

## **BUILDING A QUALITY LEARNING ENVIRONMENT THROUGH CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN THE 5.0 ERA**

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### **Abstract**

The Society 5.0 era demands significant changes in the education system, including in Christian Religious Education (PAK). The aim of this research is to explore the role of PAK in building a quality learning environment in the 5.0 era, where technology and spiritual values must go hand in hand. The research method used is a qualitative approach with literature studies and phenomenological analysis of the implementation of PAK in various educational institutions. The research results show that PAK has an important contribution in shaping students' character, improving digital ethics, and creating a holistic and inclusive learning environment. By integrating technology and Christian principles, education can be more adaptive to the challenges of the times without losing its spiritual essence. This study confirms that PAK plays a role as a foundation in building a generation that is not only intellectually intelligent, but also has high morality in the digital era.

**Keywords:** Christian Religious Education, Learning Environment, Era 5.0, Digital Ethics, Christian Character.

### **INTRODUCTION**

The world of education is starting to enter a new era, namely the era of society 5.0. This era experienced a significant transformation in society, be it technology, education or other fields, especially Christian Religious Education. In education, which is accompanied by technological developments such as artificial intelligence (AI), it makes it easy for every individual to obtain a good learning experience.

The society 5.0 era is an innovation developed to provide solutions to problems that occur in the industrial era 4.0. The opinion (Muliastri, 2020) is that the presence of this era is a solution to the gaps that occur in the industrial era 4.0, where society 5.0 aims to balance technological progress and solve social problems by integrating virtual space and physical space. Of course, technological improvements in the Society 5.0 era help create a better human life by optimizing the benefits of the internet of things, big data and artificial intelligence so that there is a balance between the use of technology and the roles and social interactions between individuals (Ya'aman Guloa, 2021).

With the increase in technology in this era, teachers are required to be able to create a learning environment for students by utilizing creative and innovative learning media and teachers are able to prepare learning designs using technology-based learning approaches and strategies. If through education there is a balance in the use of technology with interaction between students and teachers in achieving a quality educational learning environment.

Article 1 Law no. 20 of 2003 states that education is defined as a conscious and planned effort to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble morals, and the skills needed by themselves, society, nation and state. This definition emphasizes the importance of planning and awareness in the educational process in ensuring that education becomes the main agent in creating a conducive learning environment for developing all aspects of students' personalities and abilities. Of course, education not only provides knowledge and skills but is able to create a learning environment that has a significant influence on the motivation and enthusiasm for student learning achievement, can instill moral and spiritual values in building character as good and responsible members of society (Harefa, 2021).

The educational environment is the most important place for a student to gain knowledge, skills and build character in accordance with values, morals and spirituality. So schools must provide a safe and comfortable learning environment so that students can have high learning motivation. In several cases that I quoted from Kompas (Napitupulu, 2022) there were schools that did not provide a safe and comfortable learning environment for their students. Where student-oriented learning is still low at all levels of education. The survey results show that the learning environment in the 2021 National Assessment, the school's achievements in providing a safe and comfortable

learning environment for students are generally in the poor and moderate categories. In the learning process, we still have a curriculum mindset, namely delivering appropriate material and teaching methods but not yet focusing on the needs of students. In this case, education has not been able to build the creation of a new culture in learning. Another problem that shows schools have not created a safe learning environment is revealed by the low quality of learning provided by teachers/schools to students. Class management such as interactive learning and according to students' abilities, only 1 percent is in the good category. There is still bullying in educational units which has the potential for incidents of sexual violence. As well as several problems found in educational units, students lack motivation and enthusiasm for learning. So there is a need for education that provides opportunities for students to experience learning experiences that suit their potential, gives students the freedom to learn and carries out learning that is in favor of the students.

Education is a crucial aspect in developing a society of quality and integrity. Christian religious education, as an important part of education, has a significant role in building a quality educational learning environment. Christianity encourages the development of moral, ethical, and spiritual values that help students develop good character, social responsibility, and mutual respect. A safe and comfortable learning environment can also be obtained through Christian religious education which is integrated in education. So the role of Christian religious education is very important in the world of education, because they not only teach about Christ and Christian values to students from various levels of education, from elementary school to college. Christian religious education teachers are also responsible for guiding changes in students' attitudes and behavior towards a better direction. They act as agents for instilling Christian values and forming good character in various contexts of life, such as in schools, families, communities, churches and the surrounding environment (Wiranto Wiranto, 2024).

Christian religious education in the Society 5.0 era, as the foundation of quality education, focuses on strengthening faith and knowledge which aims to explain the important role of Christian religious education in building a quality educational learning environment in the Society 5.0 era. One of the studies written by (Ya'aman Guloa, 2021) in the title "Learning Strategies for Christian Religious Education in the Era of Society 5.0" states that learning strategies are a means of achieving predetermined learning goals. Because one of the challenges faced by teachers today is technological developments where the Era of Society 5.0 requires teachers to be more creative, innovative

and informative. So that in this era, teachers can take advantage of technological developments in creating a quality learning environment that is able to prevent the occurrence of problems in educational units that do not provide learning comfort for students in learning, especially in Christian religious education learning.

Examining various problems in educational units regarding the learning environment and the role of Christian religious education in building a quality learning environment in the Era of Society 5.0. So this article provides an overview of the contribution of Christian religious education in creating a learning environment that promotes holistic, moral and spiritual learning in the 5.0 era with the title "Building a Quality Learning Environment Through Christian Religious Education in the 5.0 Era"

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This research uses a qualitative approach by conducting a comprehensive literature review. The author will collect various relevant information and data collected through literature studies from various sources, including books, academic journals and related articles. This research focuses on identifying the role of Christian religious education in building a quality educational learning environment in the 5.0 era. The collected data is analyzed systematically to describe the contribution of Christian religious education in achieving quality education goals.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### **Analysis**

Journal written by Melyarmes and Kristian (2023) with the title "Teachers' Efforts to Create a Comfortable Environment Through Positive School Culture Management" which discusses managing the learning process based on quality capacity, which is the responsibility and function of school leadership. This article examines the issue of managing school culture which demands the attention of all stakeholders. Creating a comfortable learning environment is influenced by the quality standards of school culture management. The results obtained show that there is a positive correlation with the quality of the teacher workforce in terms of planning, evaluation and use of student learning outcomes. Good and careful management is a must for every learning leader as the main implementer which is effectively reflected in building consistent implementation of regular school culture management.

This research discusses the efforts that teachers can make to create a comfortable learning environment through positive school culture management. This article contributes to current research, where one of the steps to create a conducive learning environment is school culture management which requires cooperation by the school and accommodates all aspects of students' lives.

Journal written by Usman with the title "Creating a Learning Environment with a Motivational Background in Learning and Learning towards the formation of Personal, Social and Moral Development in Students. This journal discusses a positive learning environment that must be created and maintained throughout the year. One way is to prevent problems from arising that could interfere with learning. In this case, an appropriate response is needed from the teacher when facing various problems experienced by students. Personal, social and moral development are important aspects that must be considered in the learning process. Every child has different personal, social and moral development. Ideal learning certainly leads to the personal formation of each student, who is expected to be able to socialize with his environment based on the moral values that exist in society. Therefore, teachers in this case are required to carry out learning activities that are oriented towards the personal, social and moral formation of students (Usman, 2011).

This research discusses a positive learning environment that must be created and maintained throughout the year. Teachers must be sensitive to the problems experienced by students. Personal, social and moral development is also an important aspect for teachers in the learning process. This research has similarities with this article, which discusses building a quality and positive learning environment in order to shape the personal, social and moral development of students.

Journal written by Arum Asri Arini, et al with the title "Building a Conducive School Environment Through Classroom Action Research". This journal reviews teachers' experiences in building a conducive learning environment, namely the meaning of strategies for building a conducive learning environment, both from physical and psychosocial dimensions, so that it can facilitate and mediate student learning at Junior High Schools in Ponorogo. The research results show that the meanings contained in building a conducive learning environment in junior high schools in Ponorogo from both physical and psychosocial dimensions are as follows; (1) comfort and beauty in the arrangement of classroom furniture, (2) learning is student-

centered through seating arrangements, (3) selection of learning strategies, use of media, and teacher support through teacher and student interactions, and (4) instilling the value of freedom of interaction between students as a strategy in organizing a conducive learning environment (Arum Asri Arini, 2023).

This research discusses teachers' strategies for building a conducive school environment through classroom action research, which is a very effective method in improving the quality of learning and the learning environment in the classroom. Teachers focus on specific problems and find solutions to these problems. Students will be actively involved in the learning process. What this research has in common is that it both discusses how teachers are able to create students' learning experiences by arranging a learning environment that is safe and comfortable for students.

Research from Wiranto Wiranto, et al with the title "Christian Religious Education Teachers Have an Important Role in Instilling Moral and Spiritual Values in Students at School." This journal explains that Christian Religious Education Teachers play a vital role in building students' moral and spiritual values. This study reveals the importance of Christian Religious Education (PAK) teachers in instilling moral and spiritual values in students at school. The research results reveal that the effectiveness of the method/exposing interactive, contextual learning strategies, and the role of the teacher as a good example in instilling strong moral and spiritual values in students, are crucial for the formation of their character. This research shows the significance of PAK teachers in character education and recommends further research to support effective learning methods in Christian Religious Education in the school environment (Wiranto Wiranto, 2024).

This research reviews that in forming students' moral and spiritual values, Christian religious education teachers play an important role in instilling moral and spiritual values in students at school. This can be done by the teacher explaining interactive, contextual learning strategies and the role of the teacher as a good example. This research has a difference, in that this research discusses the strategies of PAK teachers to instill moral and spiritual values in students in learning. However, this research provides input to the research being conducted so that Christian Religious Education teachers can build a learning environment that applies moral and spiritual values to students.

Journal written by Ya'aman Guloa, et al with the title Learning Strategies for Christian Religious Education in the Era of Society 5.0. This

journal explains relevant learning strategies in the era of society 5.0 in Christian Religious Education learning. The challenge that is often faced at this time is technological developments. The era of society 5.0 requires teachers to be more creative, innovative and informative. The results in this study show that one of the Christian Religious Education learning strategies in the era of society 5.0 that is still relevant is participatory strategies, inquiry strategies, discovery learning strategies, cooperative strategies, and blended learning strategies. Thus, the era of society 5.0 is a concept of society that was developed to apply and balance the use of technology in everyday life so that there is access in virtual space and physical space to solve social problems in order to create super smart humans (Ya'aman Guloa, 2021).

The research carried out explains the learning strategies for Christian Religious Education in the era of society 5.0, where at this time teachers are required to carry out more creative, innovative and informative learning by utilizing various technologies. So this research makes a contribution to current research which is that in creating a quality learning environment in this era, Christian Religious Education teachers can utilize technology-based and innovative media and adapt to current developments.

The results of this research indicate that Christian religious education plays an important role in building a quality educational learning environment. By integrating Christian moral and ethical values in the curriculum and learning practices, Christian religious education helps enhance students' character development and promotes positive attitudes such as tolerance, cooperation and mutual respect. In addition, Christian religious education provides a spiritual foundation that encourages students' holistic growth, integrating the spiritual dimension in the learning process.

## **Discussion**

The development of education followed by the development of technology makes it easier for humans to improve the quality of life and social welfare as well as creating an inclusive environment, which is done by utilizing various advanced technologies. Christian religious education as an integral part of education can influence the overall educational learning environment. The role of Christian religious education which includes moral, ethical and spiritual values contributes to creating a learning environment that is rich in moral values and empowers students to become individuals who are responsible, have integrity and care for others.

Christian religious education teachers play an important role in responding to the challenges that arise in the era of society 5.0. With the development of this technology, PAK teachers can be considered very influential figures for students. Where teachers must have extensive knowledge to be able to provide knowledge to students. Teachers as professional educators have a good attitude so that children can learn from their tutors. If technological developments do not cause students to experience moral decline, students will still have strong spiritual resilience. Teachers must also have skills in teaching, guiding and communicating with students. With the various challenges of the 5.0 era, teachers are always required to create a creative, innovative and enjoyable learning environment by utilizing various technologies to support the achievement of learning outcomes, increasing students' learning motivation as well as students who have the 4C skills referred to in 21st century learning.

At this time, it is very important for teachers to instill moral and spiritual values in students at school. Values such as honesty, responsibility, cooperation, empathy can be taught through Christian religious education. This will be a valuable lesson for students so that they become better individuals and useful members of society. Through Christian Religious Education, the material presented is material that contains the true values of the Christian faith. Christian religious education equips students with knowledge (cognitive) so they know their personal responsibilities in improving the quality of their lives. Students are equipped with instilling attitudes (affective) so that they understand and distinguish what is good and bad to do. And students are trained to have skills (psychomotor) so that they have the ability to carry out the tasks and responsibilities entrusted by the Lord Jesus.

Of course, the formation of moral and spiritual values cannot be separated from a quality learning environment. What this means is that in the learning process, a PAK teacher creates conditions that support and encourage students' academic, social and emotional development. A safe and comfortable learning environment can increase students' learning motivation because some psychologists explain motivation in relation to personal traits or individual characteristics. Certain people, according to this theory, have a strong need for achievement, a fear of tests, or an undying interest in art (so they work hard). Other psychologists see motivation as a state, a temporary situation. Motivation at a certain time is usually a combination of trait and state (Usman, 2011). Thus, several things regarding the learning environment



must be optimized properly so that students in learning experience personal, social and moral development.

In terms of building a quality learning environment in the 5.0 era, this is a comprehensive and sustainable effort and requires good cooperation between teachers, students, parents and schools. Several ways can be done to build a quality learning environment through Christian Religious Education, including.

First, teachers create a comfortable environment through positive school culture management. The school culture that is implemented can prioritize good habits which are the strength of the school and to build a good school culture requires cooperation and support from various stakeholders. Several efforts can be made to develop a psychological, social and cultural climate in schools that supports the development of good student character, namely (1) Teachers help students realize their emotional, moral and affective potential as citizens with cultural values. (2) Encourage students to develop good habits and behavior in accordance with religious, national and cultural traditions, as well as global principles. (3) As future leaders of the nation, instill in students a sense of responsibility and leadership as citizens. (4) Make students independent, imaginative and patriotic individuals. (5) Creating a culture of safety, integrity, creativity, family, national pride and dignity in the school as a learning environment. This era requires Christian religious education teachers to instill in the learning process a learning environment that prioritizes character formation, so that students' characters are not damaged due to technological developments. Good school culture management will create students who also have good character.

Second, creating a learning environment by examining classroom management as one of the teacher's main concerns. A good learning process will be followed well by all students if they have classroom management that is able to increase students' learning motivation. In creating a quality learning environment, the first thing to pay attention to is the class. Classes have features that can influence teachers and students as well as the learning process. It is very important to arrange seating/classrooms, where the classroom is the main environment for learning and fun activities. The classroom must be neatly arranged, the seating arrangement and clean will make students enthusiastic about learning so that teaching and learning activities can be enjoyable. Apart from that, teachers prepare learning support infrastructure such as LCDs, because in 21st century learning in the 5.0 era, learning is carried out using various technologies. Christian Religious

Education teachers are expected to use technology-based learning media so that there is student enthusiasm in learning. Apart from that, various actions that teachers can take can have multiple effects on students. For example, giving turns to answer to students with low abilities will encourage their participation and thinking. However, learning will be hampered and make the class unpleasant. So through Christian religious education, good classroom management will produce quality learning. Teachers as much as possible check students' learning readiness, the arrangement inside and outside the classroom is neat and clean and the availability of good learning support infrastructure so that students have 21st century (4C) skills that are useful for their future. Class management is a technique that can be used to maintain a positive and productive environment because it uses more time for learning, provides access to learning for all students and class management helps students to be better able to manage themselves.

Third, building a conducive school environment through classroom action research. The learning process of Christian religious education certainly pays attention to and balances cognitive, affective and psychomotor dimensions. To build a conducive school environment, it is necessary to organize the classroom environment which takes into account aspects of comfort and beauty. Arranging the classroom environment includes: placement of furniture and room design, good lighting, and good air circulation. The classroom environment is the most important aspect for students to feel comfortable in learning and makes it easier for students to concentrate. The next step is arranging the seating. The more precise the seating arrangements are made by the teacher, the more time students will use to do the tasks given so that students play an active role in the learning process. In the learning process, Christian religious education teachers must prepare learning strategies, use technology-based media to create a pleasant learning environment. Then instilling the value of freedom of interaction between students is also an inseparable part of a comfortable learning environment, because of the demands of this era, where through education, students have the freedom to interact, collaborate and communicate with fellow students in the learning process.

Building a comfortable and conducive learning environment through Christian religious education is of course inseparable from teacher skills and teacher quality. An effective learning environment is an environment that provides a feeling of comfort for students to carry out the learning process so as to produce good achievements. The era of society 5.0 requires Christian

Religious Education teachers to have skills in utilizing technology to prevent the negative impact of technology in the learning process. Teachers can strengthen moral and spiritual values as part of the formation of students' character by providing education on the good use of technology to students. According to Simamora, Christian Religious Education Christian Religious Education is one way to bring someone from bad behavior to good behavior through Bible teaching so that they become more mature and responsible in everyday life (Ya'aman Guloa, 2021). Therefore, Christian religious education is education that is based on the Bible and depends on the power of the Holy Spirit to equip students to become spiritually mature and responsible. Therefore, Society 5.0's contribution to education brings changes to the world of education, especially Christian Religious Education.

The era of society 5.0 must be utilized well by Christian Religious Education teachers in aligning technology-based education with students' real lives. where the use of technology is not only to improve the quality of learning, but ensures that moral and spiritual values are maintained and can be implemented by students in everyday life. Therefore, in this era, teachers can take advantage of technology by integrating technology in religious learning by using platforms that provide learning materials, assignments, and things that make it easier for students to learn. In learning, teachers can present videos, pictures and animations that explain Bible illustrations and stories, thereby helping students understand the contents of the Bible. Apart from that, teachers can utilize technology by integrating spiritual activities such as visits to places of worship, social activities to strengthen students' Christian values and ensure that what they have learned can be applied in real life. Teachers also guide students to use spiritual applications on gadgets to take time offline and online to pray and reflect. The learning strategies for Christian religious education that can be carried out in the era of society 5.0 are by implementing participatory strategies, inquiry strategies, discovery learning strategies, cooperative strategies, and blended learning strategies.

Teachers can use various ways to build a conducive learning environment by doing it according to habits or teachers can use technological media to support Christian religious education that is in line with current developments. Of course, through Christian religious education, students wisely use various technologies that can develop their potential, build character and moral, ethical and spiritual values, contribute to creating an environment rich in values and empower students to become individuals who are responsible, have integrity and care for others.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the discussion above, it can be concluded that it is important for Christian religious education to build a quality learning environment through integrating Christian moral, ethical and spiritual values in the learning process. Christian religious education can help develop students' positive attitudes and values, promote holistic learning, and build strong character. Therefore, Christian Religious Education becomes an integral part of the education system, which can create a quality and effective educational learning environment for students. There are several ways that teachers and schools can do to build a quality learning environment through positive school culture management, establishing classroom management, and through classroom action research, which cannot be separated from teacher skills and teacher quality. Of course, strengthening moral and spiritual values is part of forming the character of students. This is done by teachers by providing education on the good use of technology to students so that students can utilize technology in the 5.0 era for the benefit of their future and not use it for things that can harm themselves.

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