

Improving Health and Education Facilities: Maskani Azizah's Concern for the Social Environment of Tegal City Community

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Abstract. Health and education are tools that can improve people's welfare. However, not all communities have adequate education and health facilities. Therefore, when he saw that the social environment of the Tegal City community was lacking education and health services from the government, Maskani Azizah mobilized members of the Aisyiyah organization in Tegal City to establish educational facilities and health facilities, especially maternal and child health facilities. This research aims to determine the steps taken by Maskani Azizah when seeing the phenomenon that occurs in the community in Tegal City regarding the lack of education and health facilities. The research method used was a literature study and interviews with figures who had been involved in the activities carried out by Maskani Azizah. The research results showed that Maskani Azizah was able to mobilize mothers who were members of the Aisyiyah organization to improve the welfare of the people of Tegal City by establishing the Aisyiyah "Siti Hajar" Maternity Home, the Aisyiyah Girls' Orphanage in Tegal City, and the Aisyiyah Cahaya Insan Elementary School.

1 Introduction

Mrs. Maskani Azizah is one of the activists of the Aisyiyah organization in Tegal City [1] who cares about the surrounding community. Health and education is one of the things that is his concern because health and education are means that can improve people's welfare [2]. The involvement of Mrs. Maskani Azizah in several community organizations in Tegal City since 1980 [1] caused her to understand that there has not been equal welfare in the people of Tegal City, especially related to maternal and child health problems and good education for children in Tegal City. Therefore, Mrs. Maskani Azizah tried to mobilize the women of Aisyiyah in Tegal City, one of the community organizations she participated in [1], to establish health and education facilities. This study aims to determine the steps taken by Mrs. Maskani Azizah when she saw the phenomena that occurred in the community in Tegal City related to the lack of health and education facilities.

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2 Research Method

This research began by conducting a literature study to find out information related to the research topic and interviewing figures involved in the activities carried out by Mrs. Maskani Azizah. The informants chosen were figures and people directly related to these figures, namely friends of the organization, fellow teachers, former students, and their families. Information obtained from literature studies includes Mrs. Maskani Azizah's involvement in various Islamic organizations [1,3], and the types of results from Mrs. Maskani Azizah's efforts in improving the welfare of the people of Tegal City [4]. Most of the research data was obtained based on interviews. Information regarding establishing a religion-based elementary school which is packaged in a modern way can be obtained from Mrs. Maskani Azizah. Data obtained from the library and interview sources were then analyzed to determine the steps Mrs. Maskani Azizah took in establishing an Islamic-based maternity home, orphanage, and primary school.

3 Results and Discussion

3.1 Tegal City and Its Socio-Cultural Environment

Tegal City is a small city located in Central Java, Indonesia. It is located on the northern coast of Java and has a unique culture related to Islam, so Tegal City is also often referred to as the city of *santri* [5]. The strategic location of Tegal City which is on the coast has made it a trading area [5] and has a long history from the Precolonial period, Colonial period, Islamic period, until now [6]. Figure 1 below shows the location of the City of Tegal.

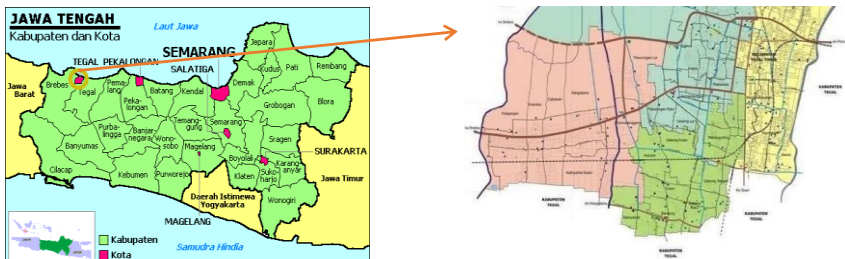


Fig. 1. Map of the City of Tegal
(Source: <https://peta-hd.com/peta-kota-tegal/>, 2022)

Based on the symbol owned by the City of Tegal, it can be seen that the City of Tegal is a prominent area in the fields of industry, trade, and fishing [7]. However, the social environment of the people of Tegal City is not yet prosperous, especially for the fishing community [8]. The problem of maternal and child health, the problem of neglected children, as well as more advanced education, require special attention. Therefore, the three problems became the main priority of the program of activities carried out by Aisyiyah in Tegal City, which was led by Mrs. Maskani Azizah [9].

3.2 What is Aisyiyah?

Aisyiyah is a women's organization Muhammadiyah, an Islamic movement and proselytizing *amar makruf nahi munkar*, which is based on Islam and is based on the Qur'an and As-Sunnah. The starting point of the movement is in the religious, social, educational, and health

fields. The programs implemented are in the fields of religion, community empowerment, education, and health [10]. The programs offered by Aisyiyah are in line with Mrs. Maskani Azizah's idea to improve the welfare of the people in Tegal City [9].

Aisyiyah's organizational structure is tiered, covering the *Pusat*, *wilayah*, *daerah*, *cabang*, and *ranting*. Each organizational structure geographically has its own territory. Geographically, the *Pusat* covers the entire territory of Indonesia and is national. *Wilayah*, the geographical area includes provinces. *Daerah*, the geographical area covers the regency area. *Cabang*, geographical branches cover the sub-district area, and *ranting* cover the village area. Based on the division of this organizational structure, the City of Tegal is a regional category, because its organizational area covers the entire City of Tegal which is administratively divided into four sub-districts and 27 sub-districts/villages [9].

3.3 The Role of Mrs. Maskani Azizah in Improving the Welfare of The People of Tegal City

Based on information from Mrs. Maskani Azizah [11] and her fellow [12, 13, 14], Mrs. Maskani Azizah has been actively organizing since 1980. The organization that she has been following the longest is Aisyiyah, from 1980 until now, in 2022. Thus, Mrs. Maskani Azizah joined the Aisyiyah organization for 42 years, and for 20 years (1985 - 2005) or four periods, she became head of Aisyiyah Tegal City. In a relatively long time, Mrs. Maskani Azizah succeeded in mobilizing the women of Aisyiyah members to improve the welfare of the people of Tegal City through their work programs.

All the ideas initiated by Mrs. Maskani Azizah received full support from the Aisyiyah members of Tegal City so that the ideas could eventually be realized. The most valuable experiences that Mrs. Maskani Azizah felt were when she established the Aisyiyah Maternity Home in 1989 [9], the Aisyiyah Women's Orphanage in 1990 [4], and the Aisyiyah Cahaya Insan Elementary School in 2012 [15].

Why did Mrs. Maskani Azizah's ideas get support from Aisyiyah's women in Tegal City? First, the visionary leadership of Mrs. Maskani Azizah thinks far ahead and can see all the potential of the organization that others may not be able to see or realize. With the full support and commitment of all members of the organization, visionary leaders can achieve the vision and mission, or the ideals of the organization in the future. Second, the people of Tegal City need to improve their welfare through social, health, and education sectors. Third, the needs of the people of Tegal City are accommodated in the work program carried out by the Aisyiyah organization led by Mrs. Maskani Azizah. Thus, the presence of Mrs. Maskani Azizah as the driving force of the Aisyiyah organization can assist the government in one of its efforts to realize the welfare of the community.

It has been explained above that Aisyiyah is an Islamic movement preaching *amar makruf nahi munkar*, which is based on Islam and is based on the Qur'an and As-Sunnah. So how does this relate to the establishment of maternity homes, orphanages, and elementary schools? *Amar makruf nahi munkar* in fiqh terms is called *al Hisbah*, which means an order addressed to all people to invite or encourage good behavior and prevent bad behavior [15]. Thus, actually, the establishment of the three types of business charities aims to implement the commandments of *amar makruf nahi munkar* in each field.

1. Implementation of *amar makruf nahi munkar* in the Health Sector

This led to the establishment of the Siti Hajar Maternity Home in 1989. The establishment of this maternity home was motivated by concerns about the inadequate fulfillment of health services for mothers and children. This maternity home seems to be growing rapidly, so in 2013 its name changed to Aisyiyah Siti Hajar Primary Clinic. The services provided are related to health problems and childbirth [9,10]. Here is a picture of the clinic.



Fig. 2. Aisyiyah SITI HAJAR Primary Clinic Building and Doctor's Practice Schedule

2. Implementation of *amar makruf nahi munkar* in the Social Welfare Sector
This led to the establishment of the Putri Aisyiyah Orphanage in Tegal City on October 25, 1990. This orphanage is still standing today which is used to accommodate orphans who need help [4]. The following is a picture of the orphanage building and the girls who live in the orphanage.



Fig. 3. The Putri Aisyiyah Orphanage Building and the Children Occupying the Orphanage

3. Implementation of *amar makruf nahi munkar* Education Sector
Caused the establishment of the Aisyiyah Cahaya Insani Elementary School. The Decree for the establishment of this Elementary School is 3037/KEP/I.0/B/2019 Date of Decree: 2019-12-04 [15]. The establishment of this elementary school was motivated by concerns that there were no advanced Islamic-based elementary schools. By exerting all her strength, the school was able to stand. At first, only 6 students registered. However, due to superior education and tireless promotion, in the second year, there were 47 children and in the third year, there were 55 children [11]. The development of this elementary school is quite rapid and often invites various parties to its progress. Here is a picture related to that elementary school.



Fig. 4. The Putri Aisyiyah Orphanage Building and the Children Occupying the Orphanage

4 Conclusion

Social welfare services, health, and education are three things that should be received by the community from the government. However, there are often gaps in public services in each region, so the welfare of the community is not evenly distributed. Facing this gap, community organizations can help the government's role in realizing public services as was done by Mrs. Maskani Azizah and the members of the Tegal City Aisyiyah organization in implementing their work programs so that they can improve social welfare, health, and education facilities for the community.

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