>

## Discussion

### Online Learning Challenges

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary the challenge has the meaning of things or objects that inspire determination to improve the ability to overcome problems; stimulation (to work harder and so on); things or objects that need to be addressed.<sup>12</sup>

The author can conclude from the above understanding that a challenge is a matter or form of business that has the aim to find a way out in overcoming a problem.

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<sup>6</sup>J.R. Raco, *Metode Penelitian Kualitatif*, (Jakarta: Grasindo, 2013), 7

<sup>7</sup>Albi Anggito dan Johan Setiawan, *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*, (Sukabumi: CV. Jejak, 2018), 7

<sup>8</sup>M. Hariwijaya, *Metodologi dan Teknik Penulisan Skripsi, Tesis dan Disertasi*, (Yogyakarta: Elmatara Publishing, 2007), 57-58

<sup>9</sup>*Ibid*, 57-58

<sup>10</sup>Sugiyono, *Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif, Kualitatif, dan R&D*, (Bandung: Alfabeta, 2018), 240

<sup>11</sup>*Ibid*, 246

<sup>12</sup><https://kbbi.web.id/tantang>, diakses pada 12 Juni 2020

For the meaning of learning (*pembelajaran*) according to the Big Indonesian Dictionary that is the process, way, the act of making people or living things learn.<sup>13</sup> Whereas the word online means network, connected through internet computer networks and so on.<sup>14</sup> So from this explanation it can be concluded that online learning is a learning process that is connected through the internet network.

### **Online Learning Challenges in the Middle of the Corona Virus Pandemic at STAI Muhammadiyah Tulungagung**

Corona virus greatly affects human life in various countries in the world ranging from social, cultural, economic, political, and even education. The other side of this disaster makes it troublesome, but on the other side presents new knowledge and skills for humanity, especially in the IT field. The education world in Indonesia must change course during this pandemic, requiring lecturers and students to teach and learn from home.<sup>15</sup>

As happened at STAI Muhammadiyah Tulungagung, prior to the corona virus pandemic the learning was carried out face-to-face in class. But because of this pandemic STAI Muhammadiyah Tulungagung gave a quick response by issuing a circular containing the implementation of the learning carried out online. In its implementation there are challenges that must be faced by lecturers and students who are directly involved in the online learning interactions that are held. Before the author describes what challenges are faced, below will be explained about some of the challenges in the 21st century education.

Regardless of the presence or absence of the corona virus pandemic, professional 21st century lecturers should not be lecturers who are only able to teach well. 21st century professional lecturers are lecturers who are able to become learners throughout their careers to increase the effectiveness of the student learning process as the environment develops; able to work by learning from and teaching

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<sup>13</sup><https://kbbi.web.id/ajar>, diakses pada 12 Juni 2020

<sup>14</sup> <https://kbbi.kemdikbud.go.id/entri/daring>, diakses pada 12 Juni 2020

<sup>15</sup> Halim Purnomo, Firman Mansir, Tumin, Suliswiyadi, Pendidikan Karakter Islami pada Online Class Management di SMA Muhammadiyah 7 Yogyakarta Selama Pandemi Covid-19, *Jurnal Tarbiyatuna*, Vol. 11 No. 1 (2020) pp. 91-100, pISSN: 2085-0889 | eISSN: 2579-4981, Journal Homepage: <http://journal.ummg.ac.id/index.php/tarbiyatuna/index>, diakses pada 12 Juni 2020

colleagues in an effort to face the complex challenges of tertiary education and teaching; teaching is based on professional teaching standards to ensure the quality of learning and have good communication directly and use technology effectively with students.<sup>16</sup>

As for some of the challenges that are also being experienced in the world of education:<sup>17</sup>

1. Changes in science and technology and adjustment of lecturers

There are still many lecturers who are not ready to face technological changes. Lecturers do not immediately adjust and have not been able to motivate themselves to continue learning with the pace of development and knowledge that is growing rapidly along with the development of technology and information. If this condition continues, the authority of the lecturer will disappear. That happens because students are more in control of the development of technology and information.

2. Changes in the education paradigm

In line with the rapid development of technology and informatics, causing a shift in views about learning that occurs both in the classroom and outside the classroom. The challenge that must be faced is the shifting of educational paradigm in learning is no longer centered on lecturers and lecturers are not the only source of information.

3. The modality of the teaching staff

Technology also affects the modality of lecturers in carrying out learning consisting of face-to-face and online. For online there are several obstacles including weak internet network signal, the low ability of lecturers to master technology.

The above challenges have emerged long before the corona virus pandemic as it is today. And must be faced with full force in this pandemic because inevitably learning is currently taking place online which requires lecturers who can master the technology as a medium of learning so that the delivery of material can be completed and delivered on target to students who are taught.

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<sup>16</sup>Sutrisno Djaja, *Harapan dan Tantangan Guru Pembelajar Moda Daring*, Jurnal Pendidikan Ekonomi: Jurnal Ilmiah Ilmu Pendidikan, Ilmu Ekonomi dan Ilmu Sosial, Studi Ekonomi FKIP UNEJ, 2017

<sup>17</sup>Djaja, *Harapan dan Tantangan...*, 2017

Before the existence of this pandemic, in line with the challenges above, Indonesia's education world also experienced various problems encountered in the 21st century, namely:<sup>18</sup>

1. The quality of education is still low

The still low quality of education can be seen from a number of surveys and research conducted by world institutions. From these results education in Indonesia is in a position far from expectations. Some factors that affect the quality of education include; a. Poor quality of education or teaching; b. students' interest and motivation to learn are still low; c. lack of learning facilities and infrastructure.

2. The moral crisis that has plagued Indonesia's young generation

As a result of the influence of science and technology and globalization there has been a shift in the values that exist in people's lives closely related to social change. Through education, teachers have their own challenges in instilling moral values in the younger generation.

3. Inadequate education system in Indonesia

The curriculum is an education system. With the curriculum, education is more directed. However, education has not yet implemented an appropriate curriculum.

4. Low competitive power

The number of domestic products and human resources are replaced by products and human resources from abroad. This also shows the low quality of education graduates in Indonesia.

After understanding the above description of some of the challenges and problems of the 21st century education. We still meet these challenges and problems in the world of education in Indonesia. Returning to the scope of the author's discussion regarding the challenges of online learning in the midst of the corona virus pandemic at STAI Muhammadiyah Tulungagung, the writer obtained information directly from several lecturers and also students who were directly involved in the online learning process, challenges faced by the lecturer, among others, can be described as follows:

1. Some lecturers are constrained in the use of instructional media, the use of instructional media most widely used is whatsapp group media. Although some other lecturers also

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<sup>18</sup>Djaja, *Harapan dan Tantangan...*, 2017

combine it with other media such as zoom and google classroom so that learning is more effective.

2. Some lecturers during lectures with online learning also complained about the difficult internet network signal at the lecturer location.
3. The use of more internet quota by lecturers during online learning.

While the challenges faced by students during online learning include:

1. Lectures from each home make students have to be extra in arranging lecture schedules, because it turns out that in practice it is found when online lectures take place there are some students who follow them while doing work given by their parents and some even while working so that they are less effective.
2. Some students complained about the difficulty in buying internet quota because usage during online learning requires more internet quota than before.
3. Besides that, there are some students who also complained that the internet network signal was difficult when they were going to take part in online learning because their location was not covered by the network.
4. Some students were also found not to participate in online learning because they could not use the media that was being used in online learning at that time.
5. The number of assignments simultaneously from several lecturers makes students confused to complete the lecture assignments.

The challenges faced by the lecturers and students above are expected to be a motivation for those who lack knowledge in technology to keep trying to understand the use of supporting technology in the online learning process so that learning can be effective during this pandemic. For those who have difficulty in purchasing internet quota, they can coordinate with related parties, for those who have difficulty in getting signals, they can try to find a location that has a signal and still avoid the crowd in accordance with the government's call.



## Conclusion

It can be concluded from the discussion above that the challenges of online learning in the midst of the corona virus pandemic at STAI Muhammadiyah Tulungagung also have similarities in the challenges that are also experienced in the 21st century education. Where the similarity lies can be seen in the use of science and technology, it is hoped that lecturers must be fast and be able to adjust to current technological developments and also to the point of modality of the teaching staff that currently all turn to online learning, which of course must be dealt with quickly and carefully so that the process during practice can run smoothly and on target.

While for STAI Muhammadiyah Tulungagung the challenges of online learning in the midst of the corona virus pandemic include: some lecturers lack mastery in the use of online learning media, in addition some lecturers and students have difficulty with internet network signals in their respective locations of residence, and also the use of internet quota more than before this online learning.

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