

## Meningkatkan Kesejahteraan Spiritual di Jakarta Timur Melalui Majelis Taklim Berbasis Pelayanan Masyarakat

### *Enhancing Spiritual Well-Being in East Jakarta Through Community Service-Based Majelis Taklim*

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#### Abstrak

Kesejahteraan spiritual merupakan aspek penting dalam kehidupan masyarakat perkotaan, khususnya di Jakarta Timur, yang menghadapi berbagai tantangan sosial dan ekonomi. Penelitian ini mengeksplorasi peran Majelis Taklim sebagai lembaga pelayanan masyarakat dalam meningkatkan kesejahteraan spiritual individu di lingkungan perkotaan. Melalui pendekatan kualitatif, studi ini melibatkan wawancara semi-terstruktur dan observasi terhadap peserta dan pengelola Majelis Taklim untuk memahami dampak kegiatan keagamaan terhadap kehidupan spiritual mereka. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Majelis Taklim tidak hanya berfungsi sebagai tempat pengajaran agama, tetapi juga sebagai wadah interaksi sosial yang memperkuat solidaritas dan memberikan dukungan emosional. Kegiatan rutin seperti pengajian dan dzikir membantu para peserta menemukan kedamaian batin dan makna di tengah kesibukan kota. Dengan demikian, Majelis Taklim memainkan peran strategis dalam membangun kesejahteraan spiritual masyarakat Jakarta Timur, serta menawarkan peluang untuk mengembangkan program-program keagamaan yang lebih adaptif terhadap kebutuhan masyarakat urban.

**Kata Kunci:** Jakarta Timur; Kesejahteraan Rohani; Majelis Taklim; Pengabdian Masyarakat.

#### Abstract

*Spiritual well-being is an essential aspect of the life of urban people, especially in East Jakarta, which faces various social and economic challenges. This study explores the Majelis Taklim's role as a community service institution in improving the spiritual welfare of individuals in urban environments. Through a qualitative approach, this study involves semi-structured interviews and observations of participants and managers of the Majelis Taklim to understand the impact of religious activities on their spiritual lives. The study results show that the Majelis Taklim not only functions as a place for religious teaching but also as a forum for social interaction that strengthens solidarity and provides emotional support. Regular activities such as recitation and dhikr help participants find inner peace and meaning amid the busy city. Thus, the Majelis Taklim plays a strategic role in building the spiritual welfare of the people of East Jakarta, as well as offering opportunities to develop religious programs that are more adaptive to the needs of urban communities.*

**Keywords:** East Jakarta; Spiritual Welfare; Majelis Taklim; Community Service.

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## INTRODUCTION

Spiritual well-being is essential to people's lives, especially in a complex and dynamic urban environment like Jakarta. As the capital city of Indonesia, Jakarta offers many opportunities and challenges for urban people who are often faced with the pressure of a fast, competitive, and materialistic life. In this context, many individuals feel a spiritual void that encourages a deeper search for meaning in life. This phenomenon highlights the importance of spiritual practices in response to the spiritual void amid urban life (Hakim, 2021).

Majelis taklim, as a non-formal Islamic educational institution, has a vital role in assisting urban communities, especially in Jakarta, in spiritual and social development. The Majelis Taklim not only functions as a means of religious teaching but also acts as an agent of social change that fosters faith, strengthens social solidarity, and improves the quality of the community's spiritual life. By involving participants in routine activities that focus on understanding religion and strengthening Islamic values, the Majelis Taklim also contributes to building inner peace amid the dynamics of urban life (Desria et al., 2024).

As part of community service, the Majelis Taklim provides religious programs tailored to urban communities' needs. In this case, the Majelis Taklim can be an effective instrument in creating religious programs that are relevant to the social and cultural context of the people of Jakarta and support their physical and mental well-being (Nugraha, 2016).

Spiritual well-being can be defined as a condition in which an individual feels peace, has a clear purpose in life, and establishes a harmonious relationship with

oneself, others, nature, and transcendent entities (God). In urban communities such as Jakarta, spiritual well-being is becoming increasingly relevant. A fast-paced and competitive life often leads to stress and psychological distress, affecting individuals' quality of life. Therefore, spiritual well-being can be an essential source of strength in facing these challenges. Some indicators of spiritual well-being include a sense of peace and harmony, clear life goals, connection to the transcendent, positive social relationships, and consistency between personal values and daily actions. Research shows that involvement in religious communities, such as majlis taklim, can strengthen a sense of social connectedness and provide significant emotional support, which helps to cope with stress and improve the overall quality of life (Mohammad, n.d.).

The Majelis Taklim has a long history in Indonesian society and has grown rapidly since the time of the Prophet PBUH, who used the council to teach Islamic teachings to their companions. In Indonesia, the Majelis Taklim has been known since the guardians' time and has become an essential means of spreading Islamic da'wah. In Jakarta, the Majelis Taklim functions as a place for religious teaching and a center for social, cultural, and economic activities involving various levels of society (Pertiwi et al., 2021). This emphasizes integrating spiritual aspects into community health and well-being programs. Thus, individuals are expected to achieve a holistic balance of life, including physical, mental, social, and spiritual health.

With Jakarta's social and economic diversity, the Majelis Taklim adapts to local needs, becoming a space to foster religious understanding, increase worship, and

strengthen social solidarity between community members. The Majelis Taklim also plays a vital role in providing social education, economic empowerment of the people, and maintaining social relations through the interaction that occurs in it. In addition, the Majelis Taklim introduces various social and religious programs relevant to urban communities' living conditions (Sapriyanti et al., 2021).

In addition, the phenomenon of urban Sufism or urban Sufism also shows how urban people seek spiritual well-being through Sufism practices. In Jakarta, the practice of remembrance by urban people shows an effort to achieve inner peace and balance in life amidst the hustle and bustle of the city. Efforts to improve spiritual well-being through majlis taklim or other spiritual practices can help individuals face the challenges of urban life, find meaning in life, and achieve a better quality of life (Hafil, 2014). Majelis Taklim, a non-formal educational institution, has a long history in Indonesian society. In Jakarta, it functions as a means of religious learning and developing religious knowledge. Its social and spiritual role includes increasing understanding and implementing worship among the community (Wahyudi, 2021).

The Majelis Taklim had existed since the time of the Prophet PBUH when he taught Islamic teachings to the companions in various places such as Darul Arqam, the houses of the companions, and the Prophet's Mosque. This tradition was then continued by scholars and spreaders of Islam in various regions, including Indonesia. In Indonesia, the Majelis Taklim began to be known in the guardians' time, who used it as an effective means to spread Islamic da'wah to the broader community. Over time, the Majelis Taklim has grown rapidly in Indonesia and has become an

integral part of the life of the Muslim community. The Majelis Taklim functions as a place of study and as a center for social, cultural, and economic activities. According to data from the Ministry of Religious Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia, there are around 994 thousand taklim assemblies throughout Indonesia, many spearheaded by extraordinary women. The Majelis Taklim is now a place of study and an element that can develop economically, socially, culturally, and educationally (Tim PRMN. 2022).

As the capital of Indonesia, Jakarta has a significant number of Majelis Taklims. Data from the Central Statistics Agency of DKI Jakarta Province shows that various da'wah institutions, including Majelis Taklims, spread throughout the Jakarta area. The Majelis Taklim in Jakarta plays an essential role in urban communities' spiritual and social development. Apart from being a place of study, the Majelis Taklim in Jakarta is also active in various social activities, such as economic empowerment of the people, education, and other community activities. For example, the Al-Ikhlas Majelis Taklim in East Cempaka Putih was selected to represent Central Jakarta in the provincial Majelis Taklim competition, showing their active role in the community. In addition, the Majelis Taklim in Jakarta also plays a role in the community's spiritual development. The Majelis Taklim in Indonesia, especially in Jakarta, has developed from a mere place of recitation to a center of activity that plays a role in various aspects of people's lives. This development reflects the adaptation of the Majelis Taklim to the needs of the times and its contribution to building a better society (Pemerintahan Kota Administrasi Jakarta Pusat, 2024; Hamid & Uyuni, 2023).

So, this article tries to explain how the Majelis Taklim can improve the spiritual welfare of urban people in Jakarta. And what are the challenges and opportunities in implementing community service-based Majelis Taklims in Jakarta? The purpose of this article is to describe the role of the Majelis Taklim as an instrument of community service in improving spiritual welfare in Jakarta, Analyzing the impact of the Majelis Taklim on the spiritual welfare of the Jakarta urban community by understanding the strategic role of the Majelis Taklim in the urban context of Jakarta, it is hoped that a strategy for developing religious programs that is more effective and adaptive to the spiritual needs of the metropolitan community can be formulated.

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

This study uses a qualitative approach based on teacher experience, with a focus on understanding how the activities of the Majelis Taklim contribute to the spiritual well-being of Jakarta's urban community. This approach allows researchers to explore the experiences of Majelis Taklim managers and participants in the process of religious learning and its impact on their spiritual lives. Jakarta is a capital city with fast and diverse life dynamics. Jakarta's urban communities are often faced with stress and anxiety due to social, economic, and pollution tensions. In this context, the Majelis Taklim is an important space to foster spiritual well-being as a complement to busy daily life.

To obtain comprehensive data, this study uses two main techniques in data collection, namely semi-structured interviews and observations. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with the organizers and participants of the

Majelis Taklim to explore their views on the benefits of the activities of the Majelis Taklim, personal experiences related to religious learning, and the impact of the activities on their spiritual well-being. This interview provides freedom for respondents to share their personal views and experiences in more depth, but still with the prepared question guide. The number of interviewed participants was selected based on certain criteria, such as active involvement in the Majelis Taklim and diversity of social backgrounds.

The participants of the Majelis Taklim in East Jakarta consisted of various social backgrounds, especially housewives and urban workers who were looking for inner peace and religious knowledge. These assemblies serve as a place to strengthen religious values in the midst of a challenging life in East Jakarta. Observation is carried out as part of community service in the form of teaching and coaching which aims to assess the learning process and its impact on the spiritual well-being of participants. Semi-structured interviews were conducted with the managers and participants of the Majelis Taklim to explore their views on the benefits of the activities and the challenges faced. This is to find out the extent to which the Majelis Taklim contributes to the spiritual well-being of the participants. By exploring the experiences of managers and participants, as well as analyzing the data qualitatively, this study will provide new insights into how the Majelis Taklim can function as a relevant and adaptive instrument of community service in the context of urban life. In addition, this study also aims to identify challenges and opportunities in the development of Majelis Taklims in Jakarta, as well as provide recommendations to increase the

effectiveness of religious programs based on community service.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Majelis Taklim as a Place of Community Service in an Islamic Perspective. From an Islamic perspective, community service is the implementation of principles such as helping and empowering the ummah. The Majelis Taklim can be a forum for community service activities, such as empowering members through various education and skills programs (Rosha et al., 2018). Community service is one of the fundamental aspects of Islamic teachings, which emphasizes the importance of individual and community contributions in improving the social and spiritual well-being of society as a whole. These principles are relevant in the context of Jakarta as the capital of Indonesia, where the dynamics of urban life demand the implementation of Islamic values in community service (Abdullah et al., 2023).

1. Sincere Intention for Allah SWT: Every act of devotion must be based on a sincere intention to seek the pleasure of Allah SWT, not to obtain praise or personal gain. This sincerity ensures that the deeds carried out have worship value and get a worthy reward on His side.
2. Justice and Equality: Islam emphasizes the importance of being fair and treating each individual equally, regardless of social, economic, or other background. In the context of community service, this principle encourages the equitable distribution of resources and services to all levels of society.
3. Social Concern (Ta'awun): The concept of ta'awun or mutual help is the core of

devotion in Islam. Muslims are encouraged to help others in kindness and piety, as well as to work together in overcoming social problems faced by the community.

4. Empowerment and Education: Islam encourages individual and community empowerment efforts through education and capacity building. This aims to make the community independent and play an active role in social and economic development.
5. Material and Spiritual Balance: Devotion in Islam focuses not only on the material aspect, but also on improving the spiritual well-being of the community. This holistic approach ensures that physical and spiritual needs are met in a balanced manner.
6. Oriented to the Public Benefit: Every service activity must aim to bring benefits to the wider community, prioritizing the common good over the interests of certain individuals or groups.

One of the themes that emerged from the interviews with participants was the high level of their participation in the activities of the taklim assembly. Most participants stated that they attended the taklim assembly at least two to three times a month. They more often participated in activities such as joint dhikr or in-depth recitation. The participants explained that the activity allowed them to deepen their religious teachings and seek inner peace that is often difficult to find in busy city life. According to them, this activity provides religious education and a space to interact with fellow worshippers with similar spiritual goals.

Furthermore, the interview also revealed that most of the participants felt an improvement in their spiritual well-

being after being actively involved in the activities of the taklim assembly. Many participants reported feeling more peaceful and calm after participating in recitation or dhikr activities. Most of them think that the Majelis Taklim provides inner peace that helps them overcome the stress and pressure of daily life, which is very fast and full of challenges in Jakarta. In this case, the Majelis Taklim is a place that allows them to relieve anxiety and rediscover peace amid a busy life.

The participants also revealed that the Majelis Taklim helped them find a deeper meaning in life. One of the participants explained, *"In the taklim assembly, I was taught to see that life is not just a daily routine, but there is a higher goal, which is to get closer to Allah."* (Interview with Suryani's mother, December 2024) Many feel that this activity gives them a new perspective on living life, gives them a clearer understanding of life's purpose, and fosters confidence in making important decisions in their lives.

In addition, the Majelis Taklim also plays a role in building social relationships among participants. After engaging in these activities, many revealed that they felt more connected to their community. Some participants shared how they gained religious knowledge and social support from fellow worshippers. One participant added, *"I feel like family here. We help each other, both spiritually and in everyday life."* (Interview with Zainab's mother, December 2024) The social solidarity in the Majelis Taklim gives them a deep sense of togetherness and a place to share life's challenges.

Participants recognize participants recognize the activities to reduce stress and anxiety. Many feel calmer and better able to manage the pressures they face in

challenging urban life. One participant stated, *"Every time I feel anxious or depressed, I come to the taklim assembly. Here, I feel better; I can focus more and be closer to God."* (Interview with Wati's mother, December 2024) In this case, the Majelis Taklim serves as a space that helps them reset their minds and hearts, giving them a calm that is difficult to find outside the environment.

#### The Religious Role of the Majelis Taklim in Jakarta

1. Religious Education: The Majelis Taklim functions as a means to increase religious understanding through regular recitations, lectures, and Islamic discussions. This activity helps pilgrims deepen religious knowledge and apply it in daily life.
2. Moral Development: Through the teaching of Islamic values, the Majelis Taklim plays a role in shaping the character and morals of individuals, so as to create a society with noble character.
3. Strengthening Faith: Religious activities held help pilgrims strengthen faith and piety to Allah SWT.

In its development, in the management and development of the Majelis Taklim, the Majelis Taklim is not only present as a forum for non-formal education but also as a social entity needed by the community.

The following is the social role of the Majelis Taklim (Lukman et al., 2019)

1. Economic Empowerment: Several Majelis Taklims in Jakarta have developed into centers for people's economic empowerment, such as the development of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). This shows that the Majelis Taklim is not only a place of worship, but also able to

develop economic, social, cultural, and educational.

2. Social Activities: The Majelis Taklim often holds social activities, such as fundraising for people in need, compensation for orphans, free health services, disasters. This activity strengthens social solidarity and concern for others.
3. Media Gathering: The Majelis Taklim is a forum for community members to stay in touch, expand social networks, and build togetherness.
4. Non-Formal Education: As a non-formal educational institution, the Majelis Taklim contributes to improving the knowledge and skills of its worshippers, eradicating the ignorance of Muslims, and helping them to obtain a happy and prosperous life (Dahlan, 2019).

As a metropolitan city with various social challenges, the implementation of the principles of Islamic community service in Jakarta can be seen through various initiatives (Uyuni et al., 2024):

1. Field Work Practice (PKL): Students from various Islamic universities, such as the As-Syafiiyah Islamic University Jakarta, are required to carry out street vendors as a form of community service. The program aims to integrate science with real practice in helping local communities.
2. Activities of the Majelis Taklim: The Majelis Taklim in Jakarta not only functions as a place of study, but also as a center for social, cultural, and economic activities. They play a role in the economic empowerment of the people, education, and other community activities.
3. Convert Empowerment Initiatives: several mosques in Jakarta carry out

community service programs that are focused on fostering converts, both at home and abroad. The program aims to introduce and deepen the teachings of Islam to converts, as well as help them integrate into the Muslim community.

4. Community Empowerment through Study: Religious recitation, guidance, or counseling activities in various urban villages in Jakarta are carried out as an effort to empower the community. The goal is to increase religious understanding and form religious character, so that people can face the challenges of urban life with a strong spiritual foundation.
5. Development of Local Wisdom Values: Several community service programs in Jakarta also focus on religious development that integrates local wisdom values. This approach aims to strengthen the cultural and religious identity of the community, as well as encourage active participation in religious and social activities.
6. Khatmil Qur'an and Tausiyah Activities: The implementation of Khatmil Qur'an and religious tausiyah activities in various communities in Jakarta is a means to increase understanding and practice of Islamic teachings. This activity also serves as a medium to provide moral and spiritual guidance to the community.
7. Socialization of government activities and activities of NGOs or other institutions: Through interaction at the taklim assembly, participants not only gain religious knowledge, but also information about social, health, education, and development programs run by the government and various NGOs. This makes the Majelis Taklim

not only a place to improve spiritual welfare, but also a means to build social awareness and active participation in community development.

Community Service-Based Majelis Taklim Program. The community service-based Majelis Taklim program in East Jakarta is designed with an approach that combines spiritual and social aspects to improve the welfare of urban communities. The design of the program includes the selection of relevant materials, the use of flexible methods, and the implementation that can be accessed by participants from various backgrounds.

The material taught in this taklim assembly is adapted to the challenges of life in urban communities that are fast-paced and full of pressure. Materials include:

1. Learn to Read, Tajwid, Tahsin, and Tahfidz Al-Qur'an
2. Tafsir and Practical Fiqh: Basic topics regarding the understanding of Islamic religious teachings that are directly related to daily life, such as worship, muamalah, and Islamic legal issues related to work, family, and social ethics.
3. Mental Health in an Islamic Perspective: This material focuses on ways to manage stress and anxiety, the importance of prayer and dhikr for inner peace, and how religion can be a source of strength in dealing with life's problems.
4. Islamic Time and Family Management: Given the large number of participants who are housewives and workers, this material teaches how to manage time effectively between work, worship, and family life, with an Islamic approach.

5. Strengthening Social Solidarity: Focus on building a sense of togetherness and social concern among community members, especially in the midst of urban life which often tends to be individualistic.

The Teaching Methods used in this program are interactive and participatory, which allows participants to not only listen to lectures, but also discuss and exchange experiences. The methods used include:

1. Interactive Lecture: Teaching that is not only in the form of delivering material, but also involves questions and answers and discussions to explore the understanding and experience of participants.
2. Group Studies: Participants are divided into small groups to discuss specific topics relevant to their lives, such as stress management or how to improve the quality of family relationships based on Islamic teachings.
3. Simulation and Practice: In some sessions, teaching involves hands-on practice such as joint dhikr exercises, time management simulations, and Islamic communication exercises between family members.

The program's implementation is implemented regularly every week with a flexible schedule that is adjusted to the needs of the urban community. The Majelis Taklim is held in the morning, afternoon, or evening, considering that most of the participants are workers who have just returned from their work activities. As part of community service, the Majelis Taklim is also held in various locations that are easily accessible to the community, such as mosques, community halls, residents' houses, and public meeting rooms close to the participants' residences.



With all the dynamics of a fast-paced and challenging life, Jakarta's urban society requires a Majelis Taklim program that prioritizes spiritual aspects and is relevant to their social and psychological needs. Program adjustments are made by considering several key factors:

1. **Limited Time and Mobility of Participants:** Most of the participants of the Majelis Taklim are office workers and housewives who have limited time. Therefore, the time of the taklim assembly is adjusted so that it can be followed by those who have busy schedules. The program also offers flexibility, such as short lecture sessions or the use of technology to allow participants to participate in the taklim assembly online when they cannot be physically present.
2. **Psychological Challenges and Stress:** Jakarta's urban community often faces psychological stress due to job stress, pollution, and economic hardship. The designed Majelis Taklim program provides space for participants to gain inner peace through dhikr activities, prayers, and deep religious understanding. With materials that teach how to overcome anxiety and stress, the Majelis Taklim functions as a means of spiritual therapy that is relevant to the mental needs of urban people.
3. **The need for Social Solidarity:** Jakarta as a city with a high population density often leads to feelings of isolation. The majelis taklim program introduces the concept of social solidarity in Islam, which helps build a sense of togetherness and concern between citizens. Through the activities of the Majelis Taklim, participants are taught to care more about others, strengthen

social relationships in the community, and create a social support network in the midst of busy urban life.

4. **Ease of Access:** In the context of Jakarta, which is a big city with high congestion, program adjustments are also made by choosing a strategic location that is easy to reach by participants. In addition, this program also utilizes social media and digital platforms to reach participants who cannot attend in person. This allows the Majelis Taklim to reach more participants without being hindered by geographical or time constraints.

**Impact on Participants' Spiritual Well-Being.** Based on the results of observations and interviews, the activities of the Majelis Taklim have a positive impact on the spiritual well-being of the participants. One of the most visible indications of improvement is a deeper understanding of Islamic teachings, especially regarding how to address daily life's problems with a religious approach. Participants reported feeling calmer and better able to face the pressures of life in a big city after participating in the taklim assembly, thanks to relevant teachings on patience, tawakal, and how to find peace in prayer.

In addition, the Majelis Taklim also plays a role in strengthening social solidarity among participants. Many of them share experiences and support each other, strengthening the community's social bonds. This proves that the Majelis Taklim is a means of religious learning and a place to enhance social relations among urban residents who are often isolated in their routines (Uyuni & Adnan, 2023).

Testimonials from participants indicated that they felt an improvement in their spiritual well-being. Most

participants felt more positive and purposeful after participating in the Taklim assembly. They think religious teachings are invaluable in dealing with problems in Jakarta, such as stress due to work or challenges in living a family life. Participants also feel closer to God and are more confident in making important decisions in life.

Some of the various testimonials from the participants of the Majelis Taklim illustrate the positive impact on their spiritual well-being:

- a. Testimony from a Housewife: "After participating in the Majelis Taklim regularly, I feel calmer in facing daily life. In the past, I often felt anxious and stressed with various household problems, but now I can be more patient and confident that every exam must have a way out. I feel closer to God and gain the strength to live my life with sincerity" (Interview with Diana, December 2024).
- b. Testimonials from an Office Worker: "Working in Jakarta is challenging, sometimes I feel stuck in a tiring and stressful routine. But since joining the Majelis Taklim, I feel stronger spiritually. The lectures given are very relevant, such as how to manage stress, maintain a balance between work and worship, and always be grateful. I feel better able to deal with the pressure of work with a clearer mind and a more open heart" (Interview with Hasmi Ardi, December 2024).
- c. Testimonials from Students: "As a student who is struggling to achieve his goals in the midst of the busy city, the Majelis Taklim provides a

lot of enlightenment. I feel more focused and have a direction in life. I learned a lot about how Islam teaches how to think positively and stay calm in the midst of busyness. Now, I feel more confident in making important decisions in my life" (Interview with Dinda Salwa, December 2024).

- d. Testimony from a Father with Small Children: "Being a father with young children in Jakarta is not easy. I often feel anxious about the future of my family. However, after participating in the taklim assembly, I learned to be more grateful and realize the importance of my role as the head of the family. The Majelis Taklim taught me a lot about how to maintain family harmony, and it really helped me to be better in my role as a husband and father" (Interview with Mr. Abu Bakar, December 2024).
- e. Testimony from a Businessman: "The Majelis Taklim helped me find peace in the midst of endless business hustles. I felt a lot of pressure by competition and economic challenges, but after participating in the taklim assembly, I was taught to always be tawakal and not worry too much about the results. I am more confident that the sustenance is already in place, and it gives me peace of mind in making business decisions" (Interview with Gunawan, December 2024).

These testimonials describe various experiences of participants who feel calmer, more focused, and closer to Allah after participating in the taklim assembly, as well as how they apply religious

teachings in facing life's challenges in Jakarta.

This can also be seen from the East Jakarta HMT Majelis Taklim, which plays an important role in improving the spiritual and socio-economic well-being of urban communities. In addition to routine activities such as recitation and dhikr, the assembly also focuses on economic empowerment and life skill improvement, which is especially relevant for urban communities that often face complex life challenges.

**Programs and Methods:** The East Jakarta HMT Majelis Taklim not only held study sessions but also carried out life skills training to improve participants' practical ability to live in a household and run a business. This program includes training in managing family finances, cooking skills, sewing, and developing micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). The participants were invited to learn practical ways that can be directly applied in daily life, aiming to be more independent and improve their quality of life.

For example, many homemakers who previously did not have special skills can now produce home products such as food or handicrafts. Not only are they taught practical skills, but they are also given an understanding of how to start and manage a small business. Thus, Majelis Taklim acts as an agent of change, equipping participants with skills to improve their quality of life.

**Impact on Spiritual and Economic Well-being:** For many participants, being involved in the East Jakarta HMT Majelis Taklim's activities has significantly impacted their lives. Not only does it improve spiritual well-being through religious teaching, but it also gives them a

sense of confidence and economic independence. One of the housewives who participated in the skills training revealed, "After taking the cooking training and managing family finances, I feel more confident. I also started selling homemade cakes, which, in addition to providing additional income, gave me a sense of satisfaction and happiness." (Interview with Siti Djuwariyah, December 2024) Based on the interviews, many participants reported that in addition to gaining inner peace through studying, they felt more empowered to face the challenges of daily life. They feel more connected to themselves, their families, and the surrounding community as they think they have a clearer sense of purpose and role.

**The Role of Community:** One of the most critical aspects of this Majelis Taklim activity is forming a community that supports each other. Participants of the Majelis Taklim feel that they benefit not only from a spiritual, social, and economic perspective. For example, homemakers who initially had little free time now feel more connected to their fellow participants, and they even share ideas, experiences, and support. Some participants who started a joint business in the Majelis Taklim group received direct guidance from fellow, more experienced members (Uyuni & Muhibudin, 2020).

The Majelis Taklim became a safe space for many participants to share their life challenges. They feel accepted and supported spiritually in improving their living standards through MSME training or other household skills. With an approach that integrates spiritual, social, and economic well-being, the East Jakarta HMT Majelis Taklim not only serves as a place to increase religious understanding but also as a space to empower participants in

other aspects of life. The empowerment programs carried out by this assembly have a significant positive impact on helping the urban people of East Jakarta face various life challenges more independently, confidently, and productively.

#### Challenges and Opportunities

##### 1. Obstacles in Implementation

Although the Majelis Taklim program significantly impacts the spiritual well-being of participants, its implementation is not separated from challenges. One of the main obstacles is the limited time of participants, especially for those who work with tight working hours. This often prevents them from regularly participating in the taklim assembly. In addition, even though some participants are used to participating in this activity, there are still some people who are reluctant to join because of their busyness or lack of understanding of the benefits of the Taklim assembly.

Another challenge is the use of technology to access the taklim assembly. Although some Majelis Taklims have tried to use digital platforms to reach participants who cannot attend physically, there are still obstacles in terms of technological infrastructure and the readiness of participants to participate in online sessions. This needs to be considered so that the Majelis Taklim can still reach all groups, especially in situations requiring physical restrictions such as those during the pandemic.

Although the Majelis Taklim significantly impacts the spiritual well-being of the community, several challenges are faced in its implementation, such as limited time, accessibility, and limited participant involvement due to busy work. In addition, with the rapid development of technology and social media, there is an

opportunity to utilize online platforms to reach more participants who cannot attend in person. This opens up space for further development of technology-based Majelis Taklim programs, which allow for maintaining and strengthening spiritual well-being even in busy life situations.

Through strengthening collaboration with religious institutions, the government, and NGOs, the Majelis Taklim can expand its reach and increase its relevance in community service. The synergy between these institutions can create more effective programs to overcome Jakarta's urban community's social and spiritual problems.

##### 2. Opportunities for Further

##### Development

Seeing the positive impact felt by the participants, there is an excellent opportunity to further develop this Majelis Taklim program, both in terms of the reach of participants and the quality of the material presented. One of the development opportunities is collaboration with various other communities, such as community organizations, educational institutions, or even companies, to organize taklim assemblies at work or school. This will facilitate access for participants with difficulty participating in Majelis Taklim activities due to time factors.

In addition, the development of technology for implementing online or hybrid taklim assemblies (physical and online) can also be a solution to overcome time constraints and accessibility. Through the better use of digital platforms, the Majelis Taklim can more easily reach participants in various locations and maximize the impact of teaching. Community service through the Majelis Taklim has excellent potential to help

improve the spiritual welfare of Jakarta's urban community. By utilizing technology and strengthening collaboration with various parties, this program can continue to grow and provide more significant benefits to the community.

Implementing community service through religious activities in Jakarta faces challenges, such as limited resources, differences in socio-economic backgrounds, and the rapid dynamics of urban life. However, with collaboration between the government, religious institutions, and the community, opportunities to improve spiritual and social well-being through religious activities remain wide open. Community service through religious activities in Jakarta has shown positive developments in shaping religious character, improving social welfare, and empowering urban communities. These initiatives reflect a shared commitment to creating a society with noble character and prosperity.

## CONCLUSION

Community service-based taklim assemblies in East Jakarta have proven effective in improving urban communities' spiritual welfare. This program has succeeded in answering the needs of the people of Jakarta, who often face high life pressure, both in social, economic, and psychological aspects. With relevant program designs and materials adapted to the challenges of urban life, the Majelis Taklim positively contributes to religious understanding and peace of mind and strengthens social relations between participants. Interactive and participatory teaching methods allow participants to acquire spiritual knowledge and build community and social support amid busy and often individualistic lives.

<https://jp3km.jurnalp3k.com/index.php/j-p3km>

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