



Strengthening Finances Pondok Pesantren: Identifying Factors Affecting Economic Empowerment in Dayah Mini Aceh

Penguatan Keuangan Pondok Pesantren: Identifikasi Faktor yang Mempengaruhi Pemberdayaan Ekonomi di Dayah Mini Aceh

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Abstract

Dayah Mini Aceh has excellent potential in boosting the economy. This can be seen in the businesses that have been developed in Dayah Mini, including fish and shrimp ponds, goats, chickens, ducks and water depots managed directly by the students. The purpose of this study is to find out and analyze how much the understanding of entrepreneurship affects the economic empowerment of Pondok Pesantren. This study is quantitative research using the Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) method with a Partial Least Square (PLS) approach with a population of 30 Dayah Mini Aceh students aged 16-19 years. The data used in this study is primary data by distributing questionnaires directly. The results of this study show that entrepreneurial knowledge does not have a significant effect on the empowerment of Pondok Pesantren. This can be influenced by the age factor of the students who are still very young in making a decision; entrepreneurial ability does not have a significant effect on the economic empowerment of pesantren because the role of students as business managers is not administrative or business sustainability; entrepreneurial skills have a significant effect on the economic empowerment of pesantren-based communities; Creative and innovative in entrepreneurship has a significant effect on the economic empowerment of Pondok Pesantren. Economic empowerment in Dayah Mini must be carried out actively by improving the skills, innovation and creativity of students in developing the spirit of entrepreneurship in order to encourage the financial strengthening of Dayah Mini Aceh.

Kata Kunci:

Kemampuan;
Kreatif;
Pemberdayaan;
Keuangan;
Inovatif;
Keterampilan;
Pemahaman.

Abstrak

Dayah Mini Aceh memiliki potensi yang sangat baik dalam mendorong perekonomian. Hal ini dapat dilihat pada usaha yang sudah dikembangkan di Dayah Mini di antaranya: tambak ikan dan udang, ternak kambing, ayam, bebek, dan depot air yang dikelola langsung oleh para santri. Tujuan penelitian ini untuk mengetahui dan menganalisis seberapa pengaruh pemahaman entrepreneurship terhadap pemberdayaan ekonomi pesantren. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian kuantitatif menggunakan metode Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) dengan pendekatan Partial Least Square (PLS) dengan populasi 30 orang santri Dayah Mini Aceh yang berusia 16-19 tahun. Data yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah data

primer dengan menyebarkan kuesioner secara langsung. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa pengetahuan kewirausahaan tidak berpengaruh secara signifikan terhadap pemberdayaan pesantren. Hal ini dapat dipengaruhi oleh faktor usia para santri yang terbilang masih sangat muda dalam mengambil suatu keputusan; kemampuan kewirausahaan tidak berpengaruh secara signifikan terhadap pemberdayaan ekonomi pesantren dikarenakan peran santri sebagai pengelola usaha bukan pengurus administrasi maupun keberlanjutan usaha; keterampilan berwirausaha berpengaruh secara signifikan terhadap pemberdayaan ekonomi masyarakat berbasis pesantren; kreatif dan inovatif dalam berwirausaha berpengaruh secara signifikan terhadap pemberdayaan ekonomi pesantren. Pemberdayaan ekonomi di Dayah Mini harus dilakukan secara aktif dengan meningkatkan ketrampilan, inovasi dan kreatifitas santri dalam mengembangkan jiwa entrepreneurship agar mendorong penguatan keuangan Dayah Mini Aceh.

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INTRODUCTION

Background of the Problem

Islam is a religion that has a view of life that regulates all aspects universally. The universal principle leads to all problems, without any priority on one side but leaving the other side. Islam places everything in balance, on the same condition without any inequality. Humans are taught to be pious and earn a living as a manifestation of the balance between the world and the hereafter (Subhan, 2020).

Aceh has Pondok Pesantren spread throughout the region so that it has a long history in the development of the people's economy. This is evidenced from historical records that Pondok Pesantren in Aceh have boosted the economy of the surrounding community. The rapid progress of Pondok Pesantren in advancing the economy has been proven from year to year. The new paradigm shows that Pondok Pesantren in Aceh are not only a place to learn religious knowledge but can develop the beginning of civilization to change the economy of the community (Nasution, 2020).

The potential and development of pesantren is expected not only to play its traditional functions which include the transfer of religious sciences, the preservation of Islamic traditions, the reproduction of ulama, but also to become a center for the development of appropriate technology, a center for efforts to save and preserve the environment or nature conservation, and more importantly to become a center for economic empowerment. Through economic empowerment in Pondok Pesantren, the community can make Pondok Pesantren an example in utilizing the economic potential owned by a region. In terms of the function of pesantren is not limited to being a center for ulema cadres and human resource printing institutions, but must be repositioned to become an institution that is able and able to empower the community (Zainiyah et al., 2022).

One of the Pondok Pesantren in Aceh has the potential to develop the local community's economy, namely Dayah Mini Aceh, which is located in Syiah Kuala District, Banda Aceh. Reporting on the news of the Dayah Education Office of Banda Aceh (2017), the Leader of Dayah Mini Aceh, Tgk. H. Umar Rafsanjani, Lc., MA, said in his speech at the

inauguration ceremony of Dayah Mini Aceh. Its strategic position and location close to the campus and the Alue Naga tourist attraction, makes Dayah Mini Aceh provide an attraction for the community in providing attention both materially and morally.

Dayah Mini Aceh has excellent potential in boosting the economy. This can be seen in the businesses that have been developed in Dayah Mini, including fish and shrimp ponds managed directly by the students. Ponds are one of the main natural resources that can be managed by the surrounding community which is an economic potential. In addition, Dayah Mini Aceh also has a goat, chicken and duck farming business which is also managed directly by the students. Not only that, Dayah Mini students also manage the dayah's mineral water depot, but this water depot is only intended for dayah students and administrators due to the limited completeness of the equipment so that it is not sold to the community. Thus, the public's expectations of pesantren are not only as educational institutions, but also as economic empowerment institutions that are disseminated through da'wah in Dayah Mini Aceh.

In previous research conducted by (Lazuardian & Zaki, 2020) with title "*Kontribusi Pondok Pesantren Riyadhul Jannah dalam Memberdayakan Ekonomi Masyarakat Desa Pacet Mojokerto*". This research focuses on the contribution of Pondok Pesantren to the economic empowerment of the community around the Pondok Pesantren which aims to find out in depth what the role of the Pondok Pesantren Riyadhul Jannah is in the economic empowerment of the surrounding community. Based on the previous research, the researcher tried to examine the influence of entrepreneurship understanding on the economic empowerment of the local community in Dayah Mini Aceh by using a more comprehensive approach and paying attention to various dimensions of entrepreneurship understanding, ranging from knowledge and practical skills to attitudes and values that motivate students to be actively involved in entrepreneurial activities that can provide a holistic understanding and contextual related to the level of understanding of entrepreneurship among students and its impact on the economic empowerment of local communities.

Problem Identification

Research conducted by (Lazuardian & Zaki, 2020) with the title of analysis of "*Kontribusi Pondok Pesantren Riyadhul Jannah Dalam Memberdayakan Ekonomi Masyarakat di Desa Pacet, Mojokerto*". The object or unit of analysis in their research is the Pondok Pesantren Riyadhul Jannah Pacet, Mojokerto. The research method used is a qualitative research approach through literature and literature review. The results of the study show that the Pondok Pesantren Riyadhul Jannah has a role in empowering the community around the Pondok Pesantren. The role of Pondok Pesantren is shown by the activities of business units PT. Rijan Dinamis Selaras which involves the community around the pesantren so that the benefits can be felt directly by the people of Pacet Village and its surroundings. Differences between studies Lazuardian dan Zaki With this research, it is on the object and method of the research. While the similarity between the two is that both use community economic empowerment as a dependent variable.

Research related to increasing the economic creativity of students was also carried out by (Bakhri, 2019) with title "*Peranan Pondok Pesantren Darussholihin terhadap Peningkatan Kreativitas Ekonomi Santri dalam Perspektif Ekonomi Syariah (Studi Yayasan Tebu Ireng-12 Kabupaten Tulang Bawang Barat)*". The research method used is a qualitative descriptive method. The results of this study show that Pondok Pesantren Darsholihin has three challenges and empowerment initiatives, namely creating an atmosphere that can stimulate the development potential of students; and increase the

participation of students in entrepreneurial activities to increase their economic creativity. Impact of roles and efforts Pondok Pesantren Darussalihin in improving economic health Pondok Pesantren can be seen in the development of existing facilities in the business and education sectors Pondok Pesantren, as well as the development of facilities in the Islamic Boarding School environment. business and education of Pondok Pesantren, this is also supported by an increase in the number of students who participate in improving the welfare of Pondok Pesantren.

Sukirman dan Afifi (2021) In his research entitled “*Pengaruh Pemahaman Kewirausahaan, Pelatihan Kewirausahaan, dan Minat Berwirausaha dalam Upaya Peningkatan Produktivitas Usaha*”. The research method used is a quantitative method with data analysis techniques using Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) with AMOS software. The results of the study show that understanding entrepreneurship and entrepreneurship training have a positive and significant effect on entrepreneurial interest, entrepreneurship understanding and entrepreneurship training have a positive and significant effect on business productivity and entrepreneurial interest has a positive and significant effect on business productivity. Entrepreneurial interest has a positive and significant influence in mediating the understanding of entrepreneurship on business productivity. Entrepreneurial interest has a positive influence to intervene in mediating entrepreneurship training on business productivity.

Furthermore, the research with the title “*Islamic Community Economic Empowerment Strategy in Pesawaran Regency*” by (Subhan et al., 2020) which uses a qualitative approach by looking at social phenomena. The data analysis technique in this study is solved by reducing information, introducing information, and making determinations. The informants in this study are kiayi pesantren, management programs, communities, and related institutions which of course have a relationship with this research. The purpose of this study is as an economic empowerment strategy in Pesawaran Regency and analyzes the effectiveness of the strategy model offered in the economic empowerment of Islamic community programs. The results of the study show that the economic empowerment strategy of the Islamic community in Pesawaran Regency is the formation of community groups, strengthening empowerment institutions, strengthening the empowerment of Human Resources (HR) in the form of guidance, training, and assistance.

The research hypothesis can be stated as an initial answer based on a pre-arranged frame of mind. A hypothesis is a temporary statement about the relationship between two or more variables. Based on the previous theoretical foundation, the hypothesis of this research can be formulated as follows:

- H1: Entrepreneurial knowledge has an effect on the economic empowerment of Dayah Mini Aceh.
- H2: Entrepreneurial ability affects the economic empowerment of Dayah Mini Aceh.
- H3: Entrepreneurial skills have an effect on the economic empowerment of Dayah Mini Aceh.
- H4: Creative and Innovative in entrepreneurship has an effect on the economic empowerment of Dayah Mini Aceh.

Problem Formulation

Based on the background described above, the formulation of the problems in this study includes:

1. How does entrepreneurial knowledge affect the economic empowerment of local communities based on Pondok Pesantren?
2. How does entrepreneurial ability affect the economic empowerment of local communities based on Pondok Pesantren?
3. How does entrepreneurial skills affect the economic empowerment of local communities based on pesantren?
4. What is the influence of creativity and innovation in entrepreneurship on the economic empowerment of local communities based on Pondok Pesantren?

Research Objectives and Benefits

Research Objectives

With the formulation of the research problem expressed, it is determined that the objectives to be achieved are:

1. To find out how entrepreneurial knowledge affects the economic empowerment of local communities based on Pondok Pesantren.
2. Knowing how entrepreneurial skills affect the economic empowerment of local people based on Pondok Pesantren.
3. To find out how entrepreneurial skills affect the economic empowerment of local people based on Pondok Pesantren.
4. Knowing how creative and innovative influences in entrepreneurship are on the economic empowerment of local communities based on Pondok Pesantren.

Research Benefits

This research is expected to provide the following benefits:

1. Theoretical Benefits

This research is expected to enrich literature and studies on the Influence of Entrepreneurship Understanding on the Economic Empowerment of Pesantren-Based Local Communities.

2. Practical Benefits

Increasing the general public's understanding of the Influence of Entrepreneurship Understanding on the Economic Empowerment of Local Communities Based on Pondok Pesantren.

3. Policy Benefits

It can provide a basis for policy development, both by the government and companies, to manage and direct various institutions on the development of the community's economy.

THEORETICAL AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Theoretical Framework

Community Economic Empowerment

Community economic empowerment is a form of Islamic concern for the community's economy. In some narrations, it is stated that the Prophet PBUH did not like people who just sat in the mosque without making an effort and trying to make a living. In fact, Islam recommends that when you have finished performing prayer, then scatter on the earth to earn a living for survival. This is so that Muslims are truly able to achieve true happiness in this world and in the hereafter (*fallah*).

Allah SWT says. in Q.S Al Jumu'ah [62]: 10 which reads “When the prayer has been performed, then scatter yourselves on the earth; seek Allah's bounty and remember Allah abundantly so that you may be lucky”.

Community economic empowerment is a form of efforts to raise the dignity and dignity of various levels of society so that they are free from the snares of poverty and underdevelopment (Hasan, 2018). step is part of improving the performance and economic independence of the community. Paul (2012: 29) stated that community economic empowerment requires active and creative participation. He emphasized that active and creative participation is expressed as participation that refers to an active process with which the group that carries out the goals can influence the direction and implementation of the development project rather than simply receiving the results of the project's profit sharing.

There are two things that need to be done to strengthen the economy. First, preparing people who are trained to become entrepreneurs. Because to alleviate poverty in Islam is through work. With job training and entrepreneurship training, it is one of the preparations to enter the world of work. Second, economic empowerment. Economic empowerment is an effort to build the economic power of the community by encourageing, motivating, and exploring the potential possessed by them so that they are able to change from helpless to empowered as a form of real action to increase the dignity and dignity of the economy and can escape from the abyss of underdevelopment and poverty (Lazuardian & Zaki, 2020).

Economic Empowerment Indicators

Here are the indicators that reflect economic empowerment:

1. Welfare is one of the aspects to measure the success of the development of a region, maintain and foster social and economic stability. This condition is to minimize the occurrence of social disparities in society (Ramadhany & Ridlwan, 2018).
2. Income in the management dictionary is money received by individuals, companies and other organizations in the form of wages, salaries, rent, interest, commissions, costs and profits (Ridwan, 2021).
3. Sustainability refers to the ability of an economic system to remain sustainable in the long term. It involves natural resource management, energy efficiency, and corporate social responsibility. This concept includes economic, environmental, and social aspects. Efforts to achieve economic sustainability can be found in responsible business practices, such as the sustainable use of resources and participation in environmental initiatives (Ridwan, 2021).

Understanding Entrepreneurship

Understanding entrepreneurship or entrepreneurship includes various aspects that involve the process of identifying opportunities, developing business ideas, establishing and managing businesses, and taking risks to achieve business goals. Entrepreneurship is not only about creating new business, but it also includes the ability to identify business opportunities in a variety of situations (Zaidan et al., 2023). One of the main characteristics of an entrepreneur is his ability to think creatively and innovatively in facing challenges and turning ideas into real actions. The importance of understanding entrepreneurship in the context of the global economy is increasingly emphasized, especially due to rapid changes in technology, markets, and policies.

Entrepreneur must have a clear vision of his business direction and the ability to plan strategic steps to achieve the Company's goals. A deep understanding of the market, customer needs, and competitive advantage are also key factors for success in the world of entrepreneurship (Utomo, 2019). In addition, an open attitude to risk and the ability to learn from failure are also important characteristics for an entrepreneur. In today's digital era, entrepreneurship is also closely related to technology and innovation. According to Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (2021), Access to technology and digital resources is a determining factor for entrepreneurial growth in various countries. An understanding of how to leverage technology to improve operational efficiency, create new products or services, and reach a wider market is a much-needed skill in the context of modern entrepreneurship (Global Entrepreneurship Monitor, 2021).

It can be concluded that understanding entrepreneurship involves understanding concepts, processes, and behaviors related to identifying business opportunities, developing business ideas, establishing and managing businesses, and taking risks to achieve business goals. This understanding covers various aspects, including creativity, innovation, market understanding, customer needs, and competitive advantage. The importance of understanding entrepreneurship is increasingly emphasized in the rapidly changing era of the global economy, especially with changes in technology, markets and policies (Smith, 2018). Success of an entrepreneur is also determined by his ability to choose clearly, plan strategic steps, be open to risks, and learn from failure. In addition, the integration of technology and innovation is key in understanding entrepreneurship in the digital era.

Indicators of Understanding Entrepreneurship

Indicators are a measuring tool in the process of achieving goals. An indicator does not always explain the overall state, but can also be an indication or forecast that represents the state. According to KBBI, indicator is something that can provide clues or information. The following are included in the indicators of entrepreneurship understanding:

1. Knowledge

Knowledge or Cognition is related to mental processes and understanding. In this context, it can refer to the way an individual or organization processes information, makes decisions, and adjusts to change. The cognitive aspect can be improved through education and training, and plays an important role in innovation and adaptation to technological developments and market dynamics (Utari, 2010: 22).

2. Ability

According to Gibson in (Suhartini, 2021) abilities are traits that are carried from birth/learned that allow a person to complete their tasks. Ability shows the potential of the person to carry out a task or job.

3. Skills

Skills are skills that are related to tasks that a person has and uses at a certain time. According to Dunnette in (Hartinah & Abdullah, 2019) skills are the capacity needed to carry out tasks. Skills are the development of training results and experience gained.

4. Creative and Innovative

An entrepreneur who has an understanding of entrepreneurship can be recognized by his ability to think creatively to generate innovative new ideas and the ability to apply these innovations effectively in a business context, creating a dynamic and progressive environment (Anggraini, 2020).

An entrepreneur will not succeed if he does not have knowledge, abilities and skills in accordance with Michael Harris' expression in (Anggraini, 2020) "*Successful entrepreneurs in general are those who have abilities in the field of science, skills, and individual qualities which include attitudes, motivations, personal values, and behaviors necessary to carry out tasks and work*".

Role of Pondok Pesantren in Economic Empowerment

According to Setiadi (2019), the role of pesantren can include various aspects that reflect the quality and impact of pesantren in meeting the educational and development goals of the Islamic community. Among the aspects that reflect the quality and impact of pesantren are:

1. Educational Aspects. As a traditional Islamic educational institution, pesantren has a number of important aspects that characterize its quality and contribution in producing quality cadres.
2. Religious Aspects. The religious aspect in the pesantren is the main foothold that determines the identity and main purpose of the educational institution.
3. Development Aspects. The aspect of character development in pesantren reflects an integral effort in forming individuals who are not only academically and religiously competent, but also have strong character (Setiawan, 2021).
4. Entrepreneurship Aspect. The entrepreneurial aspect in pesantren creates a foundation for the development of the economic potential of students and the surrounding community. Pesantren not only play a role as an educational and religious institution but also as an agent of economic driving through several aspects of entrepreneurship that they are involved in.
5. Social and Economic Welfare Aspects. The social and economic welfare aspects influenced by pesantren create an image of the contribution of pesantren to the development and improvement of the welfare of the surrounding community.
6. Infrastructure and Facilities Aspects. Infrastructure and facilities aspects in Islamic boarding schools have a very important role in providing a conducive learning environment and supporting the development of students.
7. Management and Sustainability Aspects. Management and sustainability aspects in Islamic boarding schools have a direct impact on operational efficiency,

achievement of educational goals, and whether or not the programs implemented are sustainable.

From the seven aspects described above, it shows that pesantren as a traditional Islamic educational institution, pesantren have a very important role in forming quality cadres and contributing to meeting the educational goals and development of the Islamic community.

Conceptual Framework

Understanding entrepreneurship has four main variables that affect the economic empowerment of Pondok Pesantren in Dayah Mini Aceh. These variables are: knowledge (X1), ability (X2), skills (X3), creative and innovative (X4) which affect the economic empowerment of the pesantren based community in Dayah Mini Aceh. A good understanding of entrepreneurship will affect the economic empowerment of the community in Dayah Mini Aceh if the students are able to meet these variables well, the economy will be empowered with a good understanding of entrepreneurship. But on the other hand, if the understanding of student entrepreneurship does not meet expectations, then the economy will not be well empowered. Therefore, it is important for an entrepreneur to have a good understanding of entrepreneurship.



Figure 1. Research Thinking Framework

RESEARCH METHODS

This study uses a quantitative approach as the type. According to (Sugiyono, 2020) the quantitative research method is a method based on the philosophy of positivism. This method is used to study a specific population or sample by collecting data using research instruments. The data analysis in this study is quantitative or statistical, with the aim of testing the hypothesis that has been previously determined. This research will be conducted at Dayah Mini Aceh, Alue Naga and will involve Dayah Mini Aceh students aged 16-19 years, namely students with a Senior High School (SMA) Education Level. The selection of a location is based on the high relevance to the problem being researched as well as the availability of the required data and information.

The population in this study is Dayah Mini Aceh students aged 16-19 years or students with a high school education level of thirty people. Because the population is only thirty people, the population as a whole is used as a sample.

In this study, the data collection technique taken was by distributing questionnaires to Dayah Mini Aceh students aged 16-19 years, namely students with a Senior High School (SMA) Education Level. According to (Sugiyono, 2020: 199), a questionnaire is a data collection method that involves submitting a number of questions or written statements to respondents to be answered. The operational variables in this study consist of Independent Variables, namely Perception (X1), Knowledge (X2), Ability (X3), Skills (X4), Creative and Innovative (X5) and Community Economic Empowerment (Y) as Dependent Variables.

On the penis; This study uses the Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) analysis technique which is a statistical technique to build and test statistical models, usually in the form of cause-and-effect models (Sarwono & Narimawati, 2015). In this study, the approach method used is Partial Least Squares Path Modeling (PLS-SEM), using SmartPLS 3.0 software.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Result Analysis

Outer Models Analysis

In the analysis of the outer model, an evaluation will be carried out to verify indicators that can be further tested. The purpose of this evaluation is so that the indicators and latent variables used in the next prediction model produce valid and reliable results by looking at the comparison of the loading factor values >0.6 .

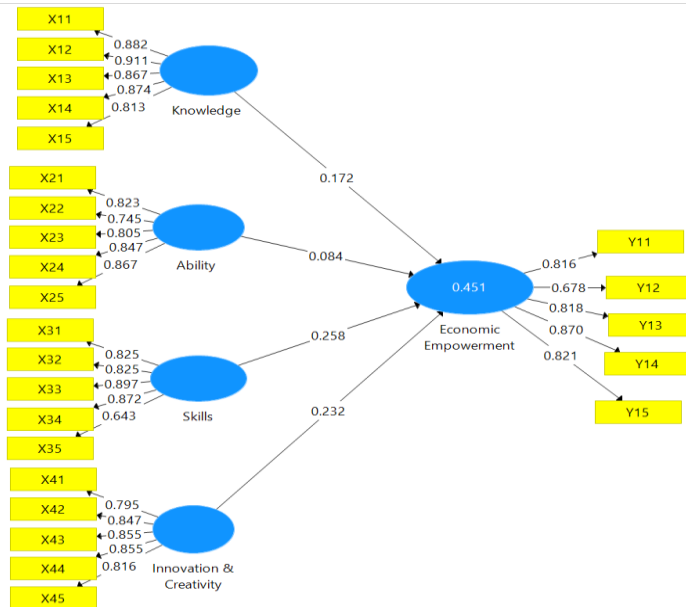


Figure 2. Outer Models

Based on Figure 2, all indicators in this study were declared acceptable and valid because the value met the loading factor (λ) value requirement, which was > 0.6 . In the exogenous indicator, it is known that all loading factor (λ) values are greater than 0.6.

Convergent Validity Test

Convergent validity refers to the correlation relationship between indicators used in measuring a latent variable. The principle of convergent validity states that the indicators used to measure latent variables should have a high correlation with each other. The convergent validity in the context of this study will be assessed based on two factors, namely loading factor (λ) and Average Variance Extracted (AVE). The item (predictor) is declared valid if the loading factor value (λ) is > 0.6 . Items will also be declared valid if the Average Variance Extracted (AVE) value is > 0.5 .

Table 1. Average Varians Extraced (AVE)

	Average Variance Extracted (AVE)
Knowledge	0.670
Ability	0.668
Skills	0.696
Creative & Innovative	0.757
Economic Empowerment	0.645

Source: SmartPLS Output (Processed, 2025)

Based on the data listed in Table 1, it can be concluded that the four variables have an Average Variance Extracted (AVE) that exceeds the criterion limit, which is more than 0.50. This shows that the measure of convergent validity of these variables is good.

Discriminating Validity Test

Figure 1 shows that the loading value of each item against its construct is greater than the crossloading value. From the results of the crossloading analysis, it appears that there is no problem of discriminant validity because the loading factor value is > 0.6 .

Furthermore, a follow-up analysis was carried out by looking at and comparing between discriminant validity and the square root of Average Variance Extracted (AVE). If the square root value of AVE of each construct is greater than the correlation value between the construct and the other constructs in the model, then it is said to have a good discriminant validity value and for the expected AVE value is > 0.5 . In this study, the square value of AVE can be seen in the following table 2.

Table 2. Correlation Between Constructs with the Square Root Value of AVE

	Knowledge	Ability	Skills	Creative & Innovative	Economic Empowerment
Knowledge	0.870				
Ability	0.811	0.819			
Skills	0.738	0.796	0.817		
Creative & Innovative	0.990	0.689	0.725	0.834	
Economic Empowerment	0.593	0.589	0.612	0.598	0.803

Source: SmartPLS Output (Processed, 2025)

The data in Table 2 show that the square value of AVE (0.870; 0.819; 0.817; 0.834; 0.803) is greater than the correlation value of each construct, which means that the constructs in this study can be said to have good discriminating validity.

Reliability Test

Reliability tests are used to validate the accuracy, consistency and accuracy of instruments in measuring a construct. The reliability of a construct using reflective indicators can be evaluated through two methods, namely Cronbach's Alpha and Composite Reliability. As a guideline, the reliability of the construct is considered adequate if Cronbach's Alpha and Composite Reliability values exceed 0.60.

Table 3. Reability Test

Variable	<i>Cronbach's Alpha</i>	<i>Composite Reliability</i>
Knowledge	0.919	0.940
Ability	0.878	0.910
Skills	0.872	0.909
Creative & innovative	0.891	0.919
Economic Empowerment	0.861	0.900

Source: SmartPLS Output (Processed, 2025)

Based on Table 3, it can be seen that Croncbach's Alpha value is above 0.60 and shows that all constructs have a composite reliability value above 0.70 therefore no reliability problems were found, which means that all five variables are reliable or reliable.

Innear Models Analysis

Structural model (inner model) is a model that describes the relationship between latent variables that are evaluated using path coefficients: *R-Square* (R^2) and *Effect size f-square* (f^2).

1. *R-Square* (R^2)

Value of R^2 used to measure the extent to which endogenous (dependent) latent variables can be explained by exogenous (independent) variables. R^2 a

determination coefficient that provides an idea of how much variation in dependent variables can be explained by independent variables in a model.

Table 4. R-Square

	R Square	R Square Adjusted
Economic Empowerment	0.451	0.435

Source: SmartPLS Output (Processed, 2025)

Based on Table 4, it can be seen that the value of *R-Square* (R^2) for community economic empowerment is 0.451. This figure indicates that exogenous variables have an effect on endogenous variables by 45.1%. Then the determination test showed that the R-Square Adjusted value was 0.435. This means that the variability of endogenous variables can be explained by an exogenous variability of 43.5%. While the remaining 33.7% were influenced by other factors that were not included in the research model.

2. Effect Size *f*-square (f^2)

Value f^2 is one of the indicators that measures the extent to which exogenous latent variables affect endogenous latent variables. Value f^2 ranges from 0 to 1, where the higher the value f^2 , the influence of exogenous latent variables on endogenous latent variables is greater. Value f^2 is used as a measure of the strength of the relationship between exogenous latent variables and endogenous latent variables. The following are the results of the f^2 by SmartPLS software.

Table 5. *f*-square (f^2)

	Economic Empowerment
Knowledge	0.016
Ability	0.003
Skills	0.036
Creative & innovative	0.040

Source: SmartPLS Output (Processed, 2025)

Based on Table 5, it can be seen that the variables that have a strong influence on the economic empowerment of pesantren are the variables of skills (0.036) and creative and innovative (0.040). Meanwhile, the variables of knowledge (0.016) and ability (0.003) had a weak influence on the economic empowerment of Pondok Pesantren.

Hypothesis Testing

The hypothesis test in this study was carried out based on the results of the Inner Model test, which involved the output of parameter coefficients. To determine whether a hypothesis is acceptable or rejected, the significance value between t-count and p-value is considered. The hypothesis test in this study used SmartPLS software.

Table 6. Hypothesis Testing

Variable	<i>T</i> Statistics	<i>P</i>-Values
Knowledge> Economic Empowerment	1.371	0.171
Ability> Economic Empowerment	0.680	0.497
Skills> Economic Empowerment	2.517	0.012
Creative & innovative> Economic Empowerment	2.796	0.005

Source: SmartPLS Output (Processed, 2025)

The data in Table 6 can be seen that the influence of exogenous variables (X) on endogenous variables (Y) can be explained as follows:

1. The coefficient of the path parameters (seen in the original sample value) obtained from the relationship between the knowledge variable and the economic empowerment of the pesantren was 0.172 with a t-statistical value of $1,371 < 1.697$ (t-table) and a significance level greater than 0.05 ($0.171 > 0.05$). So that there is no significant influence between knowledge and economic empowerment of Pondok Pesantren.
2. The coefficient of path parameters obtained from the relationship between the ability variable and the economic empowerment of the pesantren was 0.084 with a t-statistical value of $0.68 < 1.679$ (t-table) and a significance level greater than 0.05 ($0.497 > 0.05$). So that there is no significant influence between the ability and the economic empowerment of the Pondok Pesantren.
3. The coefficient of path parameters obtained from the relationship between the skill variable and the economic empowerment of the pesantren was 0.258 with a t-statistical value of $2.517 > 1.679$ (t-table) and a significance level smaller than 0.05 ($0.012 > 0.05$). So, it can be concluded that there is a significant influence between skills and the economic empowerment of Pondok Pesantren.
4. The coefficient of path parameters obtained from the relationship between creative and innovative variables and the economic empowerment of pesantren was 2.32 with a t-statistical value of $2.796 > 1.679$ (t-table) and a significance level smaller than 0.05 ($0.005 > 0.05$). So, it can be concluded that there is a significant influence between creativity and innovation and the economic empowerment of Pondok Pesantren.

Discussion

Dayah Mini Aceh develops several businesses that are managed directly by its students, among them are fish and shrimp ponds, goats, chickens, ducks and water depots. In the fish and shrimp pond business, Dayah Mini Aceh received five hundred thousand tiger shrimp seed assistance in July 2021 from the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (KKP) through the Brackish Water Aquaculture Agency (BPBAP) Ujung Bate. However, the shrimp all died because they were not cultivated properly and correctly. So, it is very necessary to have a sufficient understanding related to the empowerment and management of the natural potential that they have. The goat farming business owned by Dayah Mini Aceh is developed and managed directly by Dayah Mini Aceh to provide support to Dayah Mini through the proceeds of selling goats for community needs such as aqiqah. Meanwhile, the drinking water depot business owned by Dayah Mini Aceh is only intended for students because the equipment used is still incomplete so it is not sold to the community.

The results of the study show that the development of students' skills in Dayah Mini Aceh plays a significant role in the economic empowerment of Pondok Pesantren. Through practice-based entrepreneurship training, students are equipped with technical skills such as small business management, goods/service production, simple marketing, and basic financial management. This skill not only increases the confidence of students to be entrepreneurial from a young age, but also fosters an independent work ethic that is in harmony with the values of the Pondok Pesantren. Thus, pesantren not only function as religious educational institutions, but also as centers for the development of economically productive human resources.

From the aspect of innovation, the Dayah Mini Aceh is able to integrate economic activities with the educational curriculum and local needs of the community. Innovation can be seen in the use of local potential as the business basis of the Pondok Pesantren, such as the processing of food products, non-formal education services, and creative business units managed collectively by students and pesantren managers. This innovative model creates a contextual learning space, where students not only understand entrepreneurial theory, but also are directly involved in the business decision-making process. These innovations strengthen the competitiveness of pesantren businesses while opening up sustainable market opportunities.

Meanwhile, the element of creativity is the main supporting factor in creating young entrepreneurs and strengthening pesantren finances. The creativity of the students can be seen in the development of value-added products, simple but effective promotional strategies, and the ability to adapt to changes in market demand. The businesses owned by Pondok Pesantren are not only profit-oriented, but also on sustainability and mutual benefit. The results of this study confirm that the synergy between skills, innovation, and creativity is able to make Dayah Mini Aceh a model for economic empowerment of Islamic boarding schools that make a real contribution to producing young entrepreneurs while supporting the financial strengthening of Islamic boarding schools independently.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusion

After analyzing the results of the research, it can be concluded that the formulation of the problem in this study is a relevant and important question to be researched. The research on the analysis of the influence of entrepreneurship understanding on the economic empowerment of Dayah Mini Aceh provided a deeper understanding of the issues being researched and produced the following information:

1. Based on the results of the research, it shows that the understanding of entrepreneurship, which consists of variables of knowledge, understanding, ability, skills, and creativity and innovation, simultaneously has an influence on the economic empowerment of Dayah Mini Aceh.
2. The test results showed that partially the knowledge variable did not have a significant effect on the economic empowerment of Pondok Pesantren.
3. The test results showed that partially the ability variable did not have a significant effect on the economic empowerment of the Pondok Pesantren.
4. The test results showed that partially the skill variable had a significant effect on the economic empowerment of the Pondok Pesantren.
5. The test results showed that partially creative and innovative variables had a significant effect on the empowerment of Pondok Pesantren.

Suggestions

From the research that has been conducted, there are several recommended suggestions, which are as follows:

1. The next research is suggested to add several independent variables that affect the economic empowerment of the community, such as access to digital resources, government policies, technology integration and others.

2. The researcher should further deepen the level of understanding of entrepreneurship among students and what factors cause understanding to increase
3. Economic empowerment in Dayah Mini Aceh has been developed through managed businesses but is still lacking in expertise such as shrimp and fish cultivation expertise. There should be collaboration with the government in the procurement of fish and shrimp cultivation training in order to strengthen the finances of Dayah Mini Aceh.
4. The government can take policies by holding skill training or abilities in an effort to develop skills.

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STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTION BY THE AUTHOR

Muhammad Zuhilmi, as the principal author, was fully responsible for the research process, including conceptualization, research design, data analysis, and preparation of the manuscript. Winny Dian Safitri contributed to the literature review, data interpretation, and manuscript editing. Susi Afriani, as a student researcher, assisted in data collection and supported fieldwork activities. Rachmi Meutia contributed through supervision, critical evaluation, and providing constructive input to improve the quality of the study. All authors reviewed and approved the final manuscript and take responsibility for the content of this article.

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