

# Challenges of Digital Literacy Education in Pandemic Period

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**Abstract.** *The Covid-19 pandemic that has hit the world has had an impact in various fields including education. The application of teaching and learning from home forces educational institutions to switch to digital in implementing learning. The application of learning methods online provides new experiences in current learning methods. Various community responses are present in response to this relatively new learning system. Rapid digital development and the current emergency situation demands that all stakeholders and all walks of life must adjust to developments. This is of course a common concern in providing solutions to existing problems, so that even in a pandemic situation the teaching and learning process can still run smoothly. Digital literacy needs to be carried out extensively (starting from family, school and society), so that all these elements can not only use technology but can also make good and efficient use of it. This research uses a descriptive analysis method. The purpose of this research is to describe related media use, digital, in this case digital literacy, which can be used as an important key in the successful implementation of learning online during a pandemic.*

**Keywords:** *Challenge, Education, Literacy, Digital Literacy*

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## INTRODUCTION

The Covid -19 pandemic that has hit the world has had an impact in various fields including the education sector in Indonesia. The policy Work From Home in the Covid -19 transmission control strategy is the basis for implementing teaching and learning methods at home. This forces all educational institutions to switch to digital in implementing distance learning between teachers and students. The application of learning methods online provides new experiences in current learning methods. Various community responses arise in response to this relatively new learning system.

In big cities, the digital transformation process has run quite well, this has not caused too many significant problems. On the contrary, for some people, especially for low-income people living in the 3T (Disadvantaged, Outermost, Frontier) areas difficult to adapt. In various regions in Indonesia, there are still many obstacles in the teaching and learning process online due to the lack of internet facilities, equipment, the economic ability of students to meet extra funds for quotas, the ability to use digital equipment and so on. The rapid digital development and the current emergency situation requires all stakeholders and all levels of society to adapt to developments.

Digital technology has spread to all levels of society but some people have not been able to use this technology properly. Improper use of digital technology can have bad effects on the survival of individual and social life. Therefore digital literacy should be expanded in order to educate the nation's personality. Historical and cultural contexts, sharing and creation, information and data, tools and systems are the dimensions of a digital literacy. Through

knowledge of the dimensions described, the material and procedures for digital literacy learning inside and outside of school can be expanded.

According to Nani Pratiwi (2017), in this era, getting news is very easy. Digital media makes it easy for each wearer to spread news to one another. News sources can be obtained from anywhere. The digital age cannot be denied anymore. Anyone can easily use it well.

Furthermore, Yuni Retnowati (2015) states that: International institutions and the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology conducted a study in 2015, the result of which is that there are around 30 million internet users in Indonesia who are suspected of coming from the age of children and adolescents. In their daily lives, they are born and develop with social media. Social media is an item that cannot be separated in this life. In 2015 there were 72 million active social media users, data was obtained from a social marketing agency.

Literacy is a cultural practice related to social and political issues. Therefore, literacy has a broad meaning and is not only concerned with the ability to read and write a lesson, but also the ability to read, write and skills in life. Many things are also related to the object of cultural studies that focuses on social variables and their meanings. However, literacy is still related to the use of language, even though it now has seven interrelated dimensions, among others, (1) Geographical Dimensions (local, national, regional, international), (2) Sector dimensions (education, communication, administration, entertainment , military, and so on), (3) the skill dimension (reading, writing, counting, speaking), (4) the function dimension (solving problems, getting a job, achieving goals, developing knowledge, and developing oneself), (5) the media dimension (text, print, visual, digital), (6) Quantity Dimensions (one, two, how many), (7) Language dimensions (ethnic, local, national, regional, international) (Muhammad Muiz, nd)

Hague and Payton define digital literacy as the ability of individuals to apply functional skills to digital devices so that a person can find and select information, think critically, create creativity, collaborate with others, communicate effectively, and still ignore electronic security and the developing socio-cultural context. . In the context of education, good digital literacy also plays a role in developing one's knowledge of certain subject matter by encouraging students' curiosity and creativity. (Sarah Payton, 2010).

Therefore digital literacy is needed in society, especially children and adolescents to choose news that is presented on social media. Digital literacy is interpreted as the skill to understand, analyze, organize, evaluated information using digital technology (Maulana, 2015). Poor literacy can disturb adolescents psychologically. This is caused by the emotion of children and adolescents who are still unstable. Children and adolescents receive instantaneously because they are not based on the truth and origin of the information. The inability of children and adolescents to interpret digital literacy affects the character and attitudes of children and adolescents (Pratiwi, 2017) this symptom is certainly very undesirable. Therefore, the best solution that must be carried out in children and adolescents is to teach digital literacy because gradually negative digital literacy will have an effect on the character and psychology of children and adolescents.

## **METHODS**

The method used in this research is descriptive analysis method. The descriptive method of analysis is a research method that aims to describe the results of the analysis in a clear, detailed, systematic manner, and then put forward in words or sentences (Arikunto, 2013: 213). Furthermore, Nazir (2009: 54) descriptive method is a method in examining a group of people, an object, a set of conditions, a system of thought, or a class of events in the present. The purpose of this descriptive study is to make descriptions, descriptions or paintings systematically, factually and accurately regarding the facts, characteristics, and relationships between the phenomena being investigated. In this discussion, researchers use descriptive methods in order to describe the challenges of the literacy education process during a pandemic.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The global flows that swept the world and the faster flow of information from various parts of the world can only be followed properly if people want to read. So what is first instilled in the nation's generation is a willingness to read. A reading culture must be grown from an early age.

### Steps for Digital

Literacy Literacy must be fundamentally changed to educate the public. It is also necessary to make a literacy acceleration policy with several stages, namely: (a) Literacy is not limited to reading from reading materials in the form of books, but must go further, namely in the form of digital materials. Literacy is not only a reading and writing activity, but also the skill of assuming the use of knowledge materials in the types of printed books, digital and auditory materials. Understanding of this literacy pattern needs to be given to the community. (2) Provides internet browsing throughout the area. Although now is the era: cyberspace:, but there are many regions in the archipelago that cannot browse computers and the internet, so literacy will be easier. (3) Generating love and belonging to facts, truth and science. This must be done in reading and writing activities that are aligned with verification, both reading digital and manual materials. (4) The public is obliged to renew their lifestyle, starting from the habit of speaking into reading habits. Many people do not have a reading culture because they are busy looking for treasures, do not like to read, and have not found material to read. In fact, they do not even know what quality reading material looks like.

### Digital Literacy Process

#### *Digital literacy movement in the family*

The Goals of the Digital Literacy Movement in the Family, So that children can improve their ability to think actively, creatively and positively by using digital materials at all times, a digital literacy culture in the family needs to be instilled from an early age. This is the goal of strengthening digital literacy in the family. The direction of a father and mother in a wise manner is expected to be able to foster a culture of literacy in the family. In addition, to increase the culture of literacy in the family it is also expected to increase expertise in managing digital media wisely, smartly, smartly and fittingly in building communication between family members in harmony and useful for family desires. However, according to Nasrullah (2007), the things that digital literacy wants to achieve in a specific family are as follows: (1) It is necessary to increase the type and amount of digital literacy reading material that is owned by a family. (2) Every day add channels to read digital literacy reading materials. (3) Increase the number of digital literacy readings (4) Increase the intensity of the use of digital materials in various family activities (5) Increase the number of digital literacy training that directly touch families

### Strategy for the Family Literacy Movement

The most appropriate way to develop digital literacy in the family starts from the roles of fathers and mothers, because they should be examples of literacy in using digital materials. Both parents are required to create a communicative social environment in the family, especially for their sons and her daughter. Telling each other about the positive uses of digital media that parents can do with their children in building an interaction. Furthermore, conveying the basic lessons given to all family members is a strategy for developing digital literacy in the family.

### Digital Literacy in the School Literacy

Movement The school literacy movement was initiated by the Ministry of Education and Culture in 2015. This program is asked to increase the quality of human resources in using a culture of reflective, analytical and critical understanding of information (Kemendikbud, 2016) for students, so that To grow enthusiasm in reading, this movement needs to be applied. Expertise in understanding, accessing and using something intelligently using various activities, such as speaking, writing, listening, and reading is the meaning of literacy itself.

Educated circles are demanded to be more careful in exploring quality information considering that currently the flow of digital-based information is growing very fast. Digital literacy can be used as cutting-edge learning materials. The use of digital materials is not only lightening, but also brings other authentic ideas about materials digital. As for other uses, namely fostering a fondness for reading outside of subject hours, fostering self-confidence as a good reader, and increasing the use of up-to-date reference sources.

In applying digital literacy in the school literacy movement. According to Puspito (2017), schools are asked to be able to develop literacy habits well, so it is expected to review 3 things as follows: (1) Creating a literacy friendly atmosphere. An effort that can be used is to develop the habit of posting the results of students in all corners of the school area. In order for the school environment to create a comfortable atmosphere, exchanges can be implemented in turn, so that it provides opportunities for all students to become a common concern. (2) Fight for school as a literate academic environment. Schools can design and carry out literacy movements in schools which include forming school literacy groups. (3) Fighting for a social and effective school environment as a literate communication and interaction figure. The social and affective environment is designed and expanded by giving appreciation to the results of the students' efforts, this is a form of recognition of all student work.

## **Digital Literacy Movement in Society**

### ***The goal of the Digital Literacy Movement in Society***

Intelligence uses media in the community is highly prioritized. In this era, using digital in the world has become a habit or lifestyle, which is connected to information technology. The spread of digital media causes changes in behavior in society. Information that appears on social media is correct but is not followed by media skills to filter and process data.

Digital literacy in society aims to teach people the mastery of technology and communication or internet networks wisely and creatively in finding, assessing, using, and processing information. Digital literacy also has the aim that users have the responsibility of using digital social media and can understand legal aspects that intersect with Law no. 19 of 2016 concerning Electronic Information and Transactions. Things that need to be known include the use of internet networks and useful program programs, the basics of computer operation, trends in the digital world, security and confidentiality systems and entrepreneurship.

### ***Strategy for the Digital Literacy Movement in the Society***

Use and application of digital devices in literacy in the digital era is currently very important. Therefore, courses or outreach is needed for all people who have an interest in reading to be able to further develop themselves. In this pandemic, the use of digital media is an important key in the successful implementation of learning online. There is a need for a quick adjustment to the current place of education. In fact, this situation is not easy, but it is our perspective that must be changed. The current situation forces digitalization to accelerate. This can help to advance Indonesian society, especially future generations.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

The Covid-19 pandemic has changed the world, including in the field of education. Social distancing causes education to be held online. There are several teachers and students who are ready because they are used to learning with the help of technology. But there are many teachers and students who are surprised by this. For this reason, digital literacy needs to be supported as a learning method, which is included in the curriculum system, or at least connected to the teaching and learning system. As well as through creative groups and community organizations based on education that can channel ideas, multiply expertise and choose massive movements to be smart in social media.

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