

Relationship between Knowledge and Attitude of Islamic Religious Leader in Preventing COVID-19 in Natal District, Mandailing Natal Regency

Tukiman¹, Dinda Dwi Khairani Jayusman², Asep Alfarizi³

^{1,2,3}Universitas Sumatera Utara, Indonesia

Corresponding Author: Tukiman

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.52403/ijshr.20230420>

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to analyze relationship between knowledge and attitude of Islamic religious leader in preventing COVID-19 in Natal District, Mandailing Natal Regency. This type of research uses a quantitative descriptive survey method with a cross-sectional study approach. Population in this research is an Islamic religious leader in Natal District, Mandailing Natal Regency. Sampling technique used in this study is to use a total sampling technique by taking the entire population consisting of 46 Islamic religious leader. Methods of data collection using interview. Data analysis used bivariate analysis using the chi-square test. The results of this study indicate that there are a relationship between knowledge and attitude of Islamic religious leader in preventing COVID-19 in Natal District, Mandailing Natal Regency.

Keywords: Knowledge, Attitude, Islamic Religious Leader, Preventing

INTRODUCTION

At the end of 2019, a new virus is discovered that originated from Wuhan, China. A virus called COVID-19. Several types of coronaviruses are known to cause respiratory tract infections in humans ranging from coughs and colds to Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS). Based on data from the World Health Organization in 2021, there are 223 countries that have been infected with the

number of positive cases reaching 109,068,745 and deaths reaching 2,409,011. In Indonesia alone, as of Tuesday 24 August 2021, positive cases of COVID-19 had increased to 4,008,166 people, 3,606,164 people had recovered, and 128,252 had died due to exposure to the virus.

According to the Indonesian distribution map, there are 34 provinces that have been infected and DKI Jakarta province is the province that ranks first as the province with the highest number. Meanwhile, North Sumatra ranks 12th with a total of 23,236 confirmed positive cases and 794 deaths. Districts or cities such as the city of Medan have been designated as red zones with high-risk status, reaching 11,669 cases and 397 deaths. Meanwhile, Mandailing Natal Regency itself is designated as a yellow zone and is 11th in North Sumatra with 561 confirmed positive cases, 516 confirmed recovered and 45 dead and in Natal subdistrict it is also recorded and has been reported that there are 3 people confirmed positive and 1 person confirmed dead (Satgas COVID-19, 2021).

In the current new normal era, the government has issued a 3T and 5M practice policy, which is a form of innovation and policy created by the government to bring awareness to the ongoing situation. 3T consists of testing (early examination), tracing (tracking), and treatment (care). The next policy issued by the government is the 5M practice. Wearing

a mask, washing hands, maintaining distance, staying away from crowds, and reducing mobility are the contents of the 5M policy practice (Tirto.id, 2021).

COVID-19 can spread mainly from person to person through droplets when someone infected with COVID-19 coughs, sneezes, or talks and can stick to objects or surfaces around the people holding the object. However, there are still many people who do not have a basic understanding of how the COVID-19 virus spreads.

In order to suppress the increase in COVID-19 cases, the government has taken policies to maintain cleanliness as well as policies for working, studying and worshipping at home. This policy involved the MUI, which ultimately resulted in MUI fatwa Number 14 of 2020 concerning worship during the COVID-19 period. This fatwa is also strengthened by the Ministry of Religion Circular Letter Number 6 of 2020 concerning guidelines for Ramadan worship and 1 Shawwal 1441 H which prohibits not carrying out tarawih worship in mosques during Ramadhan (MUI, 2020).

Meanwhile, social interaction between congregants at mosques is very intense, so that mosques can become a place for the spread of COVID-19. Therefore, mosque administrators need to take strategic steps, there is a need for health transition-based mosque management during the pandemic to prevent the spread and transmission, such as providing hand washing facilities along with stickers on how to wash hands correctly in accordance with the standards of the Ministry of Health and the World Health Organization, making signs. physical distancing, a distance of at least 1-3 meters, providing hand sanitizer, providing spare medical masks, not running charity boxes, and ensuring places of worship have good air ventilation and if using air conditioners, they must be cleaned regularly. This management includes elements of social conception and behavior change in relation to health determinants in order to break the chain of transmission of COVID-19. Referring to the instructions of the Minister

of Home Affairs Number 40 of 2021, it regulates religious activities at a maximum of 25 percent of capacity and a maximum of 50 people, then places of worship in districts or cities are adjusted to the zoning criteria (Kompas.com, 2021).

The results of Munip's research (2020) show that religious leaders have taken the role of the front guard as a supporter of the COVID-19 task force team or the government who always give tausiah (lectures) in the form of an invitation to the congregation to always comply with health protocols such as wearing masks, washing hands with soap. This even includes taking a shower after every activity outside the home, including an appeal not to hold crowds or prohibit gatherings. Religious figures are able to bring about major changes to the social conditions of society. They are able to shift people's actions towards the actions they want. The factor that causes the success desired by religious leaders, apart from obedience, is the ability of religious leaders to explain complex problems to society more easily.

The purpose of this research is to analyze relationship between knowledge and attitude of Islamic religious leader in preventing COVID-19 in Natal District, Mandailing Natal Regency.

RESEARCH METHODS

This type of research uses a quantitative descriptive survey method with a cross-sectional study approach. Cross-sectional study is a type of research design in which you collect data from many different individuals at a single point in time. In cross-sectional research, you observe variables without influencing them (Hidayat, 2007).

Population means the entire number of people or residents in an area. Through this explanation, it can be interpreted that population is a term for the people or inhabitants who reside in a certain area (Arikunto, 2010). Population in this research is an Islamic religious leader in Natal District, Mandailing Natal Regency.

Sampling technique used in this study is to use a total sampling technique by taking the entire population consisting of 46 Islamic religious leaders.

Methods of data collection using interview. Interview is verbal question-and-answer activity to obtain information. The form of information obtained is expressed in writing, or recorded audio, visual, or audio-visual. Interviews are the main activity in observational studies (Notoatmodjo, 2005). Data analysis used bivariate analysis using the chi-square test. Bivariate analysis is a statistical method examining how two different things are related. The bivariate analysis aims to determine if there is a statistical link between the two variables and, if so, how strong and in which direction that link is (Syahrum, 2012). Chi-square test is a hypothesis test designed to test for a statistically significant relationship between nominal and ordinal variables organized in a bivariate table. In other words, it tells us whether two variables are independent of one another (Riyanto, 2009).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Respondent Characteristics

Based on the age of the respondents, the highest is in the 46–55-year age range, namely 19 people (41.3%), followed by the 35–45-year age range, 18 people (39.1%), while the lowest is >55 years old, as many as 9 people (19.6%).

Based on the highest education, there are 27 people with high school/equivalent education (58.7%), followed by tertiary education with 11 people (23.9%), with the lowest education being junior high school/equivalent, namely 8 people (17.4%).

Based on the highest occupation, respondents who work as self-employed are 20 people (43.5%), respondents who work as entrepreneurs are 15 people (76.1%), respondents who work as employees are 9 people (19.6%), while those who do not work are as many as 2 people (4.3%).

Based on the highest knowledge, respondents in the good knowledge category are 34 people (23.9%), while respondents in the sufficient knowledge category are 12 people (26.1%).

Based on the highest attitude, respondents in the good attitude category are 41 people (89.1%), while respondents in the fair attitude category are 5 people (10.9%).

Bivariate Analysis Using the Chi-Square Test

Table 1. Relationship Knowledge in Preventing

Knowledge	Implementation Category				p
	Good		Enough		
	n	%	n	%	
Good	31	91.2	3	8.8	
Enough	7	58.3	5	41.7	0.020

Table 2. Relationship Attitude in Preventing

Attitude	Implementation Category				p
	Good		Enough		
	n	%	n	%	
Good	37	90.2	4	9.8	
Enough	1	20.0	4	80.0	0.002

The results of this study indicate that there is a relationship knowledge in preventing COVID-19 in Natal District, Mandailing Natal Regency. The better the knowledge, the better behavior will be formed in efforts to prevent the transmission of COVID-19. Based on this description, the researcher believes that knowledge greatly influences a person's behavior in everyday life. The higher a person's level of knowledge about

COVID-19, the easier it will be for a person to determine the right decisions and what to do in their life. Knowledge encourages someone to take action. The better a person's understanding of the COVID-19 health protocol, the greater the need to take preventive measures. Transmission of COVID-19 requires good understanding and knowledge from all elements, including society.

There is a relationship attitude in preventing COVID-19 in Natal District, Mandailing Natal Regency. According to researchers' assumptions, the existence of a relationship between attitudes and preventive measures against COVID-19 shows that attitude is one of the determining factors for someone to carry out a behavior or not. The better a person's attitude, the better a person's behavior will be, and vice versa, the worse a person's attitude, the worse a person's behavior will be.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

The results of this study indicate that there are a relationship between knowledge and attitude of Islamic religious leader in preventing COVID-19 in Natal District, Mandailing Natal Regency.

From the conclusion above, suggestions can be given:

1. It is hoped that Natal District Government, when providing information and outreach on preventing COVID-19 to Islamic religious leaders, should adjust the time to religious leaders, where some of their jobs are fishermen, therefore the outreach should be carried out at night.
2. For Islamic religious leaders to always participate in outreach from the sub-district government and the COVID-19 task force in order to obtain related information.
3. It is hoped that Natal District Government, when providing information and outreach on the prevention of COVID-19 to Islamic religious leaders, should adjust the time to religious leaders, where some of their jobs are fishermen, therefore the outreach should be carried out at night.
4. For future researchers, the results of this research can be used as a reference for research regarding the relationship between the knowledge and attitudes of Islamic religious leaders regarding the COVID-19 health protocol with the

behavior of the COVID-19 health protocol as well as consideration for conducting further research using a qualitative approach.

Declaration by Authors

Acknowledgement: None

Source of Funding: None

Conflict of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

REFERENCES

1. Arikunto, S. (2010). *Prosedur Penelitian*. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta.
2. Hidayat, A. (2007). *Metode Penelitian Kebidanan dan Teknik Analisa Data*. Jakarta: Salemba Medika
3. Kompas.com. (2021). *Kemenag Terbitkan Aturan Peribadatan Terbaru Selama PPKM*. <https://www.kompas.com/tren/read/2021/09/10/153500865/kemenag-terbitkan-aturan-peribadatan-terbaru-selama-ppkm>.
4. MUI. (2020). *Nomor 14 Tahun 2020 Tentang Kebijakan Beribadah dalam Keadaan Darurat Wabah*.
5. Munip, M. (2020). Peran Tokoh Agama dalam Mencegah COVID-19 dan Mengurangi Setigma COVID-19 Kecamatan Gunung Sari Kabupaten Lombok Barat. *Jurnal Kebiasaan Kesehatan Indonesia (JKKI)*, 10, 182-190.
6. Notoatmodjo, Soekidjo. (2005). *Metodologi Penelitian Kesehatan*. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta.
7. Riyanto, A. (2009). *Pengolahan dan Analisa Data Kesehatan*. Bantul: Nuha Medika.
8. Syahrudin, Salim. (2012). *Metodologi Penelitian Kuantitatif*. Bandung: Ciptapustaka Media.
9. Satgas COVID-19. (2021), *Mandailing Natal*. <http://corona.madina.go.id/depan>.
10. Tirto.id. (2021). *Apa itu 5M, 3M, Arti PPKM Pengganti PSBB & Istilah Penting COVID-19*. <https://tirto.id/apa-itu-5m-3m-arti-ppkm-pengganti-psbb-istilah-penting-covid-19-f9r3>.

How to cite this article: Tukiman, Dinda Dwi Khairani Jayusman, Asep Alfarizi. Relationship between knowledge and attitude of Islamic religious leader in preventing COVID-19 in Natal District, Mandailing Natal Regency. *International Journal of Science & Healthcare Research*. 2023; 8(4): 141-144. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.52403/ijshr.20230420>
