

## THE IMPACTS OF POOR PARTICIPATION OF MUSLIM LEARNERS IN ATTENDING CLASSES UNDER MADRASAH EDUCATION PROGRAM

*by:*

**Ma. Leonora M. Dimayuga**

*Teacher III, Paraiso Elementary School*

The Madrasah Education Program in the Philippines is a government initiative aimed at providing Islamic education to Muslim students in the country. This program recognizes the cultural and religious diversity in the Philippines, particularly the Muslim population. It aims to provide a curriculum that incorporates Islamic teachings while also meeting the national education standards. Moreover, the program offers a curriculum that includes Islamic studies, Arabic language, and values education, along with other core subjects like math, science, English, and social studies. This ensures that students receive both religious and secular education.

Thus, schools offering Madrasah Education Program in the country encountered different issues and challenges, one of which is the poor participation of Muslim learners in attending classes. The poor participation of Muslim learners in attending their scheduled Madrasah Education Program in school can have several impacts on their educational and personal development. Here are some potential consequences:

**Knowledge and Skill Gap:** Madrasah Education Programs aim to provide Islamic education, including teachings from the Quran, Hadith, and other Islamic disciplines. When Muslim learners do not attend these programs regularly, they miss out on valuable knowledge and skills that are essential for their spiritual and moral development.

**Limited Understanding of Islam:** Regular attendance at Madrasah Education Programs helps students deepen their understanding of Islam, its principles, and its

teachings. When participation is poor, students may have a limited understanding of Islamic beliefs, values, and practices, which can hinder their ability to live a balanced and well-informed Islamic lifestyle.

**Weak Identity Formation:** Madrasah Education Programs play a crucial role in shaping the Islamic identity of Muslim learners. By attending these programs, students have the opportunity to connect with their faith, develop a sense of belonging to the Muslim community, and establish a strong religious identity. Poor participation may result in a weaker sense of identity, leading to a lack of confidence and confusion about their religious beliefs.

**Missed Character Development:** Madrasah programs often emphasize moral values, character development, and ethical behavior in addition to religious teachings. By not actively participating, students miss out on opportunities to cultivate positive character traits such as honesty, empathy, and compassion, which are crucial for their overall personal growth.

**Limited Social Interaction:** Madrasah Education Programs also provide a platform for Muslim learners to interact with peers who share similar religious values and beliefs. Through these interactions, they can build friendships, develop a sense of community, and strengthen their social bonds. Poor participation may result in a lack of connection with fellow Muslim students, potentially leading to feelings of isolation and a reduced sense of belonging.

**Impact on Academic Performance:** If Madrasah Education Programs are integrated into the school curriculum; poor attendance may affect the overall academic performance of Muslim learners. If these programs are not given due importance, students may struggle to balance their secular education with their religious studies, potentially leading to lower academic achievements.

It is important for schools, parents, and the community to address the underlying causes of poor participation and find solutions to encourage and support Muslim learners in attending their scheduled Madrasah Education Programs. This can involve creating a conducive learning environment, providing necessary resources, promoting parental involvement, and fostering a sense of importance and relevance of Islamic education.

*References:*

Abu Bakar, M. (Ed.) (2018), Rethinking Madrasah Education in a Globalised World, Routledge Taylor and Francis Group, New York, NY

[https://www.academia.edu/45390842/PROBLEMS\\_OF\\_ISLAMIC\\_EDUCATION\\_AND\\_SOLUTIONS](https://www.academia.edu/45390842/PROBLEMS_OF_ISLAMIC_EDUCATION_AND_SOLUTIONS)