Madrasah: Quality and Social Change
(A Case Study in Banjarmasin Indonesia)

Ahdi Makmur
Faculty of Islamic Education and Teachers Training
UIN Antasari Banjarmasin

Abstract

According to Indonesian Constitution of 1945, every citizen has his/her right to get education. Consequently, Indonesian government has to provide educational institutions for its nation, like school, madrasah and other forms of non-formal education. Both school and madrasah are carried out in different management. School management is on the hands of the Ministry of Education and Culture, madrasah is managed under the responsibility of the Ministry of Religious Affairs. The difference, however, presents dualism of educational system in Indonesia. As the result, madrasah has no more progress, treated discriminatively, and marginalized. What a negative action it has, nowadays madrasah still exists in this country.

The purpose of this article is to explain the quality of madrasah (plural: madrasahs) and their role as the agent of social change. This is a field research of qualitative-quantitative approach carried out in a provincial capital city that is Banjarmasin in South Kalimantan Indonesia. The madrasahs studied were 15 (n=15) with various levels and status including the founding organizations that are responsible. The data were collected by questionnaire, interview, observation and documentary.

By measuring the eight indicators of National Education Standard consisting of content standard, process, outputs, teachers and non-educational staff, structures and infrastructures, management, cost, and standard of assessment, it is finally concluded that the quality of madrasahs was very good, although a little difference found out among the educational levels of them, between the state and private madrasahs. In addition, by understanding the students’ mind set, value, belief, norm, behavior and their moral or ethics, madrasahs also have played the role largely and significantly in social change, except in some aspects which have been deeply rooted in their tradition like their belief on supernatural life, sacrality and irrational power, that basically have not changed yet.

Keywords: madrasah, quality, and social change

1. Introduction

Indonesian Constitution of 1945 stated that every citizen has his/her right to get education. Chapter IV Article 6 Verse 1 in the Constitution of Indonesian Republic No. 20 Year 2003 about National Education System also stated that every citizen who is 7 until 15 years old is compulsory to study at the basic education level. It means that state assures every one whose Indonesian citizenship to have education. Therefore, no Indonesian should be neglected his/her education. Consequently, state must provide institutions of education for this nation so all children could spend education, whether in school or in madrasah.

These two institutional educations are managed by or under the responsibility of different Indonesian ministries. The institution called “state or national schools” is officially controlled by Ministry of Education and Culture (now Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education). Otherwise, madrasahs either private or state are managed by the Ministry of Religious Affairs. The different management, however, made the development and the quality of the institutions tend to become different as well. Different management has also caused the existence of a dualism of educational system in Indonesia. As the result, the development of madrasahs wass low, the quantity and the quality of them had no progress significantly, madrasahs were treated discriminatively and marginalized in Indonesia (Azra, 2012: 94-104).

The quality improvement of the two institutions has started to see since 1975, after the publication of Letter of Cooperative Decision of Three Ministries in the era of New Order about the quality improvement of madrasahs (Muhamin, 2004: 176), so the outputs of madrasahs have the same opportunity to continue their study as that of state or national schools to the high levels in education or vise versa. However, madrasahs have not developed optimally. The financial support, structure and infrastructure, human resources, as well as the process of teaching and learning at madrasahs are still lower compared to those of state or national schools. Quantitatively and qualitatively, educational system of madrasahs is also less progress compared to that of national schools. In many things, schools have more progress, are better and comparable than madrasahs.
Historically, the existence of Islamic education in Indonesia is older than national or secular schools. However, the policy of the Dutch colonials treated Islamic education including madrasahs with no justice (Steenbrink, 1986: 1-10). Quite the same treatment was also done by the Indonesian government in the era of Old Order (1945-1965) and New Order (1966-1998), but then there was an effort of New Order government to promote the pride and the quality of Islamic education by sounding the mottoes of development. In fact, Islamic education including madrasah education is still backward compared to the quality of national education with the so-called “Sekolah”.

Although madrasah has run up and down from time to time, however, this institution still exists in this country. The style of New Order government whose powerful authority cannot abolish the existence of madrasah in Indonesia. The willingness and the demand of society on the need of Islamic education in the form of madrasah are still on their own mind until nowadays.

In the post of New Order or Era of Reformation in Indonesia, the condition of madrasah becomes better. The existence of them has imparted, juridically and formally, into national system of education. In Indonesian Constitution No. 20 Year 2003 on National System of Education, it is said that madrasah is a formal institution of education managed by the Ministry of Religious Affairs who carries out general education with Islamic characters (2003: 228). Therefore, the position of madrasah has been equal with national (general) school at least in the context of national system of education, which is also considered “failure” as stated by Tilaar (2012: 2-3). According to him, National education has not successfully given birth to Indonesians whose better culture and who meet ideal reformation to build civil society. That is why, madrasah which has become a part of national education system should be developed well, their quality should be improved, and their existence should be empowered.

However, negative image on madrasah still continuously happens in this country. Madrasahs are still considered as some places to implant Islamic radicalism, marginalized, backward, or still low in quality, etc. (Azra, 2012: 94-104; Muhaimin, 2004: 176). On global issues, madrasah is also considered as educational institution produced radical and militant ulama (Islamic scholars) and the fundamentalists. Madrasah even has been greatly suspected as alleged breeding grounds for terrorists, incubators for violent extremism, and jihad factories (Noor, et. al., 2013: 10-11). This negative image, however, in one side being an effort to discredit and to weaken the role of madrasah. In the other one, it is a support for those who manage them or other responsible authorities to do a lot of work for improving the quality of madrasahs on the reason that they do not only function to transfer knowledge and values, but also do their social functions as the agent of development and change. Accepted or not, madrasahs have given birth to the actors of development and change in society.

There are hundreds of madrasahs in South Kalimantan Indonesia, whether in the basic level with the so-called Madrasah Ibtidaiyah (MI) for six years learning and Madrasah Tsanawiyah (MTs) of three years studying period, or at high level with the so-called Madrasah Aliyah (MA), whether state or private status. Based on the Department of Religious Affairs Office in Banjarmasin, there were 62 MI (5 state, 57 private), 32 MTs (4 state, 28 private), and 9 MA (3 state, 6 private) in 2013. However, the empowerment of the madrasahs in Banjarmasin, which is usually called by the capital city of thousand rivers, has not been studied and written so more. Quantitatively, the numbers of institutions, teachers, students, their structures and infrastructures could be known well, but their quality has not been known, whether in regional level or national level. Furthermore, the role of madrasah in society, particularly in this city, has not been intensively investigated. Gap of knowledge, feeling of concern and other judgments, then made the writer do the research on them.

The word madrasah (madrasa) derives from Arabic root, darasa, which means “to study”, and relates to the lesson given, dars. In general context of the Arabic-speaking world, the term applies to all kinds of schools where traditional Islamic subjects only given, or secular sciences only without any provision of religious teachings. (Noor, et. al., 2003:9). In Shorter Encyclopedia of Islam (1961) as quoted by Daulay (2009), it is said that madrasahis “The name of an institution where the Islamic sciences are studied.” Other definitions as stated in Government Regulation No. 28 and 29 Year 1990 is that madrasahis school whose Islamic characteristics (Daulay, 2009: 112). That is why, madrasah, as the writer means here, is Islamic educational institution which functions both to teach both Islamic sciences and secular sciences as well. Madrasahs also a formal Islamic educational institution, which can be found in Islamic word. Historically, madrasah is a continuation of the beginning form of Islamic education with the so-called maktab/kuttab, halaqah, majlis, education in mosques or surau, khan, and non-formal education in the houses of ulama, and the more specific one is a continuation of the mosque education (Daulay and Pasa, 2013: 86-96).

---

1 Both New Order and Old Order government in Indonesia similarly treated Islamic education institutions including madrasahs discriminatively and let them be wrapped in dualism of educational system.
Madrasah was formed in the third step of educational activities in mosque, that is, from the mosque education to mosque Khan then to education in the form of madrasah (Asrohah, 2000: 99). Moreover, there were inclusive and exclusive madrasahs in pre-madrasa period. Some were restricted only for teaching Islamic sciences or particular subject like Islamic Law, for particular school or madhab, namely Shafi’i or Hanafi School (Makdisi, 1992: 9-10).

In Indonesia, madrasah existed in the early of 20 century after growing up the ideas of Islamic reform. The ideas which were generally brought by the ulama immediately after their coming back from studying in Middle East like Mecca, Medina and Egypt, had an effect significantly on the movement of Islamic education reform in this country (Steenbrink, 1986: 42-83). Rahman (1982: 46) also said that those who had gone to Mecca and cultivating orthodox Islamic intellectualism, notably the orthodox theology and Prophete traditions, began transmitting their learning in Indonesian pesantren, which gradually developed into madrasahs. Other transmission of learning was firstly through pengajian (seats of Islamic learning) in the houses of ulamas which later developed into pesantren education and finally to Islamic education in the form of madrasah, particularly in South Kalimantan Province of Indonesia.

Educational activity in madrasah was carried out in different models and levels. There is a traditional model that only teaches Islamic education like Madrasah Diniyah (MD). Also, there is a model of combination by adding several secular sciences in the process of teaching and learning like Madrasah Wajib Belajar (MWB), and modern model in which religious and secular sciences are equally given or have a little bit of large portion for secular sciences but still keep the Islamic characteristics like madrasah under the responsibility of Minister of Religious Affairs, particularly after the establishment of Letter of Cooperative Decision by the three ministers in 1975. These such modern madrasahs start learning from primary level with the so-called Madrasah Ibtiadaiyah (MI), junior high school level called Madrasah Tsanawiyah (MTs), to senior high school level called Madrasah Aliyah (MA), whose period of learning consecutively 6 years, 3 years, and 3 years. They load 70 % secular subjects compared to 30% of religious (Islamic) subjects (Daulay, 2009: 97-105).

Like national schools, madrasah also has educational components. Madrasah has vision, missions, and objectives. As an Islamic educational institution, madrasah principally focuses on two main domains, individual and social development. In individual development, the learning objective of madrasah is to provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in worldly life and to achieve happy life in hereafter. In social development, madrasah education focuses on enhancing the collective identity of Muslim community and preserving its cultural heritage as an agent of social change (Ali and Bagley, 2015: 5). It also has curriculum, national curriculum and local curriculum made by madrasah itself. Besides that, madrasah offers many subjects, religious and secular sciences written in a syllabus. There are also teachers, students, structures and infrastructures, and other facilities like library and laboratory to support the teaching and learning process. As a formal education, there is learning evaluation or assessment, so the student’s competence could be measured.

Compared to education system of madrasah in country like India, majority of Indonesian madrasahs are more modern where secular sciences and vocational domains are treated in modern approach. Unlike Indian madrasahs, particularly in Meat District of Haryana, the Territory of Delhi in India, they are still traditional. Most madrasahs still lack of infrastructural facilities, competent teaching staff, modern curriculum, modern system of education, scientific approach, and keep on traditional culture rigidly (Ishtiyaque and Abuhurera, 2014: 84-85). Though they are traditional, they have played the role in education and socio-economic development in Mewat. To some extent, the society still requires the education of madrasah for their children. Also, madrasahs have produced their outputs that could get simple jobs as well (Ishtiyaque and Abuhurera, 2014: 86-87).

The characteristics of madrasah are really different with those of other Islamic schools particularly with pesantren (Islamic Boarding School). Management of madrasah is handed by head master helped by the vices, head of administration office and staff. The students are not staying in boarding school, so no large mosque like in pesantren. Religious activities are usually carried out in the hall or small mosque. That is why, madrasah should not have kyai (the head), boarding and big mosque like in pesantren.

Some scholars did researches and wrote about madrasah, but they focused more on local issues, and studied traditional roles of madrasah as a place of transferring sciences and values. Almost nothing was done on the contemporary issues. In addition, scholars of contemporary Muslim societies devoted relatively attention to madrasah education (Noor et.al., 2013: 10), and that the research on madrasah involvement in social change is significantly and urgently to do.

2. Research Methodology

The research was focused on the quality of madrasahs and their role in social change in provincial capital city of Banjarmasin, South Kalimantan Indonesia. This is a field research with a qualitative-quantitative approach.
Quantitative, that is usually called positivistic approach, was used on the reason that the data collected were qualitative which modified into quantitative (data of quality and social change) and analyzed in descriptive statistics. Qualitative approach that is usually called naturalistic approach was used on the reason that the object of the research was the reality that sometimes changes, which were then analyzed and described qualitatively including the result of interview in face to face with the headmasters, the vices, and teachers. So, this research tried to measure and to describe social reality naturally as well as to explain the meanings inside the social reality.

There were 15 madrasahs (n = 15) being the subject of the research. Although small in numbers, they were considered representative for about 15% of 103 madrasahs in Banjarmasin, their distribution included in four districts (Banjarmasin Selatan, Banjarmasin Timur, Banjarmasin Tengah and Banjarmasin Barat), their levels were also various (MI, MTs, MA) and different status (state, private), different founding organizations (NU and Muhammadiyah) and their locations (one-roof school, single school). One hundred and eighty two students (n = 182) from Class XI of MAN were taken as the respondents on the reason of the easiness of communication and their understanding to answer the questionnaire objectively. Besides, there were also some informants like headmasters, the vices, teachers, administrative staff of madrasahs and some employees at the Ministry of Religious Affairs Office in Banjarmasin.

In addition, the data were collected by unstructured interview carried out in face to face. According to Cole (1972), interview, particularly in-depth interview is a technique of collecting the data that most frequently used in qualitative research whose unchanged data to numbers or quantitative data. Other technique was questionnaire (closed questionnaire) with the items based on Likert scale and distributed to students of Class XI MA (n = 182), observation by visiting some madrasahs for the researcher has known only a little about the respondents or social phenomena, and study of documents.

After the all data were collected, they were then processed through editing, categorizing, coding, scoring, tabulating and interpreting. To interpret the data, the researcher used five categories as follows.

1. 0 - <20 % = very low/very small
2. 20 - <40 % = low/small
3. 40 - <60 % = fair
4. 60 - <80 % = high/large
5. 80 - 100 % = very high/very large

To analyze the quantitative data or the quantitative that modified into qualitative data, the researcher used descriptive statistics, that is, counting the percentage, mean of score, and graphic presentation. From the percentage, the researcher then knew the quality levels of madrasahs and the largeness of social change among the society of madrasahs.

Moreover, the design or conceptual framework of this research can be seen from the following scheme.

Scheme 1. Conceptual Framework of Research

The scheme 1 indicates that madrasah does not only have the status as educational institution, but also as the agent of social change, which later develops towards the better quality. Because of development and quality, madrasah that represented by headmasters, teachers and their students could do their social functions. Since they have functioned, they finally could play the role, both as the motivator or the agent of social change and development.

---

3Muhammadiyah is a modern Islamic movement founded in 1911 by modern ulama, K.H. Ahmad Dahlan, whose main objective is to purify the Islamic thoughts or teachings. This Islamic movement or organization has built a lot of schools, hospitals, orphanage dormitories for the service of the ummah (Muslim community) and for Islamic practices of devotion.

On the other hands, NU (Nahdhatul Ulama) is a traditional Islamic movement founded in 1926 by the great ulama, K.H. Hasyim Asy’ari, whose objective to maintain the teachings of the four classical madzhab, particularly the Syafi’i school.
In this research, the quality and social change were measured to determine the height or the largeness of the two aspects. To measure the quality, the researcher used 8 indicators of national standard of education, that is, standard of content, process, outputs, teachers and non-educational staff, structures and infrastructures, management, cost, and evaluation or assessment. Otherwise to measure social change, he counted the students answers on questionnaire, consisting of the statements or items relating to the patterns they think, their belief, value, norm, behavior and ethics or moral. Having combined the data, he counted the real scores, ideal scores, and the mean scores to see the level of quality as well as the largeness of social change that leading to conclusion. The process of counting was done as supposed by Sugiyono (2009: 97-100), Sudjana and Ibrahim (2001: 105-108), that is, by adding the real scores and then dividing them by the ideal scores and finally multiplied them by a hundred percent (\( RS : IS \times 100 \% \)). The results were then put in the position of rating scale or consulted with 5 categories of interpretation/n, so it is finally known the low-high quality or the largeners of social changes investigated.

3. Findings and Discussion

There are two main problems in this research, the quality of madrasah and the role of madrasah as the agent of social change. The quality of madrasah(s) is described based on the level itorthey have, that is, Madrasah Ibtidaiyah (MI), Madrasah Tsanawiyah (MTs) and Madrasah Aliyah (MA). The data were collected by questionnaire based on the Eight National Standard of Education as discussed in previous pages.

3.1. The Quality of Madrasah

Based on the regulation of Ministry of National Education (now Ministry of Primary Education and Culture) No. 64 Year 2009 on the System of Educational Quality Assurance in article 1 verse 1, the quality of education is the intellectual level of the nation life that can be achieved from the implementation of national education system. In article 18 from the similar ministry regulation, it is also said that quality standard of education covers the following points: Standard of Content, Process, Output Competence, Teachers and Non-educational Staff, Structures and Infrastructures, Management, Cost, and Evaluation or Assessment. The following information is to show the quality of madrasahs based on the levels they have.

3.1.1. The Quality of Islamic Primary School (Madrasah Ibtidaiyah)

Description of the quality of Primary Islamic School (Madrasah Ibtidaiyah) could be seen in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Names of Madrasah</th>
<th>Scores of the Components of National Standard of Education</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>MIS al-Qalam</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>MIS Darul Istiqamah</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MIN Kebun Bunga</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>MIN Kelayan</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>MIN Pemurus Dalam</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,330</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the table, it is known that the total of real scores is 1,330. If these scores are divided by the ideal scores (100%), that is \( \frac{5 \times (8 \times 10 \times 4)}{5 \times (80 \times 4)} = \frac{5 \times 320}{1,600} = 0.38 \), the result is 83.12% \( \frac{1,330:1,600 \times 100\%}{100\%} = 83.12 \% \). Therefore, the quality of MI is 83.12 % (the total of real scores) from 100 % (the total of ideal score). Based on the criteria of data interpretation discussed in research methodology (0-%<20% = Very Low, 20-%<40% = Low, 40-%<60% = Fair, 60-%<80% = High, 80-%100% = Very High), it can be concluded that the quality of Islamic Primary School (Madrasah Ibtidaiyah) in Banjarmasin is very high.

3.1.2. The Quality of Islamic Junior High School (Madrasah Tsanawiyah)

The quality of some Junior Islamic High School (Madrasah Tsanawiyah) could be understood by reading the table below.
Table 2. The Quality of Islamic Junior High School Based on National Standard of Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Names of Madrasah</th>
<th>Scores of the Components of National Standard of Education</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>MTs al-Ikhwan</td>
<td>37 39 35 31 40 35 39 36</td>
<td>292</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>MTs Nurul Islam</td>
<td>38 40 40 36 38 40 40 40</td>
<td>312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MTsN Mulawarman</td>
<td>40 40 12 39 23 37 34 40</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>MTsN Kelayan</td>
<td>39 37 36 37 25 35 31 35</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>MTsN Banjar Selatan</td>
<td>38 40 40 40 39 40 40</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1.461</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The table shows that the total of real scores is 1.461. If these scores are divided by the ideal scores (100%), that is \(5 \times (8 \times 10 \times 4) = 5 \times 80 \times 4 = 1.600\), the result is 91.31% (1.461:1.600×100% = 91.31%). That is why, the quality of MTs is 91.31% (the total of real scores) from 100% (the total of ideal score). Based on the criteria of data interpretation discussed in research methodology (0-20% = Very Low, 20-40% = Low, 40-60% = Fair, 60-80% = High, 80-100% = Very High), finally it can also be concluded that the quality of MTs in this city is very high.

3.1.3. The Quality of Islamic Senior High School (Madrasah Aliyah)

Like the quality of MI and MTs, the quality of MA could also be known from the following table.

Table 3. The Quality of Islamic Senior High School Based on National Standard of Education

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Names of Madrasah</th>
<th>Scores of the Components of National Standard of Education</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>MA Siti Maryam</td>
<td>36 36 30 36 24 33 32 35</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>MA Muhammadiyah</td>
<td>39 37 40 40 36 40 33 36</td>
<td>301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>MAN 1</td>
<td>39 39 40 40 36 40 39 39</td>
<td>312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>MAN 2</td>
<td>37 38 39 39 39 40 36 37</td>
<td>296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>MAN 3</td>
<td>40 36 39 40 37 39 34 40</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1.476</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

By reading the table, it is finally known that the total of real scores is 1.476. If these scores are divided by the ideal scores (100%), that is \(5 \times (8 \times 10 \times 4) = 5 \times 80 \times 4 = 1.600\), the result is 92.25% (1.476:1.600×100% = 92.25%). So, the quality of MA is 92.25% (the total of real scores) from 100% (the total of ideal scores). Based on the criteria of data interpretation discussed in research methodology (0-20% = Very Low, 20-40% = Low, 40-60% = Fair, 60-80% = High, 80-100% = Very High), finally it can be concluded that the quality of Islamic Senior High Schools (MA) in this city is very high as well.

Description of the quality of 15 madrasahs in the capital city of Banjarmasin can also be seen in the following graph.

Graph 1. The Quality of Madrasahs in Banjarmasin in Percentage
The graph, however, shows that the quality of Islamic Senior High School (Madrasah Aliyah) in Banjarmasin is higher than that of Islamic Junior High School or Madrasah Tsanawiyah (92.25% > 91.31%), which is also higher than that of Islamic Primary School or Madrasah Ibtidaiyyah (91.31% > 83.12%), although the level of the three Islamic schools or madrasahs are quite similar, all have very high quality. Studying madrasah should, more or less, also be understood from the input quality, process and the outputs of madrasahs themselves (Daulay, 2009: 180-191; Muhaimin, 2004:182). The research done by my friends and I showed that the development of the new students of madrasahs in this city has increased slowly for the late of five years (2010-2014) with the average of 1,2% each year (575 students in 2010 to 581 students 2014). The process of teaching and learning in the madrasahs is also good as completed by facilities like teaching media, library, laboratory, mushalla (praying room for Moslem), sport yard, etc. However, the facilities could be applied effectively if they are used by professional teachers and non-educational staff. Educational background is one of factors indicating professional and qualified teachers. Four educational domains (professional, pedagogical, affective and social domains) could only be gotten by teachers who have education and trainings. Their research also showed that most of the teachers of madrasahs graduated from undergraduate and master degrees. About ninety three percent (93,09%) of them were bachelors and masters. In addition, 100% students of madrasahs have passed in National Examination with the mean score of 19,67 (students of MI), 31,62 (students of MTs), and 48,27 (students of MA), even though lower than the passing grade of maximum standard, that is, 30 for MI, 40 for MTs, and 50 for MA (Makmur, et. al., 2014).

Other information revealed that madrasah has supported and changed the students’ thought and behavior to be more critical, actively learned, disciplined, good religious practices and moral, including the change of their cognitive and psychomotoric domains. Because of that, some of them were successful and had good prestige, not only in the level of local, but also in the national and international level, said the headmaster and the vice of students’ section of MAN 1 Banjarmasin. The result of interviews with the headmaster of MA Siti Maryam, the headmistress of MA Muhammadiyah, and some teachers of both madrasahs also gave information that they have always motivated the students, to think critically, to learn actively, to behave well and to be disciplined, and that their ways of thinking, their religious practices, their behaviors and their morals become better. It means that the students cognitive, psychomotoric, affective and social domains have changed significantly.

Otherwise according to Edward Sallis in his book “Total Quality Management in Education” translated in Indonesian by Ahmad Ali Riyadi and Fahrurrozi (2012: 6), that the implementation of education needs a kind of management system which is able to empower educational institution to be more qualified. Furthermore, educational institution should have the position like other services of institution or industry, which is able to provide services in according to what the costumers need. In this context, madrasah should have some effort to improve its quality continuously, and that the costumers (students, parents, and society) become interested and feel happy with the condition of Islamic schools or madrasah as the place of learning for their children. That is why, it is logically to say that the satisfaction of customers is the most important and a measurement tool of the quality of educational institution like school or madrasah.

3.2. The Role of Madrasah in Social Change

The data about the role of madrasah in social change were also collected by questionnaire distributed to Class XI students (n = 182) of Islamic Senior High School (Madrasah Aliyah). Six indicators were applied or used to understand the role, namely, the patterns of their religious thought or their mind set, their beliefs on religio-culture, socio-cultural values, norms, behaviors and ethics or their moral. The result of questionnaire indicated that many students (n=102/56%) tended to accept the change, few of them (n=30/16%, 5%) tended to refuse, and some of them (n=50/27.5%) tended to be neutral as seen in the following graph.

Graph 2. The Tendency of the Students towards Social Change
Therefore, the tendency to change among the students was quite high (56 % of respondents). Some were low (27.5 %), and the rest was very low (16.5 %). So, it can be concluded that the majority of students (56 % of 182 respondents/students) have accepted social change. It means that there has been a dynamic life, a social development and change in the students’ life, that more or less representing the social development of madrasah itself.

Of course, the findings did not directly reveal the role of madrasah, but the dynamic or change has happened in the students’ life (behavior, moral, belief, norm and value) or students’ thought (mind set). In other words, the change of religious thought or mind set, beliefs on religio-culture, socio-cultural values, norms, behaviors and ethics or moral among the students have taken place in madrasah. Since the respondents represented the society of madrasahs, madrasahs have functioned in developing social change, which also means that madrasah has played a significant role in developing social change in the life of its society (the society of madrasah) as the effect of transferring of knowledge and values.

Moreover, the leaders of madrasahs, teachers and non-educational staff have played their own functions, whether as the managers, educators, motivators, facilitators or administrators as well. That is why, the activities like directing, teaching-learning process, guiding and training, more or less, have an effect or influenced on the existence of dynamics or changes in several domains of education (cognitive, affective, psychomotoric, and social domains) on the students’ way of life and thinking as the result of schooling.

In addition, the dynamic or change in the life of society in madrasah cannot be avoided from the role of other people or social groups outside madrasah, like family, the leaders of society, and the ulama or Islamic scholars. Nevertheless, there are a lot of elements from the socio-culture the students maintain or which has changed only a little for they still deeply rooted in family tradition particularly in Banjarese culture, like in believing to sacrality, supranatural life, simple life style, patterns of thinking that are still tied to or following the opinions of the very famous, classic and traditional ulamas who are very famous among the traditional followers of jurisprudence particularly of Syafi’i school. Banjarese, however, are identical with Muslims (Daud, 1997: 48), and mostly are the followers of the Shafi’i school.3

Theoretically, social change is a process to change the structure, function and social relationship in a social system. This happens because of evolution, revolution, diffusion, acculturation, modernization and urbanization, whether it is planned or not (Vago, 2004). Also, it may take place because of some factors like geography, demography, psychology, economy, culture, politics, technology, ideology, and theology (Mitchell, 1979; Soemarjan, 1990). Therefore, social change relates to the changing of some condition (from simple to complex, traditional to modern, old to new) in the life of society like that in Peru with so-called the 1972 Education Reform. The reform, involving several of elements in society like armies, intellectuals, politicians, educators, tried to transform the old ideas in the past to the new ones in education. As the project had only a title critical debate, it had played a significant role in the application of neoliberal reforms in education in 1990’s and the elaboration of National Education Project in Peru in 2006 (Oliart, 2013: 8).

Finally, it is to say that madrasahs in the provincial city or in Banjarmasin have played significant role in developing social change among the society of madrasahs in particular and their surroundings in general. Through the manifest and latent functions, madrasahs have imparted in educational and social development as well towards the life in harmony, stable and equilibrium.

4. Conclusion

The quality of madrasahs in the capital city, Banjarmasin, particularly of the 15 madrasahs investigated, is good. Based on the analysis using descriptive statistics on eight indicators of national standard of education, in fact the quality of the fifteen madrasahs was very high. The difference of each quality level, as presented in the three tables (Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3) as well as in Graph 1, exists in the level of MI, MTs and MA, and their status of whether they are state or private madrasahs. The quality of MI is laid on the level of 92.25 %, MTs has reached 91.31 % and MA is on the level of 83.12 % from the ideal quality level of madrasah (100%). In addition, social change that has taken place in the society of madrasah, particularly among the students, qualitatively and quantitatively really did in the form of the patterns of thinking or their mind set, their beliefs, values, norms and ethics or moral. But for the aspects that have been deeply rooted in their traditional life, like believing to supernatural life and sacrality, basically have never changed yet. However, the changes in their social life cannot be separated from the role of madrasah as educational institution.

3Shaﬁ’i school is one of the Sunni Schools in Islam, founded by Imam Syaﬁ’i (d. 819), a great jurist in the time of Abbasid period (Rahman, 1982: 27).
Goes through this institution, the functions of the leaders of madrasah (to manage, to build, to improve), the teachers (to teach, to direct, to motivate) and non-educational staff (to administer, to manage finance, library, laboratory, and other technical structures), run in a lot of activities in madrasah; and that, the harmony, stability and the equality have developed in madrasah. On the other words, madrasahs through the hands of their society have done the manifest as well as its latent function. Because of doing their functions, it could be concluded that madrasah has played a significant role in developing education as well as motivating social changes in madrasah society in terms of micro perspective and their surroundings in the macro perspective for the madrasah society themselves are also the members of society in general.

Finally, it is hoped that the leaders of madrasah should look for the wider networks. The existence of stockholders might lead to exist the development of madrasah to be better and better, the human resources of madrasah become more professional, more developed and improved, the structures and infrastructures become more completed, so the administration, the management and the process of teaching-learning in madrasah will be better nowadays than that of the past. Madrasah society hasto improve their school quality that considered already good, and that public will appreciate more on the existence of madrasah. Of course, the quality of madrasah can be improved continuously if the society tries to improve their quality as well.

Also, there should be any change took place in the view of some society toward the existence of madrasah in this country. Therefore, madrasah will not be seen in one eye anymore and is not marginalized in this country, but accepted as Islamic educational institution that largely contributes for society, nation and state, local inhabitants, agent of development and so on. The leaders of madrasah should look for the wider networks. The existence of stockholders might lead to exist the development of madrasah to be better and better, the human resources of madrasah become more professional, more developed and improved, the structures and infrastructures become more completed, so the administration, the management and the process of teaching-learning in madrasah will be better nowadays than that of the past. Madrasah society has to improve their school quality that considered already good, and that public will appreciate more on the existence of madrasah. Of course, the quality of madrasah can be improved continuously if the society tries to improve their quality as well.

Bibliographies


Noor, Farish A., Yoginder Sikand, and Martin van Bruinesen (eds.), (2013), The Madrasa in Asia, Political Activism and Transnational Linkages, (Amsterdam: ISIM Amsterdam University Press).


