

Analysis of Factors Affecting Student Achievement at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi.

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the factors affecting student achievement at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, focusing on internal and external factors, as well as the impact of technology and gadget use. Internal factors such as motivation, learning styles, and teacher-student interactions have a significant impact on student achievement, while external factors like family and school environment also influence learning success. The use of technology and gadgets in the classroom provides easy access to information and interactive learning, but it also presents challenges in the form of distractions that can interfere with students' concentration. This research employs a qualitative approach with methods such as interviews, observations, and documentation to collect data from students, teachers, and school staff. The findings show that wise management of technology use, effective handling of supporting internal and external factors, and the application of appropriate teaching strategies can significantly enhance student achievement at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Education is the key to preparing a quality generation. An effective learning process will produce individuals who are able to think critically, creatively, and competently in facing the challenges of the times. At the middle school level, such as at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, academic achievement is one of the main indicators of the quality of education received by students. However, despite various efforts to improve educational quality, students' academic performance remains varied. Students' academic achievement at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi is influenced by many interacting factors. These factors can be internal, such as motivation, interest, and ability, as well as external, such as family support, social environment, and the quality of teaching at school. While some students show outstanding academic progress, others still struggle to achieve optimal learning outcomes. This situation raises an important question: what factors influence academic achievement at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi?

In the context of education, academic achievement is not only measured by grades. True academic achievement encompasses the development of critical thinking skills, social skills, and students' readiness to face life after graduation (Hidayat et.al, 2023). Therefore, the assessment of academic achievement must involve a more holistic approach. With a more comprehensive understanding of the factors that influence academic performance, schools can design policies and strategies that are more effective in improving the learning quality. Generally, students' academic

achievement is influenced by two main groups of factors: internal and external factors. Internal factors relate to students' personal characteristics, such as motivation, interest, ability, and learning habits (Sulasmi, 2020). Students with high motivation and a strong curiosity tend to perform better academically than those with lower motivation. Additionally, students' basic abilities to absorb material also play a key role in their academic achievement.

External factors, on the other hand, also play a crucial role. These external factors include support from family, the social environment, and the available facilities at school (Raresil et. Al, 2016). For example, students who receive emotional and intellectual support from their families are more likely to be motivated to learn. Likewise, a positive social environment, such as supportive peers and a conducive school atmosphere, can have a positive impact on students' academic performance. School facilities are also an external factor that significantly affects learning outcomes. At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, the availability of adequate learning facilities, such as comfortable classrooms, complete learning tools, and access to technology, can help students better understand the learning material. However, if these facilities are not optimal, students may find it difficult and less motivated to study.

Moreover, the quality of teaching provided by teachers also has a significant impact on students' academic achievement. Teachers who possess skills in classroom management, deliver material in an engaging manner, and provide appropriate guidance to students will significantly contribute to students' performance (Marlina & Sholehun, 2021). At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, teachers play a vital role in creating an active and enjoyable learning environment. One factor that is equally important is the learning policies implemented at the school. A learning system based on active student participation, which encourages students to engage more in the learning process, can enhance their academic performance. On the contrary, a monotonous or passive teaching method that does not actively involve students may decrease motivation and academic achievement (Ridhoa, 2022).

It cannot be denied that the socio-economic status of students' families also plays a major role in academic achievement. Students from families with higher socio-economic conditions generally have greater access to educational resources, such as private tutoring, books, or technology that supports their learning process. On the other hand, students from families with lower socio-economic conditions may face greater challenges in accessing such resources.

Given the importance of these factors, MTs N 4 Kota Jambi needs to conduct an in-depth evaluation of what obstacles and barriers affect students' academic achievement. By understanding these factors, the school can design various intervention programs that are more appropriate to support students in achieving better academic performance. These interventions could include teacher training, improving facilities, and providing support to students and parents. As part of the efforts to improve education, this study aims to analyze the factors that affect students' academic achievement at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi. With a better understanding of these factors, it is hoped that effective solutions can be found to enhance the quality of education at the school. This research is also expected to contribute to the development of educational theory and learning practices at the secondary school level.

Overall, students' academic achievement at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi is a reflection of many interrelated factors. Therefore, a more holistic and integrated effort is needed from all parties, including teachers, parents, and the school itself, to create an educational environment that supports students' progress. Thus, this study is expected to provide insights and recommendations that will be useful in improving academic achievement at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi.

2. METHOD

This study uses a qualitative approach with a case study method to analyze the factors influencing students' academic achievement at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi. Data were collected through in-depth interviews with students, teachers, and parents to explore their perceptions, experiences, and views on the factors that affect academic performance. In addition, classroom observations were conducted to gather information on teacher-student interactions and the classroom learning environment. Documentation, such as report cards and other administrative records, was also used to support a more holistic understanding of students' academic performance.

The collected data were analyzed using thematic analysis, which involves identifying the key themes that emerge from the interviews and observations. The results of this analysis are expected

to provide a deeper understanding of the factors that influence students' academic achievement, including both internal factors, such as motivation and learning abilities, and external factors, such as family support and the school environment. The study was conducted with 10 students selected purposively based on certain criteria, such as academic performance and active involvement in school activities, in order to gain a richer and more in-depth understanding of the phenomenon under investigation.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1. The Influence of Internal Factors on Students' Academic Achievement

Internal factors refer to elements that come from within the students themselves that can affect their academic performance. One of the main factors in this category is motivation. Motivation is the driving force that encourages students to strive hard and commit to achieving their academic goals. Students with high motivation tend to be more diligent and disciplined in their studies, which ultimately leads to better academic results. In the context of MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, students who show higher levels of motivation usually have better performance compared to those who are less motivated (Hidayat & Malihah, 2023).

In addition to motivation, another internal factor that influences academic performance is the student's academic ability. This ability includes various aspects, such as cognitive skills, grasping power, and understanding of the subject matter. Students with better academic abilities tend to absorb information more easily and quickly. They are also more capable of applying learned concepts in different situations. This ability plays a significant role in determining how well students can follow lessons and achieve optimal grades (Anggraeni, 2016).

Besides academic ability, students' learning patterns also have a significant impact on their academic performance. Every student has a different way of processing information and learning. Some students may prefer independent study, while others are more effective in group settings. The learning techniques they choose—whether it's active reading, note-taking, or discussing the material with peers—will affect their understanding of the subject matter (Dima et.al, 2023). Therefore, recognizing the learning patterns that work best for each student is important for improving their academic achievement.

Additionally, the level of concentration among students is another internal factor that cannot be overlooked. A student's ability to focus during the learning process will determine how effectively they absorb the material being taught. Students who are easily distracted or have difficulty concentrating generally struggle to understand the lessons, which negatively impacts their academic performance. Factors such as anxiety, stress, or emotional disturbances can affect a student's ability to concentrate and focus during learning in the classroom. Another factor influencing academic performance is self-regulation, or the student's ability to manage themselves in the learning process (Wulandari & Ernandi, 2024). Students who can manage their time effectively, set clear learning goals, and monitor their progress tend to perform better academically. Self-regulation includes the ability to create a study schedule, follow learning routines, and avoid procrastination. Students who lack these skills often struggle to complete assignments on time and manage the academic workload given to them.

Not only that, students' emotional factors also play an important role in their academic achievement. Stable and positive emotions can enhance concentration, motivation, and self-confidence. On the other hand, negative emotions such as anxiety or depression can hinder a student's ability to learn effectively (Salsabila & Puspitasari, 2020). In this research, it is crucial to understand how the emotions students experience can affect their academic performance at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi and how to manage these emotions to avoid disrupting the learning process.

Next, students' perception of their own abilities, often referred to as self-efficacy, also influences academic performance. Students who feel confident in their ability to overcome learning challenges tend to be more successful in overcoming difficulties and put more effort into achieving academic goals. Conversely, students who doubt their own abilities are more likely to exert less effort and give up more easily when faced with obstacles. Therefore, building self-confidence and belief in one's abilities is essential to improving students' academic achievement at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi.

Finally, students' physical and mental health factors also affect their academic performance. Good physical health supports students' stamina and energy to participate fully in lessons with attention and concentration. Meanwhile, good mental health is equally important so that students can study calmly and are not overwhelmed by emotional or psychological issues. Students experiencing physical or mental difficulties, such as fatigue, lack of sleep, or significant stress, often struggle to reach their full academic potential. Therefore, maintaining a balance between physical and mental health is crucial to supporting students' academic achievement.

3.2. The Impact of External Factors in the Family and School Environment

The family environment is one of the external factors that has a significant impact on students' academic achievement. The family serves as the first foundation in a child's life, where values, attitudes, and learning habits are formed. Parents who are actively involved in their children's education tend to motivate them to achieve better academic results. For instance, parents who dedicate time to assist their children with homework or discuss lessons with them can improve the children's understanding. On the other hand, families that pay little attention to their children's education may lead to a lack of motivation and lower academic performance (ramadhan & Soenarto, 2015).

One important element in the family is the emotional support given to the child. Children who feel emotionally supported by their parents tend to be more confident and motivated to learn. Parents who prioritize open communication and provide encouragement when their children face difficulties can help them overcome learning challenges more effectively. At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, the positive emotional bond between students and their parents plays a significant role in the students' sense of security and confidence in participating in classroom learning.

However, the economic factor cannot be overlooked when it comes to affecting students' academic performance. Students from families with a higher economic status often have greater access to educational resources that support their learning process. For example, they can buy additional books, attend private tutoring, or have access to reliable internet for online learning. In contrast, students from lower-income families may face limitations in accessing quality educational materials, which can hinder their academic development. Therefore, a family's economic condition directly influences the opportunities available for students to learn to their full potential (Dima et.al, 2023).

The school environment also plays a crucial role in determining students' academic success. A school that provides adequate facilities, such as comfortable classrooms, well-equipped libraries, and useful learning tools, can create a more conducive learning atmosphere. Proper facilities allow students to study with greater focus and comfort. At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, although the existing facilities are adequate, improvements such as more complete laboratories or computer rooms could further enhance the quality of education.

In addition to facilities, the relationship between teachers and students is another vital aspect of the school environment. Teachers who understand the needs of their students and can create a pleasant learning atmosphere are more likely to boost students' motivation to learn. Teachers who are open to discussing with students and paying extra attention to those facing difficulties will help students feel valued and motivated to study harder. The interactive teaching methods and emphasis on student involvement in the learning process at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi have proven to improve their academic performance.

The presence of peers also has an influence on students' academic achievement. Social interactions that take place among peers at school can create a more enjoyable and supportive learning environment. Study groups or discussions involving peers often make it easier for students to understand difficult subjects. At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, students who are active in extracurricular activities often show better academic performance because they have the opportunity to learn and collaborate with their peers.

Furthermore, parental involvement in school activities significantly affects students' academic achievement. Parents who engage in parent-teacher meetings or other school events are better able to understand their children's academic progress. With good communication between parents and teachers, both parties can collaborate to find the best solutions for helping students overcome learning difficulties. This is crucial because parents who are not involved in their children's

education tend to be unaware of the challenges their children face at school, which can hinder their academic progress.

The implementation of educational policies that support the academic development of students contributes greatly to the quality of education they receive. Schools and governments have a responsibility to design policies that can create a better learning environment and support students' academic progress (Ridhoa, 2022). The effective implementation of policies, such as a relevant curriculum and continuous teacher training, will have a positive impact on students' academic achievement at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi. Efforts to continuously update and adapt policies to meet the evolving needs of education are inseparable from the academic success of students.

3.3 Learning Strategies and Their Impact on Student Achievement

Learning strategies are the methods or approaches used by teachers to deliver lesson content to students. The choice of the right learning strategy can affect how well students understand and master the material being taught. At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, various learning approaches are implemented to accommodate the diverse learning needs of students. For instance, problem-based learning (PBL) is highly effective in encouraging students to think critically and solve problems independently. By using the appropriate approach, teachers can maximize students' potential and improve the quality of their academic achievement (Wulandari, 2023).

One strategy used at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi is cooperative learning. In cooperative learning, students work in small groups to help each other understand the lesson material. This strategy not only enhances students' comprehension of the material but also builds social and teamwork skills. Students who interact and share knowledge with their peers tend to have a deeper understanding. Therefore, this strategy can improve students' overall learning achievement as they feel more supported and comfortable during the learning process.

In addition, the use of technology in learning has become an increasingly popular strategy at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi. Technology provides various conveniences in delivering interactive and engaging content. For example, the use of instructional videos, educational apps, or computer simulations can help students better understand complex concepts. Technology also allows students to learn independently outside of class hours, enabling them to review the material taught in class. Effective use of technology can enhance students' learning outcomes, especially in terms of understanding abstract concepts (Raresik, 2016).

Project-based learning (PBL) is another strategy implemented at MTs N 4 Kota Jambi. With this approach, students not only learn theory but also gain practical experience by working on projects that are relevant to everyday life. This strategy helps students connect the theories learned in class to real-world situations. Moreover, through projects, students can enhance their communication, time management, and problem-solving skills. This undoubtedly has a positive impact on their academic achievement as they feel more engaged and motivated in the learning process (Sulasmi, 2020).

A more personalized learning approach also has a significant impact on student achievement. This approach focuses on recognizing the individual learning needs of students and adjusting teaching methods to match their learning styles. Some students may find it easier to understand material through visual methods, while others may prefer auditory or kinesthetic approaches. By understanding each student's learning style, teachers can design strategies that ensure each student receives an optimal learning experience. A learning strategy tailored to individual needs can significantly improve students' motivation and learning outcomes.

However, not all learning strategies are successful if they are not accompanied by proper evaluation. Regular assessments help teachers determine the extent to which students have understood the material and what needs to be improved in the teaching process. At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, evaluation is conducted not only through final exams but also through daily assignments and formative assessments. These evaluations provide a more comprehensive picture of students' academic development, allowing teachers to adjust their teaching strategies when necessary to improve learning outcomes.

Additionally, effective classroom management is an important component of a learning strategy that can impact student achievement. A teacher who can manage the classroom well will create a conducive environment for learning. Effective classroom management includes time

management, clear instructions, and providing opportunities for students to participate actively. A well-structured and comfortable classroom atmosphere will help students focus better and understand the material more easily. This will contribute to their academic success.

Ultimately, various well-implemented learning strategies will have a positive impact on student achievement. Diverse and suitable strategies will create a more meaningful and enjoyable learning experience. At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, the variety of learning strategies used by teachers has proven to help students achieve better academic results. By continuing to apply and develop innovative learning strategies, it is expected that students' academic performance will keep improving, and they will be better prepared to face the challenges of an evolving educational landscape.

3.4 The Impact of Technology and Gadget Use in the Learning Process

Technology has rapidly developed and influenced almost every aspect of life, including in the field of education. The use of technology in the classroom has brought significant changes to the way students access information. At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, the use of devices such as computers, laptops, and tablets helps students access various online learning resources. Technology also enables students to participate in distance learning, which is especially beneficial in situations that limit face-to-face interaction. With easier and more flexible access, technology opens up greater opportunities for students to expand their knowledge in their learning.

However, the use of gadgets among students also presents certain challenges. Gadgets, although useful for information access, often become a source of distraction for students. For example, social media, games, and other entertainment apps can divert students' attention from more important learning activities. At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, even though technology is effectively used in the learning process, supervision of gadget use among students is crucial to prevent it from interfering with learning concentration. With proper management, the potential for distraction can be minimized, allowing technology to support the learning process without sacrificing students' focus.

On the other hand, technology also offers many benefits in supporting a more interactive learning process. For example, the use of educational apps and online learning platforms allows students to learn in a more engaging and enjoyable way. Apps such as quiz makers or interactive learning platforms can encourage students to be more active during lessons. This dynamic interaction helps students understand the material in a more enjoyable way, which can speed up comprehension and improve their academic performance. Therefore, technology has a positive impact on creating a livelier and more enjoyable learning experience (Anggraeni, 2016).

Additionally, the use of technology in learning allows for more personalized learning. Students can learn at their own pace using apps that are tailored to their abilities. This is particularly helpful for students who may need more time to understand the material or those who have already mastered certain concepts and wish to move on to more advanced topics. At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, educational apps and digital learning tools give students the opportunity to learn independently, adjusting to their own learning needs and styles. Students feel more empowered and able to control their own learning process, which has the potential to enhance their understanding of the material being taught (Wulandari & Ernandi, 2024).

However, despite the many benefits of technology in education, challenges such as the digital divide must be addressed. Not all students have equal access to technology. Some students may not have adequate devices or stable internet access, which can hinder their ability to fully utilize technology in the learning process. At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, although technological facilities are relatively good, some students still struggle to access online learning platforms due to economic or technological limitations at home. Therefore, it is crucial for schools to create solutions that ensure every student can enjoy the full benefits of technology in their learning process.

The use of technology in learning also gives teachers the opportunity to be more creative in delivering material. Teachers can use various digital media, such as videos, animations, or infographics, to explain difficult concepts. This not only helps students better understand the material but also makes the learning process more engaging. With a variety of learning media options, students can learn in the way that best suits their learning style. This diversity in teaching methods inspires students to be more active and enthusiastic in learning, boosting their motivation to achieve better results.

However, excessive use of gadgets can also lead to negative impacts on students' health, especially mental and physical well-being. Prolonged gadget use can cause sleep disturbances, vision problems, as well as anxiety and stress (Hidayat & Malihah, 2023). Therefore, it is important for schools to set clear guidelines and limits regarding the use of technology in learning activities. At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, although technology is used in teaching, the school also emphasizes the importance of balancing gadget use with physical or social activities outside the classroom. With wise management, students can enjoy the benefits of technology without being affected by its negative impacts.

With the wise use of technology, its potential to support learning can have a significant positive impact. At MTs N 4 Kota Jambi, technology plays an important role in enriching students' learning experiences and facilitating a more efficient learning process. As long as it is used wisely, technology can be an effective tool to enhance students' academic performance and equip them with relevant skills for an increasingly digital future.

4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the integration of internal factors such as student motivation, learning styles, and teacher-student interaction, alongside external factors like family and school environment, significantly influences student achievement. The role of technology and gadgets in the learning process is undeniable, offering flexibility and interactive learning experiences, but also posing challenges such as distractions and the digital divide. While strategies like cooperative learning and project-based learning enhance engagement, the effective use of technology can further enrich the learning environment. However, balancing technology use with proper supervision and maintaining students' physical and mental health remains crucial. Overall, when managed effectively, these factors can collectively contribute to improved academic performance and prepare students for the demands of a digital future.

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