



HARMONIZATION OF CULTURE AND RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS OF MULTIFAITH FAMILIES IN THE RELIGIOUS MODERATION VILLAGE OF MALANG CITY

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Abstract:

Multireligious families can be interpreted as families that are different from families in general, namely families that adhere to various religions, for example Islam and Christianity. In families of different religions, there are always differences that can cause conflict. This is caused by quarrels in the family, religious conflicts or differences in culture and religious traditions. However, there are harmonious multireligious families in three moderate religious villages in Malang City, this can be used as a reference for concepts and harmonization of religious differences in the family. This research is categorized as empirical research or field research. In this study, field research was used to obtain objective, actual, and strong data. This research begins with the first stage of observation, namely seeing the reality in the field. Researchers will see and observe the atmosphere, culture and religious traditions in three moderate religious villages in Malang City. Second Interview, Researchers will conduct in-depth interviews related to the conception and harmonization of multireligious families both in terms of culture and religious traditions. The implementation of multireligious families avoids prejudice against other religious beliefs by focusing on universal humanity. Opening up discussion space to understand differences and avoid conflict in the family. By conducting various community activities involving various religious elements in an effort to build understanding and avoid social segregation. Workshops, interfaith meetings, and inter-youth dialogues to introduce the values of religious moderation.

Keywords: Cultural Conception, Religious Tradition, and Multireligious Family.

INTRODUCTION

A multi-religious family can be defined as a family that is different from families in general, namely a family that adheres to various religions, for example Islam and Christianity. Even though there are different religions in one family, they still live in harmony. In a family of different religions, there are always differences that can cause conflict. This is caused by quarrels in the family or religious conflicts. However, if a family member changes religion, there will be rejection from other family members who no longer accept the family member who changed religion as part of the family. (Wulan dkk, 2021)

It is not uncommon for interfaith families to live in peace and harmony without conflict. Because they have been taught the principle of moderation by their parents, as is the case with multifaith families in three religious moderation villages in Malang City, they also understand the importance of this principle of life in order to live in harmony. In addition, a tolerant attitude plays a very important role in building a harmonious family in a multifaith family. The most basic prerequisite for building a harmonious household in a multifaith family is the awareness and attitude of protecting each other, respecting each other, loving each other, and most importantly tolerance and good communication (Syatriadin, 2020). The attitude of solidarity and moderation (washatiya) is one of the general characteristics of Islam

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and is a fundamental feature that distinguishes Muslims from other people. (Qardhawi, 2019) Therefore, Muslims themselves should understand the nature of tolerance, but outside Islam there are still many radical Islamic groups who are unknowingly dividing their own religion.

In September 2023, the Ministry of Religion of Malang City launched three religious moderation villages, which include Wagir District, Sukun District, and Ampelgading District. From the three villages, there are families who have multiple religions, whether from the father, mother, or child. In this case, the head of the Ministry of Religion hopes that there will be an emphasis on the urgency of togetherness and moderation in religion to realize harmony in the Indonesian state, because religious diversity in Indonesia has great potential that must be protected and fostered, especially through the religious moderation program. (Rudianto: Ministry of Religion of Malang City, 2023) The Malang City Religious Moderation Village is a program launched by the Malang City Government with the aim of displaying, communicating and practicing the values of religious moderation in society. The purpose of this program is to create an atmosphere of harmony and tolerance between religious communities in order to reduce the possibility of radicalization and increase social peace and also to promote an attitude of mutual respect and understanding of differences in religion, culture, and customs that exist in society. And strengthen the sense of belonging and unity regardless of religious, ethnic, or cultural differences. The religious moderation village also aims to reduce the possibility of extremist views emerging through a more inclusive and peaceful religious moderation approach.

Islam is the majority religion in Indonesia and also as a perfect religion, a religion that complements all previous religions. The growth of Islam that was spread in Medina by the Prophet Muhammad SAW and then spread throughout the world, is none other than the process of preaching by Muslim leaders who are the core of Islamic teachings (Hasyim, 2019). Islam developed because it taught morals and behavior that did not discriminate against caste, tribe, race, and lineage. Social harmony is always maintained thanks to the solidarity of Muslims with each other. That is why, seen from a national perspective, Indonesian society is a pluralistic society, which includes many tribes, races, languages, customs, regions.

Empirically, the importance of understanding religious culture and traditions for multi-religious families in three moderate religious villages in Malang city, one of which is by looking at the concepts and harmonization carried out by each multi-religious family. This is none other than an effort to strengthen religious harmony in Indonesia through the smallest unit. Multi-religious families face major challenges in creating harmony. (Roviudin, 2017) One of the most important values that must be fostered is tolerance. Each family member must have a deep understanding of their respective religious beliefs and respect each other's differences.

Respecting differences is not limited to religious aspects alone, but also applies to culture, customs, and outlooks on life that may differ between family members. Multi-religious families face challenges, especially related to differences in religious obedience. Each religion has a different way of holding worship. This can be a major challenge, especially when the most important holidays of all religions fall at the same time. For example, Christmas, Eid al-Fitr, Nyepi and others. The urgency

of this research is to describe and analyze the harmonization of religious culture and traditions of multi-religious families in three moderate religious villages in Malang City.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research is categorized as empirical research or field research (Mardiasih, 2020). In this study, field research was used to obtain objective, actual, and strong data. This research begins with the first stage of observation, namely seeing the reality in the field. Researchers will see and observe the atmosphere, culture and religious traditions in three religious moderation villages in Malang City. Second Interview, Researchers will conduct in-depth interviews related to the conception and harmonization of multi-religious families both in terms of culture and religious traditions. This interview process is freely structured which aims to obtain in-depth data from informants. The first resource person is a member of a multi-religious family, the second is the sub-district head as the person in charge of the religious moderation village in the local sub-district, and researchers also conduct interviews with the community to support research data. Third Documentation, This documentation is carried out to complete the existing research data, meaning that in addition to researchers conducting interviews, researchers also record, record, and search for other data related to the concept and harmonization of religious traditions and multi-religious family culture. Which will later be combined to support research analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Harmonization as an effort to establish mutually supportive relationships between different cultural elements. Focus on achieving cultural harmony in families with members from different religious backgrounds. The role of the family is the first place to instill values of tolerance between religions. Daily practices that reflect mutual respect in multi-religious families (for example, celebrating religious holidays with mutual respect). Adjustment of family traditions of different religions in order to maintain their respective cultural identities but still synergize. Real examples: celebrating religious holidays together, sharing typical foods for each celebration, and talking about beliefs with respect.

Religions found in this village: Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, and other religions. Each family practices their religious traditions at home, but still maintains harmonious relationships with neighbors and family members of different religions. Understanding that each religion has the right to practice its traditions and worship. Open discussions between family members about the importance of maintaining traditions without reducing respect for other religions. The practice of religious celebrations that are not only limited to internal celebrations of each religion, but also involvement in interfaith activities, such as sharing food on holidays or participating in religious events as a form of solidarity.

Religious moderation is an attitude that displays a balanced, tolerant, and non-extreme way of practicing religion. Maintaining social harmony by avoiding radicalization of religious understanding and prioritizing the principle of mutual respect.

Implementation of multifaith families avoids prejudice against other religious beliefs by focusing on universal humanity. Opening up discussion space to understand differences and avoid conflict within the family. By conducting various community activities involving various religious elements in an effort to build understanding and avoid social segregation. Workshops, interfaith meetings, and dialogues between youth to introduce the values of religious moderation. Challenges in accepting and understanding differences in perspectives on different beliefs. Social and political influences that can worsen attitudes of intolerance and extremism. Family and community education in instilling the values of tolerance and religious moderation from an early age.

History of the establishment of the Religious Moderation Village and the goal of creating peace between religious communities. The role of religious and community leaders in facilitating harmonious life between multi-religious families. Religious discussion forums, mutual cooperation, and cultural events involving various elements of society and religion. Collaboration between youth in social projects and sharing activities on religious holidays.

Harmonization of culture and religious traditions in multi-religious families is an important and complex issue, especially in a multicultural and multi-religious society like Indonesia. Multi-religious families usually consist of family members who have different religious beliefs, such as one partner who is Muslim and the other is Christian, Hindu, or Buddhist. In this context, harmonization is an important key to maintaining harmony, tolerance, and mutual understanding within the family. The following is a discussion related to the harmonization of culture and religious traditions in multi-religious families.

The family is the first social unit where a person learns the values of life, including religious values. In a multi-religious family, it is important for each family member to respect each other's religious beliefs. Tolerance in the family is the main foundation for harmony between different religious traditions. This can be achieved by avoiding fanatical or dogmatic attitudes towards a particular religion.

Teach children to appreciate differences and see them as cultural richness, not threats. Foster mutual respect among family members despite their different beliefs. Even though they have different religious beliefs, there are often universal traditions or values that can be accepted together. For example, values such as compassion, respect for parents, kindness to others, and honesty are moral principles that exist in many religions. In this context, families can celebrate these values together without imposing different religious practices. One example is celebrating major holidays together, even if not in the same way. For example, when Muslims celebrate Eid, Christian or Hindu families can give greetings or even share food.

Some families choose to celebrate certain religious celebrations together, for example by having a shared meal that is not tied to a particular religion, but still respects each other's beliefs. Dialogue is a process that is not only important in the context of multifaith families, but also in the wider society. In families with members of different religions, open communication is especially important. Family members should have space to discuss their beliefs without fear of being judged or blamed. Understanding each other's religions can create mutual understanding and reduce tensions that may arise from differences.

Religious education in multi-religious families must be carried out in an inclusive manner. This means educating children to understand different religions without imposing one particular religion as superior. This can also be done by teaching the history, traditions, and values of the religions that exist in the family in a balanced way. Giving children the freedom to choose their religion when they are old enough and can understand the choice wisely. Presenting religious education that prioritizes tolerance and mutual understanding between adherents of different religions.

Each religion has its own traditions and religious rituals. In a multi-religious family, it is important to provide space for family members to practice their worship or traditions. This creates a sense of mutual respect. Families with different religions can maintain balance by realizing and acknowledging the importance of religious rituals for each individual. In some cases, family members can accompany each other in religious activities, such as accompanying their partner to pray or celebrate a holiday, even though they do not participate in the worship. Multi-religious families not only face challenges within the family, but also in the social context and the surrounding environment. The surrounding community often has certain views or stereotypes about families that have members of different religions. In facing these challenges, multi-religious families need to prioritize the principles of unity and mutual support.

In a society that is still strongly influenced by certain religious sentiments, multi-religious families must be able to show that religious differences are not a barrier to building a harmonious family. Creating a safe space in the family, where each member feels comfortable expressing their feelings and experiences in the face of discrimination or differences of opinion outside the home. It is undeniable that multi-religious families may face conflict, especially related to differences in how to celebrate holidays, differences in religious education for children, or in determining major decisions such as marriage. To overcome this conflict, effective communication and a willingness to compromise are needed. Conflict resolution must be carried out by prioritizing mutual understanding and common interests. Both parties must prioritize the principle of dialogue and try to find a solution that is beneficial to all parties.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study, it can be concluded that the Harmonization of Culture and Religious Traditions in multi-religious families in the Religious Moderation Village of Malang City shows that harmonious life can be realized through tolerance and mutual understanding. Religious moderation is the key to maintaining harmony and unity amidst diversity. Each family plays an active role in creating an environment of mutual respect, both at the family level and in the wider community.

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