THE KHIDMAH TRADITION OF SANTRI TOWARDS KYAI
(The Review of ‘Urf & Psychology)

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Abstract
The tradition of khidmah Santri to Kyai is a tradition in Pondok Pesantren that has coexisted since the beginning of the spread of Islam and is preserved up to now in the recent millennial era. Many ordinary people do not understand the tradition of khidmah Santri to Kyai and consider it such a "job as a servant". This research uses a library research approach to explain the legal basis of the santri khidmah tradition towards Kyai, and uses a descriptive qualitative approach with open-ended questionnaire techniques and categorization. The results showed that the preservation of the tradition of khidmah santri to Kyai is due to pursuing benefits both in terms of individual and social and in line with sharia form called as ‘urf. The tradition of khidmah is also beneficial in terms of psychological aspects, such as resulting satisfaction and feelings of happiness and forming santri’s character likely sincerity, self-independence, respect, humility, awareness of the social environment, honesty, and responsibility. The tradition of Khidmah is also a form of santri empowerment in building a skill that brings about benefits in family life, community circle, country life, and entrepreneurship.

Keyword: The tradition of Khidmah, Santri, Kyai.

Abstrak
Tradisi khidmah santri kepada Kyai merupakan tradisi di pondok pesantren yang sudah ada sejak awal berkembang Islam dan dilestarikan hingga saat ini di era milenial. Banyak masyarakat awam yang tidak memahami tentang tradisi khidmah Santri kepada Kyai dan menganggap hal tersebut sebagai “pekerjaan sebagai pembantu”. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kajian pustaka untuk menjelaskan dasar bukuh tradisi khidmah santri kepada Kyai, dan menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif deskriptif dengan teknik kuisiner terbuka (open-ended questionare) dan melakukan kategorisasi. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pelestarian tradisi khidmah santri kepada Kyai tersebut dikarenakan membawa kemanfaatan baik dari segi individual maupun sosial dan sejalan dengan syariat yaitu ‘urf. Tradisi khidmah juga kemanfaat dari segi psikologis, yaitu menampilkan kepuasan dan perasaan bahagia serta membentuk pebridadan yang baik, karakter dan sikap yang baik, kejujuran dan tanggung jawab. Tradisi tersebut juga merupakan bentuk pemberdayaan santri dalam membentuk skil yang akan betmanfat dalam kehidupan berkeluharga, bertumasyarat, bernegara serta berwirausaha.

Kata Kunci: Tradisi Khidmah, Santri, Kyai.
INTRODUCTION

Traditional Islamic boarding school is the oldest Islamic educational institution in Indonesia which is estimated and coexisted since the beginning of Islam development in Indonesia in 1200 AD. Islamic boarding school still survives up to now and becomes the most popular Islamic educational institution in Indonesia. The primary advantages of learning in traditional boarding schools compared to modern boarding schools are the depth of knowledge controlled by Santri and the building of moral character formation. The characteristics of santri rooted in traditional pesantren are more courteous both in well-attitude and utterance, simple, higher social awareness, modesty, responsibility, independence, and creativity.

Some of the cultures applied and belonged to a tradition in traditional (salaf) pesantren include the tradition of jointly communal works, or called roan, daily home service, and khidmah towards kyai. Among the frequent public discussions, the tradition of khidmah santri to kyai is generally applied. Khidmah, in the context of pesantren, is the devotion in the form of self-service performed by a santri to kyai as a way of respect and reward for the time, energy, and thoughts that a kyai gives at all times during transferring knowledge and educating morals to santri along to reform well-educated, well-manner & a good ethic of santri in any deeds. This devotion is commonly served by santri in traditional boarding schools. As for the form of devotion, those are likely helping in household chores such as sweeping, cooking, assisting in the management of businesses in any cooperatives, etc.

Deeply exploring the traces of famous scholars in Indonesia, one of them is Dr. Ahsin Syakho Muhammad who is an expert in Qur'anic Science in Indonesia, and a compiler of Qiroat science entitled Manbaul Barokat. He was eager to serve teachers / Kyai as his self-devotion when he was still a santri at Al Munawwir Krpyak Islamic Boarding School, Jogjakarta. In the book “3 Tokoh Lirboyo”, the story is told that Mbah Kyai Abdul Karim and Mbah Kyai Hasyim Asy’ari have both once simultaneously studied from the same teacher; Mbah Kyai Kholil Bangkalan. When Mbah Kyai Hashim Asy’ari returned home to continue his boarding school, his close friend, Mbah Kyai Abdul Karim also studied with him even though both are close friends. This is evidence that Mbah Kyai Abdul Karim conducts khidmah (devotion) to Mbah

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1 Zamakhysyri Dhofer, Tradisi pesantren: studi pandangan bidup kyai dan visinya mengenai masa depan Indonesia (LP3ES, 2011).
6 3 tokoh Lirboyo (Badan Pembina Kesejahteraan, Pondok Pesantren Lirboyo, 1999).
Kyai Hashim As'ari in order to get his blessings without any barriers. Mbah Kyai Abdul Karim is a founder of Lirboyo Islamic Boarding School when he became a santri of Mbah Kyai Kholil Bangkalan Madura. He is also very fond and devotes a lot of time as a form of Khidmah to his Kyai. Other stories of santri devotion to kyai were also carried out by Gus Mus who was still a santri, as well as some scholars today, no exception for both contemporary and salaf scholars in Indonesia. Khidmah is not only conducted when one has a title of santri, but also when one has become a scholar, educator, or other titles, the form of Khidmah & ta’dzijn is still carried out.

The tradition of khidmah santri to kyai has been a regular deed since the beginning of the establishment of pesantren up to now, however, it is believed to bring blessings to santri following the education system of Islamic Boarding School in the era of globalization. It is evident that a number of devout and religious scholars are famous for their previous devotion to their Kyai. It brings about the tradition to be maintained today because it becomes a well-served tradition, proposes benefits, and maintains the positive out of even detriment (madbarat).

Based on the experience of the author when being a santri, as well as the observer of some santri in one of the Islamic boarding schools in Salatiga, there are still a number of santri who have a negative perception towards the term of Khidmah (devotion) to Kyai. Not only santri, even some ordinary people and parents also have the same perception that the form of Khidmah is misinterpreted as like a servant. In fact, it does not say so. Inversely, it is a form of respect for the teacher (Kyai) who devotes all his time to santri who has no much time to do household chores. In other words, it is a kind of compensation and reward for what the teacher dedicates towards santri. Controversy also comes up in the current millennial era, especially among academics and ordinary people whether it still needs to be preserved by considering the legal basis of sharia and psychological benefits in social and interpersonal contexts.

A phenomenon that appears in the Islamic Boarding School BUQ Gading elucidates that almost the average of santri performs Khidmah (devotion) to caregivers (Kyai) and his families. Based on data from interviews and observations, there are also some of them who complain when being ordered to do some deeds. BUQ Islamic Boarding School (Pondok Pesantren BUQ) is categorized as a pesantren to conduct memorizing the Holy Quran. In a statement of Ali bin Abi Tholib, he said that he was a servant to someone who taught him Qur’anic knowledge even though it was a single letter. Then, how about the teacher (Kyai) who teaches the competence of reading one Qur’an from zero along with listening to the intense memorization until 30 chapters? A teacher who listens to one’s memorization requires patience and strictness and he not only corrects the error of memorization but also fixes Tajwîd mispronunciation. He struggles to complete the illiteracy of santri in hijaiyyah reading until he is smoothly able to recite the Holy Qur’an with the takhsin reading method. Furthermore, the teacher listens to his reading directly (called Bin Nadzor method) from chapters 1 to 30, within his memorization. The teacher is also responsible for the character, namely morality or what we called as Akhlakul Karimah.

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9 Martin van Bruinessen, Kitab kuning, pesantren, dan tarekat: tradisi-tradisi Islam di Indonesia (Mizan, 1995).
The emphasis on character carries out the implication that science without the attitude (akhlaq) will lead to arrogance. Furthermore, it will trigger malice & also be the beginning of a disease of the heart and other sins both because of deeds and utterances. The conflict between Satan and God that brings lifelong consequences on humans is due to the arrogance of the devil not to bow down to ‘The Prophet Adam’.

The research conducted by Atsniyah, entitled the meaning of life of santri in the devotion of the Pondok Pesantren Nurul Amal, the purpose of the research was to find out the meaning of life possessed by devotional santri. The results showed that all subjects were able to give meaning to their lives, namely self-understanding, positive attitude, relationship intimacy, and worship. Research conducted by Sa'diyah entitled the meaning of barakah in the service of students at the Pondok Pesantren Nurul Huda, Dusun Suci, Jubellor Village, Sugio District, Lamongan Regency. The results showed that the barakah obtained by the students was the interaction and Ridho (Blessing) of the teacher to the students. The blessing of the teacher will make it easier for students to use knowledge in the future, while the interaction between students and teachers will bring consistency to the relationship. The next research has entitled the role of service programs in improving the socio-religious behavior of students at the Pondok pesantren Mambaus Sholihin, Gresik. The results showed that the santri in the devotion program played a role in increasing maturity and mental resilience and increasing religious behavior.

Based on the background discussed above, this research will examine the tradition of Khidmah Santri to Kyai from the basic review of the law through the 'urf and also the psychological review.

**THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

**The Definition and Scope of 'Urf**

The word 'urf comes from 'arafa, ya'rifu, 'urfan, which is usually interpreted as 'alma'urf' as means of something familiar. Some Arabic linguists equate the meaning of the word 'urf with customs or traditions. 'Urf is what is known to society to be a tradition or also called as custom, whether utterance, deeds or abstention. Something is considered as a tradition if it is carried out continuously by a community or common people in one social life, including an institution without any written standard rules. The most important thing is that the community or society generally performs and agrees on it.

'Urf is used as a legal basis when proposition or nasab that regulates a problem is not found, both from the Qur’an and the Hadith of the Prophet (peace be upon him). The dynamics

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of increasingly modern, millennial, and complex social change will lead to new problems that must have a legal basis so that Muslims will always keep on track within the corridors of sharia. Therefore, 'Urf is urgently essential so that there is no inflexibility in sharia practice, which sometimes causes high tension and social disharmony. The purpose of Islam is to put forward peace. According to the Madzhab Imam Maliki, the fatwa on the establishment of law should not be contrary to local customs. A habit of society can be a benchmark or guideline (argument) in establishing Islamic law as long as it has not found a proposition / nash that sets up the law of the problem whether it is good or not in agreement with Islamic sharia. A tradition is a realistic form in the society when it meets an acceptance, then it has the potential basis to be a syara' advice. Some Madzhab scholars who apply the method of 'urf in regulating legal decrees are such as Maliki, Khanafi, and Shafi'i. Shafi'iyah scholars use 'urf in establishing the law on some issues that find no limits in syara' nor in the use of language. It means something that comes from absolute syara' without any restrictions both syara' and language is returned to 'urf. The intents formation of law with the reality of society also makes differences 'urf in influencing the formation of law towards society with each other. This is because the law, which is built for the benefit of the community that ensures comfort, becomes a solution to the emerging community, and harmonization in society. On the contrary, the existence of the law does not backfire on society or the community itself. Although the position of 'urf is very important in the formulation of the law, it is not necessarily taken for granted, but it must either be contrary to Nash, based on common sense, and nor have the potential to bring about madharat and injustice.

The establishment of laws relating to tradition is not coercive, but it must go through deep study and consideration to ensure that the law has access to be applied because it is necessary along with the existence of ilat syar'i. The principle of Islamic law is to realize ease and to reject forms of imposition and damage. 'Urf is divided into 2 kinds, shahih and fasid. Urf shahib is a tradition that does neither contradict the Qur'an and hadith, nor justify the forbidden and vice versa such as the tradition of khidmah santri to kyai. In this tradition, it has been hereditary since a long time ago in the circle of pesantren because there are benefits and usefulness. 'Urf fasid is a tradition contrary to the Qur'an and Hadith, justifying what is forbidden and vice versa as the tradition of gambling and getting drunk on the night before the wedding. The permissible 'urf is only 'urf shahib.
Khidmah Santri towards Kyai

Pondok Pesantren (Islamic boarding school) comes from two terms, namely pondok and pesantren. Pondok comes from the Arabic "funduq" which means hotel or dormitory. While pesantren comes from the term santri with the prefix "pe" as a prefix and "an" as a suffix meaning of the house of santri. Pondok Pesantren is a dormitory-shaped educational institution that focuses on the transfer of religious knowledge that began in Java. The main focus in the curriculum is the study of Islamic religious lessons, Arabic language, Muslim traditions, and ways of educating students on how to build good Muslims. Pondok pesantren has 5 important elements, such as dormitories, mosques or halls (congregational prayer places and large activities together), learning yellow books, kyai and santri.

In general, pesantren is divided into two types, salaf (traditional), and khalaf (modern). The first type usually teaches religious lessons through very traditional teaching methods (sorogan and wetonan). Pesantren salaf / traditional is also divided into 2 kinds; pesantren of Holy Qur’an and pesantren of Kitab. Pesantren salaf relies heavily on kyai as a religious leader or ustadz who has the authority to develop the curriculum. Although the community or party of religious leaders engages in curriculum discussions, the final authority is in the hands of kyai, whose lectures are structured monologues, not dialogue.

Kyai is the most essential element of pesantren and the leader of it (caregiver). The existence of pesantren with its progress is largely determined by the quality of Kyai figures. Kyai is a pinned title because of grace so that no common one can be called as kyai to get the gift. A Kyai must have certain qualities, such as having depth in the mastery of religious science, charisma, closeness to Allah, and a well-mannered attitude so that they can protect santri and society as role models. Kyai also becomes a place where people complain about problems and a place to find solutions, especially things that are related to the children’s case, households, spiritual etc.

The term of santri is derived from the Sanskrit language shastri which means literacy. There is also an opinion that santri is from the Javanese word shantrik which means a student who follows his teacher. Santri is a person who follows, learns, and explores Islamic religion from teachers in pesantren. Santri staying in the boarding school aims to learn and explore religious knowledge and morals growing to be an excellent generation to advance the surroundings.

In pesantren tradition, the purpose of education is not only focused on enriching of students’ cognitive aspects with explanations, but it also aims to improve morals, excel the spirit of Islam, perceive spiritual and human values, build well manners and attitudes, and equip learners taught religious ethics. Pesantren does not aim & consider seeking power, interest, and

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23 Dhoifir, Tradisi pesantren.
24 Bruinessen, Kitab kuning, pesantren, dan tarekat.
25 Dhoifir, Tradisi pesantren.
28 Dhoifir, Tradisi pesantren.
30 Majid, Bilik-bilik pesantren.
finance, but it aims to cultivate confidence built-in *santri*, that learning is only as an obligation and devotion to God. The most important learning is to get blessings from the teacher or Kyai along with *Khidmah*.31

*Khidmah* is derived from the Arabic term as a means of "service or action to help others, or self-devotion".32 In the context of *pesantren*, *khidmah* is the assistance of the teacher or Kyai in any needs. There are two types of devotion here, the first is devotion in the form of helping to be a teacher or teaching assistance in *pesantren* and the second is devotion in the form of serving and assisting teachers in daily work affairs such as cooking, sweeping, washing, nurturing baby or grandchildren, etc., known as *Abdi Ndalem*. In-depth research, the term devotion has inclined into the meaning of *Abdi ndalem*. This is carried out by *santri* in return for the services of Guru or Kyai who teaches with sincerity and devotes almost all his time to educating and transferring knowledge to *santri* without any salary at all. Therefore, *Khidmah* or devotion is essential to seek the pleasure of the teacher or Kyai, because his blessings will bring a favor for *santri* (*tibulul 'ilm*).33 A *santri* not only seeks knowledge but also serves a devotion because it pursues the way to get the blessing of knowledge from a teacher (kyai). It says that the devotion of some friends to the Prophet Muhammad is meant as a tribute and respect to him.34

In the context of psychology, there is no specific term that refers to the concept of devotion (*Khidmah*), but the concept of devotion includes respect, serving, and volunteering. The term of *Khidmah* in the context of psychology is defined as a service and devotion intended for the purpose of appreciation or respect, also called respect, which is a positive feeling or action shown to an important person or valuable something. It conveys a sense of admiration for good or valuable qualities and also elucidates a process of honoring a person by showing attention, concern, or consideration for their needs, interests, or feelings.35 Respect or *Khidmah* can be in the form of assisting others (self-service), volunteering service, or taking play an important social role.36

**RESEARCH METHOD**

This research takes population in Pondok Pesantren BUQ Gading, Tengaran, Kab. Semarang and apply two approaches simultaneously. To examine the tradition of *khidmah* *santri* to kyai from the perspective of 'urf, the researcher carries out a review of the literature. While the review of the tradition of *khidmah* *santri* to kyai from a psychological aspect deeply applies descriptive qualitative research methods, with open questionnaires analyzed in writing using descriptive statistical data. Data collection techniques are carried out by giving open questioners to research informants. An open-ended questionnaire is a series of research questions that

31 Az-Zarnuji, *terjemah kitab ta’lim muta’ alim*.  
33 Az-Zarnuji, *terjemah kitab ta’lim muta’ alim*.  
researchers organize with this type of open-ended question so that research informants can answer more freely based on their previous or ongoing experiences. Data analysis is done by the method of content analysis through searching for keywords, categorizing and recreating, then looking at data frequency and data interpretation.

The number of respondents was 50 santri out of 225 total numbers, ranging in age from 18-24 years old. This study focuses on the question, what is the form of devotion (Khidmah) to Kyai? What psychological benefits are obtained from it?

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Khidmah is a tradition that has survived for a long time and is still preserved up to now in the circle of traditional pesantren. Traditional pesantren is the oldest educational institution that still exists today. Its existence elucidates as evidence that pesantren is still much interested and trusted by the public with its result to excel a quality generation of Muslims from the past up to now. Among the characteristics of the well-qualified santri generation is not only seen through his ability with the depth of religious understanding but also the form of a well-manner & courteous personality. Many researchers in the field of pesantren prove few differences in attitudes and behaviors of courtesy between pure-santri and non-santri where pure-santri is identified more courteous both speech and behavior, prefers to have social care or brings community responsibility, etc.

The formation of santri character certainly cannot be separated from the tradition that is deeply rooted in the pesantren itself. One of them is the tradition of khidmah santri towards kyai. Khidmah in the context of pesantren has some points of typology. 1) Khidmah means that senior students who have secured all levels of education in pesantren will teach as a form of devotion for a certain period of time. 2) The devotion (Khidmah) of wealth for the people, as what Siti Khadijah, the wife of the Prophet (peace be upon him), also devoted herself to the people by spending her wealth in the way of Allah. 3) The devotion (Khidmah) to the family (parents, husband/wife, children). 4) Khidmah santri to serve and assist the teacher (kyai) in the needs and daily activities such as helping with cooking, sweeping, etc.

Ali Bin Abi Talib R.A., a friend of the prophet, was well-known for his depth of knowledge and intelligence, revealing "ana abdun man 'allamani wa lan kharfan" which means "I am a servant to anyone who teaches me knowledge despite one letter".37 Santri seeks a bundle of knowledge, then he is not only really seeking for it because the implementation of it requires not only knowledge but also inner-character that is moral and attitude.38 The tradition of khidmah itself has co-existed since the period of the prophet Muhammad SAW, on how the companions glorified him by serving him. This was also carried out in the period of his friends, Khulafa’urraisaydin and Tabi’in up to now which is deeply rooted in the system of Islamic boarding school. One day caliph Harun Ar Rashid was the only caliph who reached the peak of scientific glory in the times of Islamic preaching, visiting his son in pesantren. When the Caliph saw the teacher (Kyai) taking an ablution by pouring water from the jug, the Caliph scolded his son and said, "Why don't you serve your teacher well, you should bring the jug so that your teacher has

37 Az-Zarnuji, terjemah kitab ta’lim muta’ alim.
38 Al Maliki, Mohammed the Perfect Man.
no trouble in performing ablution". Then the Caliph said to the teacher, "O Shaykh, I sent my son to boarding school not only to study but also to gain morals, please be welcome to command my son to serve you". ³⁹

Thus, the tradition of Khidmah in pesantren has been rooted for a long time and maintained as it is well-acceptable, reasonable, and beneficial in the concept rule of 'urf. 'Urf also occupied the rule that tradition is sharia as long as it does not contradict with the Qur'anic and hadith nash along with its disadvantage. Although there are among Islamic scholars who are not integrated with Madzhab not using 'urf as the basis of law, in fact, most common Islamic scholars who belonged to madhhab use 'urf as an argument (Hujjah). This actually has no a problem and a matter to be debated because the main thing is the experience of the law has the same principle in the pillars of Faith and Islam, the establishment of the law that applies in society as a form of solution to solve problems arising and developing in society. In addition to the legal basis of preservation of Khidmah tradition, it also brings benefits to santri both in terms of character formation and in the quality of social interaction.

The results of research on psychological review of Khidmah santri to kyai presented as follows:

Forms of khidmah santri to kyai (Devotion)

![Bar Chart](chart.png)

Figure 1. Form of Khidmah Santri towards Kyai

The results showed that the forms of Khidmah towards kyai are; 1) Assisting into daily kitchen works (membantu pekerjaan dapur) amounted to 43 (86%); 2) Being mandated to do any duties (suka didawhi) amounted to 41 (82%); 3) Cleaning household works, washing clothes, arranging clothes into the cupboard and others (membersihkan pekerjaan rumah, mencuci pakaian, menata pakaian dan sejenisnya) amounted to 40 (80%); 4) Managing plantations and fields (mengelola perkebunan dan sawah) amounted to 38 (76%); 5) Managing internal cooperatives (mengelola koperasi pondok) amounted to 20 (40%); 6) Helping to

³⁹ Az-Zarnuji, terjemah kitab ta’lim muta’ alim.
nurture or invite playing sons or grandchildren (membantu mengisbat atau mengajak bermain putra atau cucu berjumlah) amounted to 19 (38%).

In the BUQ pesantren, the condition of the kitchen still uses traditional ways such as firewood or called as pawon. When the supply of firewoods (kayu bakar) runs out, santri recollects them cooperatively, dries, arranges, and prepares them in the kitchen warehouse, and also conducts communal work of managing rice fields. The rice fields belong to Kyai where the harvest such as vegetables and rice is given to santri as a reward. Santri who is menstruating also helps kitchen works such as cooking, setting up the vegetable seasoning, cleaning the kitchen, etc.

Santri also likes to be mandated likely when the teacher orders santri to do or help any needs, then santri compete with each other to take the order. The time management of Kyai is widely allocated to teach (ngasto) so household chores such as sticking clothes, ironing, etc., are done by santri as volunteers especially those who are menstruating. Santri who menstruates does not follow the activities of Muroja'ah of Holy Qur'an so their leisure time is used to assist Kyai in any house works. A low percentage shows in the management of cooperatives and the daily care for sons, grandchildren because not all santri get the mandate of kyai to manage both responsibilities.

Benefits of Khidmah towards Kyai in Personality Formation

The results showed that the benefits of khidmah towards Kyai are; 1) Sincerity (keikhlasan) amounted to 43 (86%); 2) Self-Independence (kemandirian) amounted to 41 (82%); 3) Respect (rasa bormat) amounted to 40 (80%); 4) Humble (rendah hati) amounted to 40 (80%); 5) Satisfaction and happiness (kepuasan dan rasa babagia) amounted to 37 (74%); 6) Courtesy (santun) amounted to 37 (74%); 7) Concern for the social environment (kepedulian terhadap lingkungan sosial) amounted to 36 (72%); 8) Honesty (kejujuran) amounted to 34 (68%); Responsibilities (tanggung jawab) amounted to 34 (68%).
Basically, *Khidmah* to Kyai is one form of prosocial behavior. Prosocial behavior will cause a positive feeling. One of the reasons behind positive feelings is that being prosocial reinforces an individual's sense of interconnectedness with others, in this case, the emotional attachment between santri and kyai. This helps to meet the most basic psychological needs. Research has found many examples of how doing good to others, in massive or simple ways, not directing only good feelings, but also provides benefits, such as reducing levels of depression and improving emotional well-being.

A form of social care for santri that is also covered by social sensitivity is when they are reversed, they soon compete to share food. This form of concern for the teacher also increases the concern for other fellow santri, such as lending items to those who need, caring for unhealthy friends, helping each other (when Nyai (Kyai’s wife) comes home from shopping, santri who see her directly bring groceries, saying hello, thanking people who want to help, replying to other greetings with smiles or other positive response. The devotion offered to Kyai builds the character of honesty and responsibility because the forms of *khidmah* are accepting an order or being mandated (didawuhi) which means that santri is given orders or duties to be carried out independently or together. It forms independence, honesty, and responsibility, and will be beneficial in people's lives in the future. The devotion (*Khidmah*) building these characters will develop santri to have a strong personal and mental readiness to devote themselves to society. Khidmah santri to kyai also fosters a social and moderate spirit towards culture, because khidamah does not only follow what is served but also follows what is ordered in society. Khidmah in cooperative management actually also trains the entrepreneurial spirit of santri as well as a form of empowerment and santripreneurship. Santri owning a skill through cooperative devotion will set up entrepreneurial abilities that will lead a married and community life to easily adjust towards a new life, especially in the economic sectors. Other forms of *khidmah* such as nurturing care for sons and grandchildren will also form the character of motherhood/fatherhood, which santri will later have the experience to adjust the role in the family life in parenting competence when working in the community of child treatment. Since caring and nurturing children is not easy, *khidmah* of santri will also train

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patience in facing children and the soul of affection for them. When *santri* has a household familial life and has to adjust to the new family including in-laws, they will be more sensitive and concerned with household duties and help in-laws, then *khidmah* in the form of cleaning homework such as washing clothes, cleaning the house, cooking, etc., will be essential in the provision of *santri* preparing household ability. Those additional data above were also obtained from an interview with one of the alumni' in-laws, when asked why he was looking for a daughter-in-law, the answer was, “*nek santri kui prigel and pertikel, ngerti gawean dadi wong tuo penak ora rekoso, tour neng masyarakat barang ki mudah sratenane*”, (if *santri* is sensitive and concerned with household chores so that parents do not have difficulty and they easily adjust and get along in the community).47

The sensitivity and care will also improve prosocial behavior in the family and society,48 so it will definitely lead to the harmonization of social interaction. This is in accordance with the statement that social care and sensitivity will improve prosocial behavior to improve the quality of positive social interaction. *Khidmah santri* to Kyai also trains attitudes and respectful behaviors towards parents including in-laws. It is also based on additional interviews with the in-laws of alumni santri, “*mantu santri kui sopan nek karo mertua lan wong tuo, nduwe unggah unggah neng masyarakat, tutur katane yo santu ora urak’an*” (Most of daughter-in-law *Santri* is courteous and polite to the in-law’s circle and the community life, she has also an affable attitude and not arrogant speech).49

This is in line with the results of research showing that devotion (*Khidmah*) to certain people will build more polite behavior, humility, appreciative nature, and also increase positive morals in society or individuals.50 *Khidmah* carried out by *santri* in various forms will succeed a bundle of benefits both in terms of family life, community households, the world of entrepreneurship, and devotion to the state. That usefulness and benefit are maintained and became a tradition from the beginning of the development of Islam to the present day in accordance with the concept of ‘urf.

This research only examines the benefits of *khidmah* in terms of psychological aspects, so it lacks a deep psychological explanation. Further research in the field of *khidmah santri* is expected to examine in terms of psychological dynamics so that there will be in-depth data and explanations.

CONCLUSION

The tradition of *Khidmah* (devotion) in pesantren is a well-manner & educated personality, in the view of sharia and based on the reality of people’s lives and in accordance with the review of ‘urf. Based on the review of ‘urf, the tradition of *khidmah santri* brings about benefits, tranquility, and usefulness therefore since the beginning of the development of Islam in Indonesia, this tradition has co-existed and is preserved up to present days. Its usefulness is not

only in the formation of santri’s character positively but also build a sense of santri devotion in the circle of family, society, and state both in the formal and informal aspects.

The forms of khidmah are to help with kitchen work, adore to be mandated, clean homework, wash clothes, arrange clothes, and the like. Other forms of khidmah are managing plantations and rice fields, managing internal cooperatives, helping to nurture or care for sons or grandchildren. The results of research on the psychological review that focuses on the benefits of khidmah tradition can form important characteristics, such as sincerity, self-independence, respect, humility, satisfaction and happiness, politeness, concern for the social environment, honesty, and also responsibility.

REFERENCES


