



History of Muhammadiyah: An Islamic Reform Movement in Indonesia

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ABSTRACT

Muhammadiyah is one of the largest Islamic organizations in Indonesia founded by K.H. Ahmad Dahlan in 1912. This organization emerged as a response to the religious practices of Muslims at that time that were mixed with local traditions that were not in accordance with the principle of tawhid. This article discusses the background of the establishment of Muhammadiyah, its vision and mission as a tajdid movement, and its contributions in education, social, and religious affairs in Indonesia. Utilizing a historical approach, this paper shows that Muhammadiyah is not only a religious movement but also plays an important role in the social reform of society.

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INTRODUCTION

Muhammadiyah, which was founded on November 18 1912 in Yogyakarta, is one of the largest modernist Islamic organizations in Indonesia. The name Muhammadiyah is taken from the name of the Prophet Muhammad, describing the enthusiasm of his followers to make the Prophet's sunnah their life guide. The founding of Muhammadiyah began with the anxiety of K.H. Ahmad Dahlan regarding community religious practices that are contaminated by elements of animism, dynamism and other local traditions. In this context, Muhammadiyah exists to purify Islamic teachings and encourage modernization in the educational and social fields. This article aims to explain the factors behind the founding of Muhammadiyah, the role of K.H. Ahmad Dahlan as the founder, as well as the contribution of this organization in socio-religious reform.

Muhammadiyah is known for its activities in various fields, such as education, health, economics and social. This organization has a network of schools, universities, hospitals, orphanages and many other social institutions. Muhammadiyah is also active in contributing to the progress of the nation and state, as well as fighting for Islamic values with an Indonesian perspective.

Apart from that, Muhammadiyah has a religious view that is not tied to a particular school of thought (firqah), emphasizing the importance of returning to the teachings of the Koran and Hadith as well as rational and contextual understanding.

RESEARCH METHODS

This paper uses a qualitative approach with descriptive analysis of historical data and relevant literature. The main sources used are official Muhammadiyah documents, scientific research results, and books discussing the history of this organization. The analysis was carried out to understand the historical context, objectives of its founding, and the role of Muhammadiyah in the lives of Indonesian society.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Muhammadiyah is one of the largest Islamic organizations in Indonesia which was founded on 18 November 1912 by KH Ahmad Dahlan in Yogyakarta. This organization aims to renew and advance the Muslim community through education, da'wah, social and community empowerment. Muhammadiyah focuses on developing moderate, rational and open Islamic teachings, and strives to answer the challenges of the times with a contextual and relevant approach.

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Muhammadiyah Founder Figure

K.H. Ahmad Dahlan, nicknamed Muhammad Darwis, was born in Yogyakarta on August 1 1868. He was the 12th descendant of Maulana Malik Ibrahim, one of the Walisongo. Ahmad Dahlan studied religion in Mecca, where he interacted with the thoughts of Islamic reformers such as Muhammad Abduh and Jamaluddin Al-Afghani. After returning to Indonesia, Ahmad Dahlan founded Muhammadiyah as a forum for spreading pure Islamic teachings and promoting modern education.

Background to the Establishment of Muhammadiyah

Muhammadiyah was founded in the midst of the condition of Indonesian Muslims who were backward educationally and socially, and influenced by colonialism and westernization. In addition, this movement also appears in response to:

Internal Factors: Impurity of religious practices, such as polytheism, bid'ah and khurafat which are widespread in society.

External Factors: Penetration of Western culture through colonial education which tended to be secular and Christianization programs supported by the Dutch government.

K.H. Ahmad Dahlan emphasized the importance of returning to the Al-Qur'an and Sunnah by interpreting Islamic teachings rationally and contextually to answer the challenges of the times.

Muhammadiyah Vision and Mission

Muhammadiyah's vision is to create an Islamic society that is truly based on the values of the Koran and Sunnah. In realizing this vision, Muhammadiyah has a mission to:

1. Establish pure monotheism.
2. Understand Islamic teachings rationally to answer life's problems.
3. Spreading Islamic teachings through the preaching of amar ma'ruf nahi munkar.
4. Actualizing Islamic values in personal, family and community life.

Characteristics of Muhammadiyah

Islamic Movement: Muhammadiyah prioritizes the teachings of the Koran and Sunnah as the basis of its movement.

Amar Ma'ruf Nahi Munkar Da'wah Movement: Muhammadiyah Da'wah is realized through charitable efforts in the fields of education, health and social affairs.

Tajdid Movement (Reformation): Muhammadiyah is committed to purifying Islamic teachings from deviations while developing innovations in responding to the challenges of the times.

Muhammadiyah contribution

Education: Muhammadiyah has established thousands of schools and colleges spread throughout Indonesia. This educational institution not only teaches general knowledge but also instills Islamic values.

Social: Muhammadiyah is active in providing social services through the establishment of hospitals, orphanages and community empowerment programs.

Religious: Muhammadiyah plays a role in purifying Islamic teachings and building awareness among the people to adhere to the values of monotheism.

CONCLUSION

Muhammadiyah is one of the largest Islamic organizations in Indonesia which has a vision to create a true Islamic society. Founded on the initiative of K.H. Ahmad Dahlan, this organization has made a major contribution to socio-religious reform in Indonesia through the tajdid movement, education and da'wah. By prioritizing the principle of amar ma'ruf nahi munkar, Muhammadiyah continues to be a role model in actualizing Islamic teachings amidst the dynamics of modern society.

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