

# Sirah Nabawiyah as a Media For Dakwah for Children Through Islamic Songs

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**Abstract.** This research aims to introduce children to the noble human figure beloved of Allah SWT, namely Muhammad Rasulullah SAW, the infallible figure of the last prophet and apostle who was sent by Allah to the face of the earth whose task was to guide humans from the realm of *zahiliyah* to the realm of bright light. The Prophet Muhammad had noble morals and loved children so much that the children loved him. The Prophet Muhammad really loved orphans and loved playing with children. The Prophet Muhammad taught the science of monotheism to children. The first revelation that the prophet Muhammad received when he came down to Hiro's cave was Iqra's command to read. By reading, smart and intelligent children will be created. Every human being who acquires knowledge of Shari'a or *fadhiliah diniyah* is inspired by the prophet Muhammad, whom Allah sent down revelations to him. This research uses qualitative methods, obtaining data and information through in-depth interviews with North Sumatra religious figures as sources, also conducting laboratory searches, library/literacy searches of Sirah Nabawiyah history books, indexed journals, magazines, newspapers and other related information sources. with the Nabawiyah Sirah. The results of the research prove that Sirah Nabawiyah can be used as a medium for da'wah for children by introducing Islamic songs containing poetry and song lyrics, the history of the life of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, starting from birth, childhood, adolescence, adulthood, marriage, the struggle of the Apostle, the noble character of the Apostle until death.

**Keywords:** sirah nabawiyah, da'wah, songs, children

## 1 Introducing

Sirah Nabawiyah is the history of the life of the Prophet Muhammad SAW from the time he was born, childhood, adolescence, adulthood, marriage, the struggle of the apostle, the noble character of the apostle, until his death. Muhammad was an orphan from a very early age. Suffering, pain, tears, he has experienced one after another. His father died before he was born, he didn't feel his father's hug, his father's smile, and his father's kiss, that was Muhammad's bitterest condition. Muhammad had a wet nurse named Halimah As Sa'diyah. At the age of 6, Muhammad's mother, Aminah, died, Muhammad's sadness increased. Muhammad grew up to be a teenager who had the noble morals and qualities of respect, modesty, shyness, politeness in speech and deeds and compassion for all friends and enemies [1]. Muhammad's love for children was very great and the children also loved him very much, Muhammad even often played with the children. Muhammad is known as an honest and trustworthy figure, he has a good track record. It was these noble morals that

attracted Khadijah to marry Muhammad. Khadijah was a very rich trader and she was willing to sacrifice all her wealth to be used to fight to defend the religion of Allah with Muhammad [2].

The history of the life of the Prophet Muhammad SAW is very important for us to know, and very important for us to study, in the end we can guide it and practice it in living our worldly life so that we are always on the right path and blessed by Allah SWT [3]. We make the Prophet Muhammad SAW a role model in our daily lives. The Prophet Muhammad is the most perfect model and ideal model who will not be lost if we follow his sunnah. How can we make the noble personality of the Prophet Muhammad SAW from the way he sleeps, the way he wakes up, the way he walks, the way he sits, the way he speaks, the way he laughs, the way he communicates, the way he gets angry, the way he eats, his fair nature, his honest nature, his trustworthy nature, likes to give charity, likes to help, says good things, stays quiet and listens more, holds back anger and so on [4]. It is very important to introduce and teach children the noble qualities and noble personality of the Prophet Muhammad SAW since they are still small, lest the children do not know who the Prophet Muhammad Rasulullah SAW, beloved of Allah SWT, is. Islamic religious education, especially personality and noble morals, must be instilled in children as early as possible by introducing the Prophet Muhammad SAW. Of course, the role of parents and teachers at school is highly expected [5].

Muhammad is known as the world's inspiration, a great figure, a loving figure, an orphan, generous, generous, optimistic, patient, likes to make things easy, Muhammad is much loved, the best teacher, leader, trustworthy, brave, humble, likes to laugh, expert in worship, expert in prayer, likes praying at night until his feet swell, likes giving alms, likes fasting, likes dhikr, likes munajat at night, the traveler, and so on. Prophet Muhammad SAW, the youth, the bearer of good news, the muslih, the muhsin, the role model, the happiest figure, the figure of justice, honest, true to his word, brave, humble, good husband, good father, recitation expert, expert jikir, the muhajir and so on [6].

Muhammad was sent to bring humans from the realm of complete darkness (zahiliyah realm) to the realm of bright light, at the time when Muhammad the Al-Qur'an was revealed, justice was upheld, kufr and faith were separated, idols were destroyed. Muhammad was the best teacher, Muhammad died not leaving a lot of wealth but leaving behind and passing on knowledge, with knowledge that is clear about what is halal and haram. Knowledge as the heir of the prophet can destroy the subhat, avoid lust, and make Allah pleased. The Prophet said that seeking knowledge is an obligation for every Muslim [7]. Be serious about reading useful books. The first revelation to come down to earth was Iqra's command to read, this shows how the greatest proof of the primacy of science and knowledge is in the command of Iqra (read) [8].

It is very important to introduce the figure of Muhammad as the best role model to children from an early age. So that in this way children will be formed who are tough, healthy, have noble character, are smart, honest and trustworthy, never give up in accordance with the personality of Muhammad Rasulullah Saw. This research provides da'wah to children through sirah nabawiyah in the form of Islamic songs, where the poetry and song lyrics are deliberately created using sentences of invitation, advice and advice to follow and imitate the noble morals of Muhammad. We all know that in the midst of the progress of the times and increasingly crazy technology, it is feared that if educators/teachers and parents do not fortify their children with good knowledge and faith, it is feared that young generations will be formed who are far from the Sunnah of the Prophet, far from religion and will emerge. Moral damage, of course we as parents and teachers do not want that to happen. Islam teaches every

human being to be intelligent and thinking, to know a lot of knowledge so that he can advance the world and become more devout.

One of the da'wah media that is considered effective in protecting children from the bad influences of the times and technology is by preaching using Islamic songs, Sirah Nabawiyah. Songs with the theme of sirah nabawiyah can foster love for the apostle, get to know the apostle and imitate the apostle's morals. Early childhood, known as the golden age, still have clean minds and clean hearts, and it is still very easy to invite them by preaching sirah nabawiyah songs so that they can fill the recesses of their hearts and minds and invite them to love the apostle, imitate apostle's morals, living according to the apostle's sunnah and being willing to seek knowledge. HR Abu Dawud and At Tarmizi said about the importance of studying from an early age [9].

Every human being is a preacher, "convey even just one verse". Preaching Islam, Sirah Nabawiyah, the life history of the Prophet Muhammad SAW through the medium of simple songs specifically for children, is a medium of preaching that is quite easy to do and even has a good impact on the health of the heart, health of the mind, physical/spiritual health of children and the people around them. The message of the propagation of the Sirah Nabawiyah Prophet Muhammad SAW through the media of songs is conveyed more quickly to children, songs that are repeatedly sung and listened to to children are of course stored in the memory of the child's brain and can slowly but surely influence the child's behavior and personality to be better in accordance with the songs they sing and listen to every day. If the preaching message of a song where the lyrics/poems of the song contain about the noble character of the Prophet Muhammad SAW as a person who was diligent in studying, reading and writing, if the child continues to sing the song at the beginning of class time at school and at the end of class time at school, the child even continues to sing until home and even until the child wants to sleep, then slowly and surely it can influence the child's personality, attitude, behavior and imitate the attitude of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, the child becomes diligent in studying, reading and writing [10].

This research produced a da'wah song about the life history of the Prophet Muhammad SAW Sirah Nabawiyah specifically for children, where the poetry/lyrics of the song contain an invitation to children to love the Prophet's Sunnah. The poetry/lyrics of the song are deliberately designed to make children aware of the noble morals of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, and the poetry/lyrics of the song also invite children to want to practice the noble morals of the Prophet Muhammad SAW in their daily lives. The media of preaching through the song Sirah Nabawiyah for children was created as a manifestation of the sense of responsibility of parents, teachers, ulama, society and others towards children to create Indonesian Islamic children who have noble morals in accordance with the guidance of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, beloved of Allah SWT. The lyrics/poems of the songs are deliberately designed to be as simple as possible for children, choosing words that are easy for children to pronounce and easy for children to remember. The melody created is a melody that is within the reach of girls' voices and boys' voices, as well as for the teacher who teaches it. Simple accompanying musical instruments such as piano, keyboard, guitar, rhythmic instruments and others can be used to accompany this Sirah Nabawiyah preaching song or you can also just use hand clapping.

Children from an early age are obliged to invite parents to learn, even when they are still in the mother's womb, children can learn to hear, children in the womb can hear their mother's voice, their father's voice, the voices of the people around them. Children are the golden generation who will continue the struggle of the Islamic religion. For this reason, it is important that children's education is carried out as early as possible by parents, teachers,

ulama and the wider community. Teaching children from an early age is easier than teaching children to learn when they are already adults. Prayer orders for children begin when the child is seven years old. If the child refuses, parents can hit him with blows that are not painful and do not leave scars. Learning as a child is like writing on water, very easy, learning as an adult is like writing on a rock, difficult and hard.

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Whatever knowledge is taught to children at an early age, children will quickly respond to it, including learning to read the Qur'an and memorizing 30 Juz of the Qur'an, which can be easily done when children are still at an early age. The child's brain is still clean, and the child's heart is still clean so it is easy to receive knowledge and memorize it. Learning as an adult becomes increasingly difficult. Children are encouraged to love reading and writing from an early age, educating children to have the noble morals of the Prophet Muhammad SAW starting from an early age. When parents, teachers, clerics show noble morals to their children, the children will quickly imitate them and vice versa. The term golden age for children is the age where children can learn quickly and this age should not be wasted by not providing knowledge to children.

## **2 Research Methods**

This research uses a qualitative approach method. The initial step of this research begins with tracing and searching for appropriate and simple parts of the Sirah Nabawiyah story to be used as material for creating poetry and song lyrics for children's da'wah. The data was collected first through a library/literature review related to Sirah Nabawiyah, in addition to enriching the data obtained by watching YouTube and interviews with religious figures and kindergarten/PAUD teachers. Supporting tools for obtaining all data in the field include video cameras, photos and recording equipment.

The following are the stages carried out in the research:

- a. Preparatory Stages/Preliminary Stages  
First, do the planning, conduct library research/literature studies, in-depth interviews with community leaders and religious leaders
- b. Data Collection Stages  
Primary data was obtained through interviews and conducting observations (participant observation).
- c. Data Analysis Stage  
The data is categorized and analyzed and then discussed with experts
- d. Production stage of the poetry and lyrics of the Sirah Nabawiyah song through studio/laboratory work

- e. Distribution stage of Sirah Nabawiyah poetry and song lyrics via social media

### **3 Results and Discussion**

#### **3.1 Selection of Song Themes**

The song theme was chosen based on the first revelation received by the Prophet Muhammad SAW in Hiro Cave, namely Iqra (Commandment to read). At the age of 40, Muhammad often dreamed that one day, on the 17th of Ramadhan, he was in Hiro Cave, the angel Gabriel came down with a light that was so bright that it blinded his eyes. Jibril hugged Muhammad tightly and let go while saying "Iqra" (read), then Muhammad answered "I can't read", then Jibril hugged Muhammad again until he choked and said "iqra" (read), then again Muhammad answered "I can't read", continued this for the third time, then said, “

*Read it in the name of your Lord Who created!  
He created man from a clot of blood  
Read, and your Most Gracious Lord,  
Who teaches humans through the Qalam,  
He teaches humans  
What he does not know (QS. 96:1-5)”*

Surah Al. Alaq is the first letter that came down in Hiro Cave which Muhammad received orders to read. Apart from that, surah Thaha verse 114 which means "O Lord, I add to knowledge", this verse recommends how important it is to seek knowledge. Surah Al. Mujjadi verse 11 which means Allah SWT raises the status of those who seek knowledge, Surah Ali Imran verse 7 which means knowledge comes from Allah SWT, Surah Ali Imran verse 18 which means angels and people who have knowledge, Surah Al. Ankabut verse 43 which means no one can understand except those who have knowledge, surah Ar. Rad verse 16 which means are there the same people who are blind as those who can see? Or is complete darkness the same as bright light? (what is clear is knowledge), surah Al. Fathir verse 28 which means that truly those who fear Allah SWT among His servants, are only ulama, surah Al. Baqarah verse 225 which means and they know nothing from the knowledge of Allah SWT, but what Allah SWT wills, surah Al. Kahf verse 66 which means Musa said, "May I follow you so that you can teach me the right knowledge. The verses of Al. The Qur'an above teaches people how important it is to know knowledge, the importance of seeking knowledge and the importance of practicing knowledge. By accustoming children from an early age to reading, writing and studying, the child's mind will open up, the child will become an intelligent, tough, disciplined individual, the child will know what is right and what is wrong in accordance with the personality of the Prophet Muhammad SAW.

#### **3.2 Writing Poetry/Song Lyrics**

After you have finished determining the theme of the song, the next step is to determine the words/lyrics of the song. This song is specifically designed for children, therefore the words and sentences chosen must be easy for children to pronounce and easy for children to

memorize. Avoid words and sentences that are difficult for children to understand. The story of the first revelation is not all told clearly but is taken closer to how important science and reading are for children from an early age. The lyrics and poetry have been changed several times both word by word and sentence, here is the final result:

*Line 1*  
*World Lighting Science*  
*The Light Of A Living Lamp*  
*Let's Read To Be Smart*  
*Let's Write To Be Smart*

*Line 2*  
*Open The Window By Reading*  
*Life Becomes Useful*  
*Let's Read Carefully*  
*So That Life Is Beautiful*

*Line 3*  
*Let's Read A Book*  
*Let's Read The Qur'an*  
*Do Not Be Lazy*  
*Do Not Be Afraid*  
*So That You Live Like An Apostle*

The lyrics/poems of the Sirah Nabawiyah song consist of 3 stanzas consisting of word for word which are strung together as attractively as possible for children. The first verse of the song is likened to knowledge that can make human life better, knowledge is also likened to a lamp that illuminates the light of life so that with light, humans will always be on the right path and not get lost (IHDINASSIRATAL MUSTAQIM). Humans must also write so that there is a history of life that can be remembered and also as a means of passing on knowledge to future generations. In the time of the Apostle, the Companions wrote the musfah of the Koran on animal skins and stones, this indicates that the activity of writing already existed in the time of the Apostle. At the time when the late Buya Hamka became a famous writer, he had many famous works (Tahsir AL. Azhar, Under the Protection of the Kaaba, etc.). His books had a spirit, that was because he read diligently until he became famous.

The second stanza of the song is likened to reading as a window to the world, it opens up all the knowledge that you didn't know until you know it by reading. By reading humans out of ignorance, human life is beneficial for themselves and others. Reading or Iqra of the first revelation received by the apostle in Hiro's cave. The happiness of life can only be felt by seeking knowledge, moreover seeking knowledge of the Islamic religion and knowing the Sunnah of the Prophet, even though you have a lot of wealth and a high position/position, if you are not equipped with the study of knowledge then the happiness of life cannot be felt. Reading and writing are two activities that cannot be separated, they go hand in hand. Writing activities leave history for the writer. Even though people have died, works can still be seen in books written during their lifetime and become keepsakes.

The third verse of the song is likened to how important it is for humans to read books and read the Koran from childhood. Since childhood, children are taught to read the Al-Qur'an and memorize it, so that by memorizing the Al-Qur'an, they will give birth to strong generations

like the Prophet Muhammad SAW and the morals of the Prophet Muhammad Rasulullah. There are many benefits to reading the Koran from an early age, one of which is that it makes the brain brighter and more receptive to knowledge and is protected from the difficulties and hardships of life.

Through the lyrics of the song above, there is a message to be conveyed about how important it is for children to read and write from an early age. The lyrics of the song also create enthusiasm for reading and writing so that the noble morals of the Prophet Muhammad are slowly ingrained in children. The words "lazy" and the word "fear" in the third verse of the song above are deliberately emphasized so that children should not be lazy and afraid in seeking knowledge, especially studying the Koran, thus making children's lives bright and not completely dark. Judging from the simple lyrics of the song as a medium for preaching sirah nabawiyah for children but containing a high moral message for children, the moral message can be seen from "it is hoped that Indonesian children can become children of the golden generation of Islam in accordance with the demands of the Prophet Muhammad SAW".

### **3.3 Creation of Song Melodies**

The song melody is arranged using a Major scale and a tempo of around 65 bps. The pitch jumps and tone areas are arranged according to the child's voice area capabilities, so that the child does not need to scream and is not too low so that it becomes difficult for the child when singing the song. The sentence form of the song consists of two parts, namely sentence A and sentence B. The melody sentence A is used for the first and third verses, while the melody sentence B is used for the second verse which is the refrain of the song. The melody is dominated by  $\frac{1}{2}$  notes in both sentence A and sentence B. This song is repeated twice. The rhythm/rhythm of the song is made with lots of legato arrangements, using more rhythm/rhythm of eighth notes, using rhythm/rhythm of quarter notes, at the end of the song using one beat of the rhythm/rhythm of sixteenth notes, using lots of half-beat silences to give an impression. cheerful songs so that children and teachers can easily catch their breath when singing. The range of tones is also deliberately arranged at small distances, namely distances between seconds, ters and quarts, so that children do not need to scream when singing. The use of a tempo that is neither too fast nor too slow is deliberately arranged to make it easier for children and teachers when singing.

### **3.4 Musical Instruments to Accompany Songs**

This song was specially arranged for children and the accompanying musical instruments can be piano, keyboard and guitar, and you can even use hand clapping from the teacher and the child's parents. The resulting accompanying music can be heard flowing (legato) continuously until the song ends. The chords that accompany the song are also very simple and pleasant for children to hear and follow.

The following harmony arrangements used to accompany this song are as follows.

*Sentence A (Line 1 dan 3)*

*C . F . // C . . . // Dm. G . // C . F G //*  
*C . F . // C . . . // Dm. G . // C . C7. //*

*Sentence B (Line 2/Reff)*

*F . . . // C . . . // G . . . // Gm7 . C7. //*  
*F . . . // C . . . // G . . . // C . . . //*

The overall structure of this reading song is as follows:

INTRO – Sentence A (Line 1) – Sentence B (reff) – INTERLUDE – Sentence A’ (Line 2)  
 – Sentence B (reff) - Coda (Repeat 2x)

*Sentence A (Bait 1 dan 3)*

*C . F . // C . . . // Dm. G . // C . F G //*  
*C . F . // C . . . // Dm. G . // C . C7. //*

*Sentence B (Line 2/Reff)*

*F . . . // C . . . // G . . . // Gm7 . C7. //*  
*F . . . // C . . . // G . . . // C . . . //*

The overall structure of this reading song is as follows:

INTRO – Phrase A (line 1) – phrase B (reff) – INTERLUDE – phrase A’ (line 2) – Phrase B (reff) - Coda (repeat 2x)

### Membaca (Iqro')

Tempo = 65 bps Herna Hirza  
Mukhlis

Vocals

Il mu a da lah pe li ta hi dup ge lap mem bu at ki ta ter se sat  
 ba ca lah bu ku se ti ap ha ri tak per nah je mu te rus me la ju  
 ra jin mem ba ca me nam bah il mu ra jin me nu lis me wa ris kan il  
 tu lis kan il mu wa lau se ba it ke lak kau a kan me me tik ha  
 mu de ngan mem ba ca mem bu ka jen de la du nia me rang kai ka ta men ja di in  
 sil  
 dah se ma kin ra jin ki ta mem ba ca hi dup ki ta se ma kin ber mak  
 na

Fig. 1. Part of Iqro



## 4 Conclusion

The poetry/lyrics of the song Sirah Nabawiyah were created as a medium for preaching for children, where by preaching through songs, they are able to foster the character of love for the Prophet, one of which is to foster in children the desire to read and write from an early age. Reading the Qur'an is even more recommended for children from an early age, even to the point of memorizing the Qur'an for 30 juz, so that this creates a generation of Qur'ans, all of which can be achieved by reading regularly. Of course, the role of parents and teachers is very large. Sirah Nabawiyah can be used as a rich source of inspiration for creating Islamic songs specifically for children. The life history of the prophet Muhammad can be translated through poetry/song lyrics so that pious children will be born.

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