# THE ANALYSIS OF ISLAMIC CHARACTERS IN FORMING CARING BEHAVIOR OF NURSING STUDENT

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#### Abstract

Nurse is health workers who interacts most with clients so that their services become one of the benchmarks for the success of health services in the hospital. The ability to pay attention to others, intellectual, technical and interpersonal skills of nurses are reflected in their caring behavior when providing nursing care. Nurse's caring behavior is closely related to the Islamic character. Islam itself is seen not only as a religion but also as a way of life that guides people in peace and compassion. Muslims believe that the teachings of their religion carry all aspects of life and they seek to keep God at the center of consciousness, intention and action. The research objective was to determine the relationship between Islamic characters and the caring behavior of nursing students. The study used a descriptive analytic cross sectional design and analyzed using the Spearman Rank test with 93 respondents. The results showed that the majority of respondents had good caring behavior, with the conclusion that there was a significant relationship between Islamic characters and student caring behavior. Religion and the environment can be important factors in the formation of Islamic character, which is shown by the nurse's caring behavior towards clients.

Keywords: Caring Behavior; Islamic Character; Nurse

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## 1. Introduction

Nursing is a form of health professional service that is at the forefront of dealing with client health problems for 24 hours (Potter & Perry, 2009). Besides, nurses in health services are the health workers who most interact with clients so that nursing services become one of the benchmarks for the success of health services in hospitals. Hence, nurses are required to be able to serve clients wholeheartedly and require the ability to pay attention to others, intellectual, technical, and interpersonal skills that are reflected in caring behavior when providing nursing care to clients (Ray, 2010).

Caring in nursing is a form of behavior and performance of nurse in caring for clients (Potter & Perry, 2009). In addition, caring is an ideal moral attitude that nurse must have in fostering interpersonal relationships and developing human values. According to Watson in the book Alligood (2014), caring is a type of relationship and transaction needed between caregivers and recipients to enhance and protect clients as a human, thereby affecting the client's ability to recover (Morrison, 2009). However, along with the development of science, it was found that the caring behavior of nurse was closely related to the Islamic character of each individual nurse (Ismail, Hattakit & Chinawong, 2015).

Islamic character is an attitude where individuals try to place their actions and life into a wider, richer and more meaningful context. It is related to the meaning, value, and purpose of human life. In very bad and unexpected conditions, these characters are able to guide humans to find meaning and can also guide humans in achieving their goals. Humans can give meaning through various kinds of beliefs. The search for meaning for nurses should be able to link the provision of nursing services on the basis of worship to God (Stefan, 2010).

According to Muslims, Islam is not only a religion but also a way of life that guides people in peace, compassion, and forgiveness (Ismail, Hattakit & Chinawong, 2015). The main principles of caring from an Islamic perspective are based on God's revelations which are permanent, and those who practice caring for others will receive many blessings. Muslims believe that religious teachings carry all aspects of life, and they seek to keep God at the center of their consciousness, intentions, and actions (Stefan, 2010).

Previous research conducted by Anggraini (2014) stated that there is a significant relationship between spiritual intelligence and caring behavior. Meanwhile, Ismail, Hattakit and Chinawong (2015) state that nursing in Islam is closely related to mutual care, so that caring appears as a self-calling to solve various problems of each sick individual from the bio, psycho, social and spiritual dimensions. The research that has been done previously, focuses more on collecting data on nurses in hospitals where they have different spiritual intelligences but in the current research, data collection is focused on nursing students who live and stay in Islamic boarding schools. The goal is to see how far the Islamic character attached to each nursing student affects their caring behavior when doing nursing care. This is what makes it different from previous research that has been done.

The results of the preliminary study by conducting an interview with one of the clinical instructor (CI) room at Saiful Anwar Hospital Malang, stated that there are still around 30% of students who work in the room lacking caring attitudes, especially in patients treated in intensive rooms. Lack of initiative towards care and passivity when assigned to tasks by seniors. When dealing with patients, students are still lacking in approaching the patient so that there is a lack of friendly therapeutic relationships that can lead to feelings of pleasure in the patient. Practical students only seem busy checking, taking notes and doing routines, then the patient is left alone.

This may cause the patient to feel they do not get enough empathy while being treated so that when the nursing student comes back, the patient also ends up showing an indifferent attitude. This shows that caring has not really been formed in the personality of each nursing student.

From the description of the preliminary study, this condition is contrary to previous research if spiritual intelligence is closely related to caring attitudes because the basis of caring behavior comes from the individual's spiritual intelligence. Therefore, the researcher wants to explore the Islamic character in forming caring attitudes for nursing students who live in Islamic boarding schools.

#### 2. Method

This study used a descriptive analytic research design with a cross sectional type that identified the relationship between the two independent variables and the dependent variable. This research was conducted in February 2021 and lasted for 1 week at STIKes Hafshawaty Pesantren Zainul Hasan, Probolinggo Regency. Respondents in this study were nursing students of STIKes Hafshawaty Pesantren Zainul Hasan with a population of 295 people and a sample of 93 students was obtained. Data collection using questionnaires (Cresweel, 2013).

#### 3. Results and Discussion

Table 1 shows that the largest respondents in this study were women as many as 54 people (58%) and it is known that the majority of respondents in this study were adolescents (19-22 years) as many as 83 people (89%). We also know from the table shows that the majority of respondents in this study have lived in a Islamic boarding school (*Pesantren*) for 1-3 years, as many as 44 people (47%), while 15 people (16%) have never had the experience of living in a Pesantren. Table 1 also presents the Islamic character variable data. From the table, the results show that the Islamic character of nursing students is dominant in Excellent scores, namely a number of 55 respondents with a frequency of 59.1%. Other than that, the table presents data on caring behavior variables. From the table, it is found that the caring behavior of nursing students is dominant in Excellent scores, namely a number of 43 respondents with a frequency of 46.2%.

Table 1. Respondents Characteristics Based on Gender, Age, Experience, Islamic Character and

Data Frequency Percent (%) Characteristics (f) (%) Gender Male 39 42 Female 54 58 Age (Years Old) 19 - 22 83 89	_				
Gender Male 39 42 Female 54 58 Age (Years Old)					
Male       39       42         Female       54       58         Age (Years Old)       54					
Female 54 58 Age (Years Old)					
Age (Years Old)					
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					
10 22 83 90					
17 - 44 03 09					
> 22 10 11					
Experience (Year)					
Never 15 16					
< 1 20 22					
1 - 3 44 47					
> 3 14 15					
Islamic Character					
Excellent 55 59.1					
Good 30 32.3	i				
Adequate 8 8.6					
Caring Behavior					
Excellent 43 46.2					
Good 38 40.9	ı				
Adequate 12 12.9	ı				

Table 2 shows the cross-tabulation between the two research variables, where the data obtained were dominated by respondents with excellent Islamic characters, so caring behavior was also carried out well with a total frequency of 35 respondents. Furthermore, it is followed by quite excellent Islamic characters with caring behavior which is also excellent. In Table 3, it is shown that the results of statistical tests using the Spearman Rank test show the results of  $\rho$  value = 0.000, the strength of the relationship (r) = 0.385. Thus it can be concluded that the two variables have a significant relationship ( $\rho$  <0.05), which means that there is a relationship between Islamic character and the caring

behavior of nursing students. In addition, the two variables also have a fairly strong relationship value.

Table 2. Tabulation of Islamic Character Variables with Student Caring Behavior

Islamic	Caring Behavior			- Total
Character	Excellent	Good	Adequate	Total
Excellent	35	16	4	55
Good	4	21	5	30
Adequate	4	1	3	8
Total	43	38	12	93

Table 3. Analysis of the Spearman Rank Test Results of Islamic Character Variables with Student Caring

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		Caring Behavior		
Islamic Character	r	0.358		
	$\rho$	0.00		
	n	93		

## **Islamic Character of Nursing Students**

Based on the research data in Table 1, it shows that the Islamic character of nursing students shows a excellent level with a percentage of 59.1% indicating that on average students have had and implemented a true Islamic character. This is in accordance with the opinion expressed by Nuriman and Fauzan (2017) that religion is one of the foundations for the moral formation of every individual or human. As an example, Islam has been taught how to do a vertical human relationship with Allah SWT and a horizontal relationship with other humans. Furthermore, this moral will later form the Islamic character which is carried out by humans every day in everyday life. From this study, the magnitude of Islamic character can be due to all respondents being Muslim where morals have been previously formed on each individual. Another opinion conveyed according to Samsualam, Nontji and Saleh (2015) states that the teachings of Islam that have been taught by the Prophet Muhammad # are considered as one of the ways of life of Muslims in behaving and behaving well in everyday life. It is this character reflection that makes a person have a stand and a view of life that will continue to develop according to the level of knowledge, education and experience. From this opinion, it supports the results of the research where the data on the characteristics of the respondents stated that most of the respondents had lived in Pesantren for 1-3 years, namely 47% so that the Islamic character of the respondents appeared dominant in the results of the study.

## **Caring Behavior of Nursing Student**

Based on Table 1, the caring behavior of nursing students is dominant in excellent scores, namely a number of 43 respondents with a percentage of 46.2%. From the research data, it can be concluded that the majority of respondents have an excellent caring behavior that has been formed in

each individual. This is in accordance with the opinion of Ismail, Hatthakit and Chinawong (2015) which states that caring is one of the behaviors that can be formed due to religious obedience and congenital nature that a person has. There are so many factors that influence nursing student caring behavior, for example internal factors and external factors. Internal factors include: knowledge, perception, emotion, motivation and so on which function to process stimuli from outside and external factors including the surrounding environment, both physical and non-physical such as: climate, human, social, economic, cultural and so on (Samsualam, Hadju, Nontji & Saleh, 2015).

From the results of the study it is clear that religious and environmental factors around the respondents also influence the caring behavior of each individual. This is in accordance with Rassool's opinion in Ismail, Hatthakit, Chinawong, (2015) which states that Islam is one of the things besides that, caring in Islam is defined as 3 things including: Intention, thought, and action. Intention and thought can be defined as an understanding of what, when, who will be treated and for what purpose. Action is defined as how and anything related to the knowledge, abilities and resources that are embedded in the processes and outcomes of caring itself.

## Relationship between Islamic Character and Caring Behavior of Nursing Student

Based on Table 2, an excellent Islamic character coupled with also an excellent caring behavior is the largest number of 35 respondents. Furthermore, it is followed by a quite good Islamic characters coupled with also quite good caring behavior. Whereas in Table 3, it is found that the research results show  $\rho$  value = 0.00 ( $\rho$  <0.05) which means that there is a significant relationship between Islamic characters and the caring behavior of nursing students. The results of this study are in accordance with research conducted by Ismail, Hatthakit and Chinawong (2015) which states that Islamic culture can form caring which can improve the quality of service to patients and families. The results of this study indicate that Islam has a great impact on the formation of caring attitudes because in fact every individual gets a touch of Islam which can soften the conscience, so that caring behavior will be formed naturally. In line with this opinion, according to Nuriman and Fauzan (2017), Islam will shape the morals, habits and values adopted by students. In addition, it is also explained that Islam in general has influenced most of the perspectives, attitudes and characters of each individual and leads to the path of goodness.

From the research results it has also been explained that most of the students who became respondents, as many as 74% already have experience living in Islamic boarding schools (*Pesantren*). *Pesantren* is one of the educational

institutions that apply Islamic principles, sharia and teachings which greatly assist students in developing themselves, gaining knowledge which will later become provisions in social life. Therefore, Islamic character and caring will be formed in each individual who lives in the Pesantren. From the results of other studies on the characteristics of the respondents, it can be seen that most of them are aged 19-22 years. The age from the time the individual is born to the present. The older, the more mature a person will think and act, including having a caring attitude in each individual. In addition, the more mature the age is, the more trusted it is in the community compared to the immature age. Therefore, caring is an attitude that does not grow by itself, but grows with the experiences gained by establishing relationships with other (Wahyudi, Eny, Maria & Syisnawati, 2017).

#### 4. Conclusion

Based on the results of the research, it can be concluded that there is a significant relationship between the Islamic character and the caring behavior of nursing students. This research is expected to be used as a reference for nursing education institutions that have Islamic boarding schools to improve caring attitudes through good Islamic character education for students. In addition, socialization is needed to the community to be more open to Islamic character education in Islamic boarding schools in shaping good individual behavior. Furthermore, to improve the results of this research, further research is needed on other factors that influence the caring behavior of nursing students besides the Islamic character, so that caring behavior can be realized and started as early as possible in nursing education institutions.

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