Gandhi, Indonesian Islam, and Innovative Practices of Community Engagement at UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya-Indonesia

WAHIDAH ZEIN BR SIREGAR
VICE RECTOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Gandhi's principle in education

The unity of mind, body and soul & The emphasize on morality and ethics

- ▶ Gandhi once said: "Education means all-round drawing out of the best in child and man—body, mind, and spirit."
- As such, education becomes the basis of personality development in all dimensions—moral, mental, and emotional.
- ▶ "Sa Vidya Ya Vimuktaye," which means that with education we finally attain salvation

Indonesian Islam

- Islam in Indonesia has been known as unique usually called as Indonesian Islam
- Indonesia, as the biggest Muslim nation, has frequently been quoted as a country with Islam that is peaceful and moderate
- Islamic higher educational institutions are playing significant role to assure the continuation of the peaceful and moderate Islam that also promotes gender and child protection

The history of UINSA

- UINSA, previously IAINSA, was unique in terms of its relationship with community.
- The establishment of IAINSA was inspired and initiated by the society due to their realization on the importance of having Islamic higher educational institution.
- State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya, under the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia
 - Established in 1965, cited in Surabaya, East Java Province
 - Surabaya is the second largest city in Indonesia, population: 2,76 million.
 - East Java is the most populated province in Indonesia 39,2 million with 38 districts.
 - East Java is home for Nahdlatul Ulama, the largest Muslim organization in Indonesia
- We have nine faculties for 45 undergraduate study programs
- One postgraduate school that has 10 magistrate and 4 doctoral study programs.

Principles Reflected From The History

Two points can be concluded from history of UINSA:

- A. Community engagement is no peculiar and has actually been a value held by UINSA since the beginning
- B. Awareness on the importance of Religious education approach for the character-based education

UINSA and Gandhi Values

UINSA

- Smart
- Pious
- Honorable

Gandhi

- Ethics
- Morality

Gandhi values in UINSA Values

- Gandhi promotes Values of the importance of ethics and morality
- One of the reflection of the value of morality is the importance of being useful for others
- One of the values embraced by Muslim is rahmatan lil alamien'

Morality and UCE

- The prophet saying "khoirunnnasi anfa'uhum linnasi" was one of the motto in UINSA
- Community engagement is a reflection of this commitment
- ▶ UCE is the value that is going to be incorporated in the three dharma: Education, Research, and Community outreach,

The Values and principles of Gandhi and the harmony with UINSA dream

- Peace and Tolerance are among the most basic principles of Gandhi
- These surely are in line with the values held high by UINSA as we try to promote the peaceful Islam that will bring benefit to all mankind and that has respect towards others

Innovative Practices on Community Engagement at UINSA

- 1. Policy
- 2. Extending area of community engagement
- 3. Variation of methods
- 4. gender

1. Policy

- ▶ UCE Strategic Planning
- Explicitly mention UCE in the curricula
- ▶ Implicitly mention UCE in the curricula
- Policy on gender equality and mainstreaming
- Existing institution on research and community engagement

2. Extending number of participants area of community engagement

2017: 2371 students

➤ 2018: 2554 students

➤ 2019: 3358 students

These are categorized as regular provincial based engagement

- We also have thematic issue engagement: literacy, micro economics, and CSR
- ▶ The area covered 88 villages within 6 regions of East Java

Currently we also sent students other province outside Java island, that is NTT-east Nusa Tenggara

Some students also practice engagement to other countries such as the Netherlands and Hongkong.

3. Variations of Method

- ▶ Before 2015, we used PAR approach
- ▶ Since 2015, we use PAR, ABCD, and CBR

4. Gender

- Gender issues are still in high occurrence in Indonesia
- UINSA is committed to empower those who are not fortunate and or marginalized
- One of the examples that has been going on till now is of our effort to develop a gender friendly teaching books
- As mentioned previously, we have policy on gender equality and mainstreaming.

Religious education as the basis for character building

As mentioned previously:

UINSA, was IAINSA, is built with spirit and awareness that religious educational approach is important and strategic for character building

The vision is that if UINSA succeeds in promoting the values of peace, tolerance, and moderate religiosity trough the UCE, the community (so called Ummah) and the nation will achieve the Salvation

"Sa Vidya Ya Vimuktaye,"

ISLAM Rahmatan lil alamien