

The Effectiveness of Using Digital Learning Media in Improving Understanding of Islamic Belief in Class X of MAS Al-Ittihadiyah Sei Berombang, Panai Hilir District, Labuhanbatu Regency

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Abstract

This study discusses the effectiveness of using digital learning media in improving understanding of Islamic aqidah in MAS Al Ittihadiyah Sei Berombang. The background of this research is about the learning system using digital media in improving understanding of Islamic aqidah. The purpose of this study is to determine whether the effectiveness of using digital media can improve understanding of aqidah compared to before using digital media. This type of research is quantitative. The data collection technique used is a test. The research design used is a quasi-experimental design. Researchers collected data by giving pre-tests and post-tests to the control class and experimental class to test the existing hypothesis. This hypothesis testing uses an independent sample t-test on the SPSS version 21 program. The results of this study indicate that the use of digital media in learning is considered effective in improving understanding of Islamic aqidah, indicated by the average post-test of the experimental class being higher than the control class, namely (76.13 and 65.63). And there is a difference between learning using digital media and without using digital media in improving PAI learning achievement which is shown from the independent sample t-test with significance results (2-tailed) at equal variances assumed, namely $0.000 < 0.05$ (significance level 5%). So it can be concluded that the hypothesis is accepted.

Keywords: Digital media, Understanding, Islamic Aqidah, Achievement.

INTRODUCTION

The development of the era has brought changes to various behaviors, and currently the world has entered the fourth industrial revolution period which is marked by the increasing integration of virtual and digital systems (Harahap & Rafika, 2020). So the use of digital media has now become a necessity for the education sector. Rapid digital transformation requires various educational institutions, including Islamic religious education, to adapt to the use of digital media in the learning process (Rohmiati et al., 2025). Every teacher is required to be able to use the internet as a means of digital learning. This expertise includes knowledge of various applications on the internet and technical skills in handling digital media devices. The use of digital media can enhance the learning experience and lead to improved student academic performance. Interactive systems in digital media play a role in enhancing the broad learning experience by actively involving students in the process of acquiring knowledge (Qulub & Budiyo, 2022) (Kurniasih, 2023).

In addition, in the context of Islamic religious education, digital media can be a means to deliver more varied and contextual materials, so that students can more easily understand religious values and teachings in everyday life. For example, the use of interactive learning applications and learning videos has been shown to increase students' interest in learning Islam (Susanti et al., 2024); (Zen et al., 2023). A study conducted in several secondary schools in Indonesia showed that students who used digital applications in religious learning had a better understanding of the material compared to those who only used conventional learning methods (Pahrudin & Jatmiko, 2024); (Wahyudi et al., 2024).

In addition, digital media also allows teachers to access a wider and more up-to-date range of reference sources, which can be used to enrich learning materials. Thus, the integration

of digital media in Islamic religious education learning is not only relevant but also necessary to face the challenges of education in the 4.0 era (Farouk et al., 2024) (Gita Gania Godelova Koto, 2024). MAS Al-Ittihadiyah Sei Berombang in Panai Hilir District, Labuhanbatu Regency has not used digital learning media in Islamic aqidah learning activities. Based on the results of interviews conducted with teachers at MAS Al-Ittihadiyah Sei Berombang, it was found that the learning media used were only in the form of boards and written learning cards. Based on this, the researcher is interested in raising the research title Effectiveness of Using Digital Learning Media in Improving Understanding of Islamic Aqidah at MAS Al-Ittihadiyah Sei Berombang. Based on this background, the formulation of the problem of this research is whether the use of digital media is effective in improving Islamic aqidah learning at MAS Al-Ittihadiyah Sei Berombang?.

Islamic religious education plays an important role in shaping the character and personality of students, especially in terms of faith or aqidah. A strong understanding of aqidah will be the main foundation in living life according to Islamic teachings. However, in practice, learning Islamic Aqidah is often considered monotonous and less interesting, especially if it only relies on lecture or memorization methods (Khaidir & Suud, 2020). Along with the development of the era and technology, the world of education is required to adapt to a more modern and effective approach (Shiddiqoh, 2024). One innovation that is now widely applied is the use of digital learning media. This media not only provides more concrete visualizations, but is also able to increase students' interest in learning and active participation in the learning process. At MAS Al-Ittihadiyah Sei Berombang, Panai Hilir District, Labuhanbatu Regency, the use of digital learning media is still relatively new, especially in the subject of Islamic Aqidah. Therefore, it is important to examine the extent to which digital learning media is effective in improving students' understanding of Islamic Aqidah material.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a quantitative approach. Quantitative research is a study that basically uses a deductive approach. The research method used in this study is a quantitative method. Quantitative research emphasizes testing theories through measuring research variables with numbers and conducting data analysis with statistical procedures. This study uses a deductive approach that aims to test hypotheses (Barella et al., 2024). The variables measured are usually using research instruments so that data consisting of numbers can be analyzed based on statistical procedures (Darmawan et al., 2023).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In this study, the digital learning media used include interactive videos, PowerPoint-based presentation slides equipped with images and animations, and application-based digital quizzes (such as Quizizz or Google Form). This media is designed to deliver Islamic Creed material in a more interesting, interactive, and easy-to-understand way for students. The materials presented include: the definition of Creed, the pillars of faith, and the implementation of creed in everyday life. During the learning process, the teacher acts as a facilitator, while students are actively involved in discussions, answering quizzes, and watching digital media broadcasts.

Normality Test Results

Table 1. Results of the Pretest Normality Test
Tests of Normality

	Kelas	Shapiro-Wilk		
		Statistic	df	Sig.
Ability to Understand Aqidah	PreTest Experiment	.940	31	.084
	Control PreTest	.952	32	.166

a. Lilliefors Significance Correction

Based on Table 1. the results of the Shapiro-Wilk test with a significance level of 5% show that the significance value (Sig.) in the pre-test of the experimental class and the control class are 0.84 and 0.166. Which means that the data value is greater than the significance level of 5% (0.05). Which means that the data is also greater than the significance level of 5% (0.05). So the normality test in the pretest is $0.84 > 0.05$ and $0.166 > 0.05$. So it can be concluded that the data is normally distributed.

Table 2. Posttest Normality Test Results
Tests of Normality

	Kelas	Shapiro-Wilk		
		Statistic	df	Sig.
Ability to Understand Aqidah	PostTest Experiment	.959	31	.268
	PostTest Control	.951	32	.149

*. This is a lower bound of the true significance.

a. Lilliefors Significance Correction

Based on Table 1. the results of the Shapiro-Wilk test with a significance level of 5% show that the significance value (Sig.) in the post-test of the experimental class and the control class are 0.182 and 0.149. Which means that the data value is greater than the significance level of 5% (0.05). Which means that the data is also greater than the significance level of 5% (0.05). So the normality test in the pretest is $0.268 > 0.05$ and $0.268 > 0.05$. So it can be concluded that the data is normally distributed.

Homogeneity Test Results

Table 3. Results of the pretest homogeneity test
Test of Homogeneity of Variance

		Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
Ability to Understand Aqidah	Based on Mean	.018	1	61	.894
	Based on Median	.077	1	61	.783
	Based on Median and with adjusted df	.077	1	60.759	.783
	Based on trimmed mean	.017	1	61	.895

Based on table 3. the results of the homogeneity of variance test with a significance level of 5% show that the significance value (Sig.) based on the mean pre-test data of the control class and the experimental class is 0.894. Which means that the data value is greater than the significance level of 5% (0.05). So the homogeneity test in the pre-test is $0.894 > 0.05$. So it can be concluded that the data is distributed homogeneously.

**Table 4. Results of the Posttest Homogeneity Test
 Test of Homogeneity of Variance**

		Levene Statistic	df1	df2	Sig.
Ability to Understand Aqidah	Based on Mean	.372	1	61	.544
	Based on Median	.231	1	61	.633
	Based on Median and with adjusted df	.231	1	57.416	.633
	Based on trimmed mean	.292	1	61	.591

Based on table 4. the results of the homogeneity of variance test with a significance level of 5% show that the significance value (Sig.) based on the mean pre-test data of the control class and the experimental class is 0.544. Which means that the data value is greater than the significance level of 5% (0.05). So the homogeneity test in the posttest is $0.544 > 0.05$. So it can be concluded that the data is distributed homogeneously.

Hypothesis Test Results

Ha: There is a significant influence of digital learning media on the ability to understand Islamic aqidah

Ho: There is no significant influence of digital learning media on the ability to understand Islamic beliefs

**Table 5. Average Posttest of Experimental Class and Control Class.
 Group Statistics**

	Kelas	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Ability to Understand Aqidah	PostTest Experiment	31	76.13	9.722	1.746
	PostTest Control	32	65.63	8.304	1.468

**Table 6. Effectiveness of Increasing Understanding of Islamic Belief Ability Using the t-
 Test**

Independent Samples Test

		Levene's Test for Equality of Variances		t-test for Equality of Means						
		F	Sig.	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	Std. Error Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
									Lower	Upper
Ability to Understand Aqidah	Equal variances assumed	.372	.544	4.616	61	.000	10.504	2.275	5.954	15.054
	Equal variances not assumed			4.605	58.912	.000	10.504	2.281	5.939	15.069

Based on table 6, the sig. value (2-tailed) = 0.000. The value of $0.000 < 0.05$, means that H_a is accepted. Thus, there is a significant difference between digital learning media and the ability to understand Islamic aqidah.

CONCLUSION

In the sense that students who are taught using digital media experience an increase in their ability to understand Islamic aqidah. As seen from table 5, there is a difference in the average obtained from the control class and the experimental class. Where the average of the experimental class, namely 76.13, is greater than the control class, which is only 65.63. Based on this, it can be concluded that there is an increase in the ability to understand Islamic aqidah using digital learning media. Teachers and students respond positively to the use of digital media because it is considered more interesting, interactive, and relevant to technological developments that are familiar with the lives of today's students. Thus, the use of digital learning media can be used as an alternative effective and innovative learning method in improving the quality of understanding Islamic Aqidah at the MA (Madrasah Aliyah) level, especially at MAS Al-Ittihadiyah Sei Berombang.

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