

Green Islamic Campus Program: Countering Radicalism and Environmental Degradation

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Abstract: Radicalism and environmental degradation issues will become a serious problem, which may present, in human lives for the future. The role of higher education to counteract and anticipate both issues above is needed a program. In the Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya is having the program it is called Green Islamic Campus (GIC) that will expect to prepare its graduates to anticipate the two issues. The program was launched in 2013. The aim of the program is providing an understanding of environmental preservation, energy and natural resource saving, and universal values in Islamic in the teaching-learning process. The implementation forms of the GIC program are (1) resource savings that include electricity, water, paper, and other energy-saving pre-facilities/resources; (2) management and reduction of waste bins and plastics; (3) the environmental arrangement; (4) Islamic campus activities; and (5) non-academic activities that support the GIC program. The results showed that (1) the growth of attitudes and practices of universal Islamic teachings such as tolerance, togetherness, neatness, discipline, respect for each other. Such attitudes and habits will reduce radical attitudes; (2) the presence of understanding and habits about the importance of environmental conservation and energy and resource savings in various forms. The use of solar energy as an alternative energy source, electricity savings, and significant paper savings.

1 INTRODUCTION

In recent decades, there are two global issues that become the central issue of public concern, namely environmental and radicalism issues. These issues are even expected to remain to stick out in the future. Canton (2010), states that some of the global issues that shape future inter-country interactions include environmental degradation issues, energy issues, and cultural clashes. For example, the issue of radicalism and terrorism associated with Islam, it will cause a lot of concern about the possibility of a clash between religions. Huntington's controversial thesis in the Clash of Civilization which states that the enemy of the Western world after the collapse of the Soviet Union is Islamic radicalism. That is one proof of the negative view of religion in the era of globalization. The issue of radicalism and terrorism associated with Islam has become more surfaced after the bombing tragic after September 11th 2001. Even some terrorist attacked Paris in November 2015, many associated with the existence of Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).

In addition to being a global issue, these two issues are also central issues in Central Kalimantan province, because: (1). The higher level of environmental degradation in Central Kalimantan. This is due to, among others, clearing land for large private estates, large mining and traditional mining, and forest fires that peak in the dry season of 2015. (2) Central Kalimantan Province is inhabited by people with heterogeneous ethnic and religious backgrounds. Such heterogeneity leads to an increased chance of positive or negative inter-ethnic and religious interactions. Negative interaction between religions can lead to the growth of religious radicalism.

Based on these characteristics above, the province of Central Kalimantan should serve as a pilot area and model to the others, where religious-based radicalism and environmental damage can be anticipated and overcome. It can be done, among others, through higher education, because the quality of graduates of higher education can create a society that is aware of the importance of saving the environment and ward off religious radicalism.

According to the explanation above, it is needed a program that can create a positive understanding of the need for the anticipation of the issue of radicalism and environmental issues. One of the examples is the program that conducted at the Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya, the Green Islamic Campus (GIC) program.

2 DISCUSSION

The Green Islamic Campus (GIC) program at Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya is a program aimed at providing an in-depth understanding to the Academic Community of Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya on the importance of environmental conservation and its resources and the importance of applying universal values in Islamic teachings.

GIC program contains two main concepts, namely the concept of go green and the concept of Islam. From the concept of go green, GIC program is expected to form the Academic Community that has the behavior of respecting, saving, and preserving the environment in the campus environment and later in the community. Such behavior is needed when graduates interact in a global society, as resource saving and environmental preservation issues are among the central issues in the future. While viewed from the concept of Islam, GIC program is expected to form the Academic Community who understand and practice the concept and teachings of universal Islam, such as tolerance, mutual respect for each other, discipline, neatness, and the like. In line with the values of the universality of Islam, the Islamic campus should be directed to efforts to actualize the values of universal Islam, so as to accommodate the interests of Academic Community who are not Muslim.

Fauzi (2012), states that the source of Islamic teachings, namely the Qur'an and hadith is about social and humanitarian issues than ritual worship problems. Respect for social values and humanity is one proof of the universality of Islamic teachings. The universality of Islam can take the form of inter-religious tolerance, respect for human rights, ethics in various forms, discipline, hygiene, and the need to protect the environment. According to Al-Qadri (2010), the Quranic verses that prohibit Islamic radicalism are included in Al-Baqarah verse 148, and Al-Maidah verse 48. Intolerance is precisely because of a superficial understanding of Islam. Anshari (2013), which examines religious tolerance in Sorong, Papua, finds that one's extreme and

intolerant attitude tends to arise as a result of the shallow understanding of the true religion, or only by a mere textual understanding.

Salampessy and Pranggono (2015) define green campus as an environmental management effort conducted by educational institutions to create environmentally friendly campus environment by prioritizing the conservation of resources in a participatory manner. Hapsari et al. (2014) state that green campus is an environmentally friendly education system, research, and community service and involves campus residents in environmental activities that can provide positive environmental, economic and social benefits.

The creation of green campus can be started from the creation of a healthy, comfortable and environmentally friendly campus environment so that the academic community is well aware of the benefits of the green campus program. Mahajan and Bist (2014) and Tanet et al. (2015) stated that the goal of green campus is to cultivate the awareness and sensitivity of students deeply on environmental conservation, so that efforts can foster concern for environmental sustainability, share knowledge about related problems and solutions, and support various research on environmentally friendly technologies, which in turn can serve as part of the mission of many universities.

The implementation of the GIC Program in Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya has six areas of activity that is (1). Improved understanding of the academic community about the GIC program, (2). Resource saving program which includes electricity, water, paper, and other energy-saving pre-facilities / resources, (3). management and reduction of waste bins and plastic, (4). Environmental Setup Program, (5). Islamic Campus Activities, and (6). Non-academic activities that support the GIC program.

The activities are socialization of Islamic campus program, Ashar prayer program, followed by a lecture on the concept of universal Islam, tolerance and togetherness theme and go green theme, Baitul Arqam and Darul Arqam activities, arranging clothing with certain standard of decency, determination of non-smoking area and free from drugs, and provide space for the activities of non-Muslim students. Meanwhile, the GIC program have activities are socialization of green campus program, electricity saving program, paper saving, plastic waste reduction and management, and the addition of green open space. In terms of electricity savings programs, attempts have been made to replace streetlights in the campus environment into solar-

powered lights, switching computers from PCs to laptops, and replacing projector LCDs to LED TVs that are more energy-efficient. Paper saving activities are carried out through the use of waste paper, the existence of a rule that students may use waste paper for scientific counseling, the use of small ½ quarto paper for certain letters, and other paperless policies.

The results achieved by the GIC program at the Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya (a). The presence of an understanding of the benefits of the GIC program for the Academic Community. According to Bulkani (2016), the Academic Community of Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya generally understands the purpose and benefits of the GIC program, even though it is only limited to the understanding of practical matters they have seen and felt. (b) The presence of a culture of tolerance, togetherness, and mutual respect among peers. This can be seen from the growing participation of students during the celebration of other religious festivals, the habit of praying before the learning activities begin in the classroom regardless of religious differences, the growth of Muslim dress habits for Muslim students and the use of long skirts for non-Muslim students, the habit of prayer Zuhur and Ashar in congregation for the Muslim employee, and the presence of lecturing skills for employees and lecturers, and the free campus of Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya from cigarettes. (c) Most students also have an awareness to turn off lights, fans, and other electronic devices when the classroom is finished. All done because of the effort of education through the appeal of energy saving. (d) Achieving electricity savings. Electricity savings are achieved by the use of solar-powered lights, the replacement of Personal Computer into laptops, and LCD projectors into LED TVs. In the period 2013-2017, the replacement of street lighting into solar-powered lamps has managed to save electricity costs of Rp. 77.992.000, - per year, the replacement of a laptop PC to save Rp. 48.988.000, - per year, while the replacement of LCD projector to LED in the meeting room and classroom has managed to save Rp. 48,082,400, - per year. (e) Achieving paper savings. This is reflected in the growth of paperless habits, the use of waste paper, and the use of small size paper as a formal communication tool. For the Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya, this program has saved paper usage for office stationery with an average value of Rp.28.875.000, - per year during the period of 2013-2017. (f) The presence of the habit of not using materials that produce plastic

waste. This can be seen from the use of plastic mineral water at the time of official events on the campus of Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya. (g) Increasing the beauty of campus and workspace and lecture room at Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya. The area of land planted with green plants or parks is increased from only 30 m2 in 2013, to an area of 328.98 m2 by the end of 2016. In addition, 55% of office space and classrooms have been given green plants in pots.

3 CONCLUSIONS

The GIC program at The Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya has successfully grown attitudes and practices of universal Islamic teachings such as tolerance, togetherness, tidiness, discipline, respect for each other. Attitudes and habits will reduce radical attitudes. Furthermore, GIC Program at The Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya has also succeeded in fostering understanding and habits of the importance of conserving the environment and saving resources.

The GIC program at Universitas Muhammadiyah Palangkaraya should be expanded to other universities. Because the program is applicable not only limited to Muhammadiyah universities, but overall. Further research on GIC can be developed into a research gap to other researchers, including expanded socialization through mobile phone applications on smartphones, radios, and advertisements. In accordance with the purpose of Islam itself is *Rahmatan lilalamin*.

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