Hailullah (Sleeping after Fajr Prayer) and Negative Emotional States among University Students

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Keywords: Hailullah, Depression, Anxiety, Stress.

Abstract: Sleep plays a vital role in physical and psychological well-being throughout life. Many studies have revealed the effect of sleep however, not many have revealed the effect of sleeping in the morning after Fajr prayer (Hailullah) on a person's mental health condition. This study aims to see the relationship between Hailullah and negative emotional states among University students. As much as 483 respondents have filled out the scale, but 18 respondents reported not or rarely do the Fajr prayer and the remaining 235 respondents prayed at the end of time. Thus, the data is processed further for a number of 230 respondents who meet the criteria. The instrument used to measure psychological conditions is DASS 21 which reveals a person's level of depression, anxiety, and stress. The results showed that there is a significant relationship between sleep behavior after Fajr prayer (Hailullah) with depression, anxiety, and stress. The significant value (2-tailed) between Hailullah and depression is 0.000, between Hailullah and Stress is 0.003 meanwhile, the relationship between Hailullah and anxiety has a sig value. (2-tailed) of 0.000. These results show that the higher the Hailullah behavior the higher the level of depression, anxiety, and stress a person has. Findings in this study are sufficient to support the prohibition of sleep after dawn prayer for Muslims. However, this research was conducted in Indonesia, where the time of night and day is quite balanced.

1 INTRODUCTION

Negative emotional states are important factors in individual development. Adolescent with healthy mental condition are physically healthier, performing more positive social behaviours, and conducting less risky behaviours (Knopf, Park, & Mulye, 2010). Several most common mental health problems found in adolescent are conduct disorders, depressions, anxiety disorders, and substance use (David et al., 2010; Murphy & Fonagy, 2012). Among Indonesian adolescence, National Health Research reported that the prevalence of mental emotional disorders among adolescent increased 3.8% from 6% in 2013 to 9.8% in 2018 (Balitbangkes, 2018). Previous research in Malang showed that 53.2% adolescent were at high-level of psychological distress (Widyasari & Yuniardi, 2019).

Depression, stress, and anxiety are significant negative emotional states that influence mental healthamong adolescents. Mental health is a state of well-being when individual can cope with normal stresses of life and work productively (Rahman, Dey, & Islam, 2013). One in every five adolescents experience significant symptoms of emotional distress (David et al., 2010). Stress is a condition that arises due to an imbalance between the pressure faced by an individual and the ability to face it (Lazarus and Folkman in Evanjeli, 2012). A study by Hoque (2015) revealed that most of the University students experienced anxiety, 24% of 150 students experienced both anxiety and depressive episodes, while 60% experienced anxiety, depression, and panic episodes (Hoque, 2015).

Sleep plays a vital role in physical and psychological well-being throughout life. Sleep is a biological process that has an important role related to physiological, neurological and psychological well-being (Aldabal & Bahammam, 2011; Bernert et al., 2015). Human body is working to support healthy brain function during sleep. Cognitively, sleep quality was associated with a decline in cognitive function, i.e. a person with poor sleep quality was six times more likely to experience cognitive decline (Zulfitri et al., 2021). A person's sleep quality is related to the ability to regulate emotions, which then poor emotional regulation can
lead to depression (O’Leary et al. 2016). Good quality sleep will make a person have a better sense of empathy (Guadagni et al., 2017). Insufficient sleep or perceived lack of sleep is called sleep deprivation. Sleep deprivation is a condition of not having enough sleep (Rahman, Dey, & Islam, 2013). The necessary hours of sleep are different among people, so sleep deprivation means not getting the right amount of sleeping time that one requires for optimal functioning. Sleep is considered very important to manage human mental health. Sleep deprivation has a strong link with human mood. People suffer with sleep deprived will have greater levels of anxiety and depression compared to those who sleep normally (Rahman, Dey, & Islam, 2013). A study, conducted in USA found that people with sleep deprived likely to have 10 times clinical depression and 17 time likely to have clinical anxiety than those who sleep normally (Rahman, Dey, & Islam, 2013). While a study conducted in Japan, suggested that sleep duration has a strong association with sleep quality (Ichikawa et al., 2008).

The sleep durations of Muslims were influenced by the prayer times. Every Muslim must perform the obligatory prayers five times per day. Fajr prayer is the first pray, performed at dawn about one to one and a half hour before sunrise. In Indonesia, the Fajr prayer is usually performed at four to five in the morning and has a time lag before the time to go to work or school. During this time, some Muslims who pray on time generally go back to sleep. However, morning sleep in the Islamic perspective has a law of makrooh because it is a precious time which has a great benefit for Muslims who are devoted to Allah SWT (Musharraf, 2018). Makrooh is an act that is felt if leaving it is better than doing it. Linguistically, the meaning of makrooh is "something that is hated". In terms of Usul Fiqh, the word makrooh means something that is recommended by the Shari'a to leave it, where if it is left it will get praise and if it is violated it is not sinful (Al-Ghazali, 1995).

There have been many studies that reveal the benefits of sleep, especially sleeping at night. One of the most important functions of sleep is to allow the nervous system to recover after one day of use (Purwanto, 2008). However, not many studies have revealed the effect of morning sleep after Fajr Prayer on a person's mental health condition. A study at King Khalid University Hospital sought to find out whether there was an impact of sleep behavior on Muslims who wake up to pray Fajr and go back to sleep before work when compared to people who sleep continuously until work time and pray Fajr upon awakening. At the location of this study, the Fajr prayer is performed at 03.30. The results of the study showed that there were no differences in sleep efficiency, the sleep stages distribution, or daytime sleepiness between the two groups (Bahammam et al., 2012). However, the study did not investigate further the psychological impact of sleep behavior after Fajr prayer. On this occasion, the researcher was interested in exploring hailullah and negative emotional states among adolescents.

2 METHOD

2.1 Research Design

This research is a non-experimental study with a correlational research design to see the correlation between sleeping in the morning after Fajr Prayer (Hailullah) on Depression, anxiety, and stress levels.

2.2 Measures

Negative emotional states were measured with the Depression Anxiety Stress Scale (DASS). This instrument was originally developed by Lovibond and Lovibond in 1995. This scale has a short-form version which has been tested in a large non-clinical sample which is known as DASS-21 (Henry & Crawford, 2005). The DASS-21 subscales measure the three dimensions specified in the tripartite model (Brown, Chorpita, Korotitsch, & Barlow, 1997); low positive affectivity (DASS-Depression), physiological hyperarousal (DASS-Anxiety), and negative affectivity (DASS-Stress). This scale was translated into Bahasa Indonesia by Damank in 2011.

Cronbach α examination results for the DASS-21 scale was .871; while the Cronbach α for the depression, anxiety, and stress subscales were respectively .799, .662, and .726. Participants were asked to choose one response within the range of 0 (means never) to 3 (means very often) on each item to describe their experiences during the past week. Total score of each dimension was obtained from the sum of total responses in every item of the dimensions. Participants’ total score then were grouped into five level categories. The categories are normal, mild, moderate, severe, and profound. Normal category is obtained based on the score x<10 for depression, score x<8 for anxiety, and score x<15 for stress. Mild category is obtained based on the score 10≤x<14 for depression, score 8≤x<10 for anxiety, and score 15≤x<19 for stress. Moderate category is obtained based on the score 14≤x<21 for depression, score 10≤x<15 for anxiety, and score 19≤x<26 for stress. Severe category is

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obtained based on the score $21 \leq x < 28$ for depression, score $15 \leq x < 20$ for anxiety, and score $26 \leq x < 34$ for stress. Profound category is obtained based on the score $x \geq 28$ for depression, score $x \geq 20$ for anxiety, and score $x \geq 34$ for the stress.

2.3 Participants

There were 483 respondents who filled out the scale, but only 230 respondents reported doing dawn prayers at the beginning of the time, 18 respondents reported not or rarely prayed at dawn, and the remaining 235 respondents prayed at the end of time. Thus, the data is processed further for a number of 230 respondents who meet the criteria for dawn prayers at the beginning of time.

3 RESULTS

Respondents were asked to identify their Hailullah behavior during the past week. The range of Hailullah scores moves from 0 to 7. While the results of the DASS 21 scale have also been categorized so that the depression, anxiety, and stress scores of each respondent are known. Table 1 shows the descriptive statistics (mean and standard deviation) of Hailullah, depression, stress, and anxiety from respondents.

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Std. Deviation</th>
<th>Variance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Statistic</td>
<td>Statistic</td>
<td>Std. Error</td>
<td>Statistic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hailullah</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>2.79</td>
<td>.149</td>
<td>2.265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depression</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>1.70</td>
<td>.075</td>
<td>1.137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stress</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>2.63</td>
<td>.096</td>
<td>1.450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>1.83</td>
<td>.078</td>
<td>1.184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valid N</td>
<td>230</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 shows that the mean statistic of Hailullah is 2.79 from a score range of 0 to 7. Based on frequency data, 51 participants (22.2%) reported that they never sleep after Fajr Pray and 11.7% (27 participants) reported sleep 7 times after Fajr pray during the past week. While the mean statistic for depression is 1.70 (in the normal to mild category). Based on the frequency data, 150 respondents (65.2%) had normal category of depression and 11 participants (4.8%) had a profound category of depression. Meanwhile, the mean statistical stress score was 2.63 (in the mild to moderate category).

The frequency data shows that, 135 respondents (58.7%) had normal category of stress and 10 participants (4.3%) had profound level of stress. The statistical mean for anxiety scores was 1.83 (in the normal to mild category), frequency data shows that, 70 respondents (30.4%) had normal level of anxiety and 41 participants (17.8%) had profound level of anxiety.

Correlations, means, and standard deviations were computed for each scale and are listed in Table 2. The calculation of Spearman’s rho Correlation showed that there was a positive and significant correlation between Hailullah and negative emotional states, which were depression, anxiety, and stress.

Table 2: Correlations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Hailullah</th>
<th>Depression</th>
<th>Anxiety</th>
<th>Stress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Correlation Coefficient</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>.249**</td>
<td>.192**</td>
<td>.241**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sig (2-tailed)</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>.000</td>
<td>.003</td>
<td>.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>230</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the significance value (2 tailed) it is known that the sig value (2-tailed) between Hailullah and depression is 0.000 < 0.05, which means that there is a significant correlation between Hailullah and depression. Furthermore, the relationship between Hailullah and Stress has a sig value. (2-tailed) of 0.003 < 0.05, which means that there is also a significant correlation between the Hailullah variable and the respondent’s stress level.
Meanwhile, the relationship between Hailullah and anxiety has a sig value (2-tailed) of 0.000 < 0.05, which means that there is also a significant correlation between the Hailullah variable and the respondent's anxiety level. Based on the Pearson correlations, it is known that the calculated r value for the relationship between Hailullah and Depression is 0.249 > r table of 0.129, so it can be concluded that there is a correlation between the Hailullah variable and Depression. Furthermore, based on the calculated r value (Pearson correlations), it is known that the calculated r value for the relationship between Hailullah and Stress is 0.192 > r table of 0.129, so it can be concluded that there is a correlation between the Hailullah variable and Stress. Meanwhile, based on the calculated r value (Pearson correlations), it is known that the calculated r value for the relationship between Hailullah and Anxiety is 0.241 > r table of 0.129, so it can be concluded that there is also a correlation between the Hailullah variable and Anxiety.

4 DISCUSSION

The result of this study indicates that there is a relationship between Hailullah or sleeping after Fajr prayer on person's negative emotional states. Depression, stress, and anxiety are significant negative emotional states that influence mental health among adolescents which are used in this study. This is interesting, considering that previous studies have mostly revealed the effect of sleep deprivation or lack of sleep on mental health and mood condition (Rahman, Dey, & Islam, 2013). Sleep deprivation is also believed to be involved in the processing and modulation of emotional stimuli (During & Kawai, 2017). People who are sleep deprived usually experience a decline in cognitive performance and changes in mood. Sleep problems may directly contribute to the development of worse mental health (Rahman, Dey, & Islam, 2013). Sleep deprivation causes broad behavioral deficits in working memory performance (Frenda & Feen, 2016). While most of the studies have demonstrated the adverse consequences of insufficient sleep, the finding of this study concluded that sleeping after Fajr prayer has negative consequences on participants’ emotional states.

Not many studies have been conducted to examine the effect of sleep after Fajr prayer or split sleep on mental health conditions. Previous research conducted by Bahammam et al., (2012) was trying to revealed sleep architecture of consolidated and split sleep due to the dawn (Fajr) prayer among Muslims and its impact on daytime sleepiness. The researcher asked participants to spend three nights in the Sleep Disorders Center (SDC) at King Khalid University Hospital. Participants then joined a research which included (1) a medical checkup and an adaptation night, (2) a consolidated sleep night, and (3) a split sleep night intervention. Polysomnography (PSG) was conducted following their standard protocol. Participants were asked to go to bed at 11:30 PM and woke up at 7:00 AM in the consolidated sleep protocol. Meanwhile in the split sleep protocol, participants went to bed at 11:30 PM, woke up at 3:30 AM then go back to bed at 4:15 AM, and woke up again at 7:45 AM. The study concluded that there were no differences in sleep efficiency, the distribution of sleep stages, or daytime sleepiness between the two groups. It means that participants who did the split-sleep protocol due to Fajr prayer actually has no effect on their sleep efficiency, the distribution of sleep stages, or daytime sleepiness when the total sleep duration was maintained. But this study did not reveal the effect of split-sleep schedules on participants’ emotional states. This study only focused on measuring the sleep architecture or daytime sleepiness because in summer nights, wakeups to do Fajr prayer may lead Muslims to have less nighttime sleep during the summer. The researcher on this study has also mentioned that the limitation of this study was that they did not investigate the conditions of some Muslims who did not go back to sleep after the Fajr Prayer (Bahammam et al., 2012).

Due to the difficulty of finding research literature on the impact of Hailullah on a person's psychological condition, this research was conducted. This research is actually motivated by various hadiths and information obtained regarding sleep after dawn prayers (Hailullah) in the teachings of Islam. Muslim have been told by the Prophet Muhammad SAW, that mornings are time to acquire the blessings of Allah SWT, therefore Muslims prefer not to spend them by sleeping, as mention by Zaid Ibn. Ali who reported from Saeed Ibn Musayyub who said: The Prophet Muhammad SAW of Allah said: “O Allah, bless my people in their early mornings.” (Musharraf, 2018). Therefore, sleeping after Fajr is not appropriate for Muslims, since they actually were ordered to stay awake after Fajr and spend time by praying or remembering Allah until the sun has risen. As has been also narrated by Anas bin Malik as follow: The Messenger of Allah Muhammad SAW said: “Whoever prays Fajr in the congregation, then sits remembering Allah until the sun has risen, then
he prays two Rak‘ah, then for him is the reward like that of a Hajj and Umrah.” (Musharraf, 2018). However, it was not conveyed further about the negative impact that would occur, especially on person’s psychological condition if returned to sleep after dawn prayers. As mentioned above, based on the Pearson correlations, it can be concluded that there is a correlation between the Haiullah and Depression. Furthermore, based on the calculated r value it is also known that there is a correlation between the Haiullah and Stress and also between the Haiullah and Anxiety. Based on the significance value (2-tailed) it can be concluded that there are significant correlations between Haiullah and depression, Haiullah and stress, and also Haiullah variable and the respondent’s anxiety level. Thus, findings in this study are sufficient to support the support for muslims of sleep after dawn prayers as stated above. However, this research was conducted in Indonesia, where the time of night and day is quite balanced, meaning that the subjects involved in this study may not need sleep time after Fajr compared to research conducted by Bahammam et al., (2012).

From the above explanation, it is better not to sleep after Fajr Prayer but to maximize the time therein with activities that are beneficial and not time wasting. However, Islamic teachings also teach about the importance of sleeping when we need it especially if we live in a country with four seasons, where in certain seasons, the night time is shorter than the daytime, so that people in that area need hours of sleep after Fajr prayer before starting activities in the morning. In particular, a nap as short as 10 minutes can improve alertness and performance for 2.5-4 hours. A recent study assessed the health effects of napping in 23,681 healthy Greek adolescents for an average of about six years. After controlling for potential confounders, the researchers concluded that those who napped at least three times weekly for about half an hour had 37% lower coronary mortality than those who did not nap (Naska et al., 2007). According to Goldschmied et al (2015) reported that Nappers were able to tolerate frustration significantly longer than non-nappers. The results of the study of Hussein et al. (2019) in epilepsy patients showed that the number of attack decrease with the midday nap and early night prayers. Actually, Islam not only asks man to sleep, but also stresses that it is a need that must be met. Each Muslim must allow the body its rights to rest, after a long day’s work and carrying out various exhausting activities. From the hadith of the Prophet Muhammad SAW on the story of Abu Darda, who, amongst others, had not wanted to sleep at night because he had wanted to do night worship, Salman, his friend had rebuked him, saying: “Your Lord has rights over you, your self has rights over you and your wife has the right over you. Give those rights their due.” When the Prophet Muhammad SAW heard the words of Salman, the Prophet said: “Salman spoke the truth.” The above hadith requires each Muslim to emphasis the body’s health condition, by allowing it to get enough rest, and sleep is a need which cannot be neglected. In fact it is the natural urge of every living thing, which is why every person will sleep at a specific time at night, and wake at a specific time in the day, without needing to be woken up by anyone. Hence, sleep is one of life’s main needs, for all living things. This goes along with modern sleep scientists who believe that sleep deprivation has deleterious effects on mental concentration, memory, mood, and quality of life. In addition, recent data indicate that sleep deprivation impairs endocrine and metabolic functions (Goel et al., 2009) and sleep is an important biological mechanism in the formation of the immune system (Akinc & Başar, 2021).

5 CONCLUSIONS

The present study finds that there is a relationship between Haiullah (sleeping after Fajr prayer) on a person’s negative emotional states (depression, anxiety, and stress). Not many studies have been conducted to examine the effect of Haiullah on mental health conditions. So the findings in this study are expected to add literature and reference sources related to the influence of Haiullah on a person's mental health condition. However, this research is far from perfect and needs to be further developed. The significant correlation between Haiullah behavior and levels of depression, anxiety and stress in a person in this study needs to be studied further with a qualitative approach to obtain more comprehensive results. This research was also conducted in Indonesia, where the time lag between Isha prayer and Fajr prayer is quite possible for a person to get an adequate number of hours of sleep, in contrast to countries where the time lag between Isha and Fajr prayers is very close.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This research was funded by LPPM Universitas Diponegoro.
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