

THE EFFECTIVENESS OF E-MOSQUE APPLICATION MANAGEMENT DURING COVID-19 PANDERMIC : AN ANALYSIS OF MASJID ABDULLAH FAHIM

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ABSTRACT

Islam is the official religion of Malaysia. Presently, the Muslim population in Malaysia is expected to grow over with an estimated 32.7 million Muslims in 2050. This will be nearly connected to the mosque's institution as an essential medium for the religious center of the Muslim community. The institution of the mosque is not only seen as a religious activity but also as a community center, administrative center, education center, center of economic activity and others. Currently, the Covid 19 pandermic has change the roles of the mosque's institution. The new normal adaptability towards development of the mosque institution is a crucial step need to be taken by the mosque's management. The elements of social entrepreneurship clearly being shows when the mosque institutions are using some portion of their fund to assist the community who have been affected by the Covid 19 pandermic. The usability of the mosque E-application during covid-19 clearly contributed for the E-society linkages. Many efforts and writings have been gather to enhance the role of mosque institutions in Malaysia, mosque institutions as a hub for the Muslim community especially in the field of social and economic entrepreneurship have not been revived holistically especially in facing the new normal of Covid-19 pandermic.

Key words: E-Mosque, E-society, Effectiveness, Application, Covid 19, Pandermic.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The mosque is an entity link to the Muslims as the main activity and administration of life. The wholeness Muslim community began with the mosque's institution. Consistent with its role, the mosque represent as the hub of the unity of the ummah and the place where the daily activities of the Muslims operate.

The first mosque built by the Prophet Muhammad S.A.W. was the Quba Mosque. ' The mosque is named after the village of Quba '. This mosque was built when the Prophet was near Madinah. During the time of the Messenger of Allah the mosque institute had various important roles.

Besides that, currently most of the roles of mosque institutions have been taken over by various other governmental agencies[1].In fact, the success of mosque institutions today should be revised so that the glory that was achieved in the time of the Prophet (may peace be upon him) could be restored and the mosque would be a perfect institution in elevating Islamic image.

1.1. Background

Role of Mosque Based on the Quran and the Al-Sunnah

The origin of the Quran and the Sunnah directly outline several functions of the mosque:

The place to increase the value of Taqwa

The basic point in the new establishment of human capital by the Messenger of Allah upon moving from Makkah to Medina was to build the Quba Mosque 'which was founded on the basis of piety

Verse nine of the surah Al-Taubah states that mosques should be built on the value of devotion to Allah Almighty. The construction of a mosque that runs away from the path of piety and sincerity is not acceptable to Allah SWT.

The place to uphold the Islamic Sunshine

The mosque is an entity that preserve the teachings of the religion, thus the mosques should be free of doubt. Allah spoke in the twenty-fifth verse of Al-Baqarah verse one by ordering Ibrahim and his son Ismail AS to remove all the idols worshiped by the Muslims in the House.

The mosque as a source of security

Through the ninety-sixth verse of Ali Imran's surah, Allah Almighty declares that those who are at peace are those who enter the al-Haram Mosque. Thus it can be concluded that the mosque is a safe area and must be maintained by every Muslim. Things that are not in line with Islamic ethics should be prohibited in mosques [3].

The mosque represent the community unity.

The mosque is a suitable place used to fulfill human obligation to its khaliq, whether it be fardhi or jama'i. The acts of the makmum(followers) who followed the imam(leader) during the prayer, shows to us a close relationship between the leading and the leading group. That is the essence of Islamic philosophy that has always been reflected in the platform of the mosque, calling on and inviting Muslims to embrace the sense of unity.

Mosque Maintains Human Capital

The mosque is a great open house for those who prefer to obtain every knowledge in a mosque.

Nabawi Mosque is always full of knowledge practice. Some of the daytime is devoted to working in the farm or business and some of it is devoted to flourishing the mosque. Likewise at night, they share some for family members and some for the prosperity of the Nabawi Mosque [4].

1.2. Abdullah Fahim Mosque

Abdullah Fahim Mosque is the largest mosque in the Northern Seberang Perai District. It is a fine-looking building from all angles. Construction began in 2009 at a cost of RM 26 million. The construction of the mosque was completed in September 28, 2012.

The mosque was named after Abdullah Fahim in a symbol of the service of the first famous Sheikh Abdullah Fahim. Sheikh Abdullah Fahim was born in Makkah in 1870 near the Masjidil Haram. Sheikh Abdullah Fahim is the grandfather of former Malaysian Prime Minister Tun Abdullah bin Ahmad Badawi.

Abdullah Fahim Mosque is an important mosque for information technology advancement. This mosque symbolizes a technology-friendly mosque. The mosque is well connected with society or qaryah and visitors to the mosque using applications such as facebook, blog, mobile application of the mosque and e-qaryah application. The e-qaryah application, allows each member of the society to sign up only through the applications developed online.

This mosque has benefited the usage of e-application related to the mosque activity especially during movement control order (MCO) due to Covid 19 pandemic. The covid 19 pandemic has change the way mosque institution act to adapt efficiently during the pandemic. The usability of the mosque E-application contributed to link the society with the mosque although with the limitation during movement control order. The establishment of E-society through the mosque E-application is a new normal adaptability linkages between the society and mosque institution.

1.3. Covid-19

According to Ministry of Health Malaysia (2020), Coronavirus (CoV) is a virus that can cause channel infections breathing. There are several types of coronavirus such as severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory syndrome-related coronavirus (MER-CoV). The latest Coronavirus found in China is Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). Coronavirus infections can cause a spectrum of symptoms from common colds to severe pneumonia (pneumonia).

The use of a mouth covering and a surgical nose or 3-ply face mask is recommended as it helps to reduce the spread of the virus and is more practical to use by the public. It is to prevent the exposure of others to drops and splashes saliva of the person wearing this mouth and nose mask.

According to Department of Surveying Malaysia (2020) through a survey report from 168,162 respondents highlighted several important economic consequences towards Malaysian.

It was found that only 6.2 percent of the respondents were not financially impressed

facing the duration of the Movement Control Order while 52.6 percent respondents stated that they were very impressed during this period. Among the states that have been most affected by the CPP period are Sabah (66.7%), followed by Kelantan (65.5%) and Perlis (64.0%).

More than two-thirds (71.4%) of the respondents were self-employed have enough savings for less than 1 month. 77.2 percent of employers and 82.7 percent of private workers have savings financials of up to 2 months. While 78.9 percent of GLC workers and 75.2 percent of MNC workers have sufficient financial savings up to 4 months.

2. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Based on Strategic planning report by Islamic Department of Penang 2016-2020 stated that one of the challenges for mosque institution in Penang related to the challenges to attract the society to the mosque (Islamic Department of Penang, 2016). Thus it is important for the department to obtain a specific information related to the effectiveness of E-mosque application usage among muslim society especially during the pandemic of Covid 19.

However, Masjid Abdullah Fahim Bertam Penang has launched their first smartphone base mosque application in April 2019 which can help to manage mosque, in particular that is capable of providing solution at the entirety with capability to inform the communities, monitor and control activities and finally reporting on all matters on the mosque institution.

Launching an application only is not the best way to solve the mosque institution problem on attracting the society to the mosque but it must be significantly understand the society needs on the usability components in the E-mosque application.

Since the E-mosque application is still new in Malaysia context, There is a needs to determine the usability effectiveness of E-mosque application in order for the E-society to maximize their usage of the application.

3. RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

- -To analyze the effectiveness of the design usability of E-mosque application.
- -To determine the effectiveness of the content usability E-mosque application.

4. LITERATURE REVIEW

E-Society

In the new destiny of today's society, the need for constant modification, as well as the anticipation of clients' wishes, become an important element in any type of organization. Changes in modern-day society bring with them various needs or desires than those of individuals of past generations. On remark, one can differentiate the idea that the current society, based on the utilization of information, also called the information society, fulfills in a much easier way the function of exchange between organizations and consumers (B2C) or even between organizations (B2B). E-society is a type of a society where an extensive use of and dependability on information and communication technology is present (ICT) in achieving common interests and goals of major social stakeholders[2]

Interaction Design Usability

Interaction design is connected with interface design as both are related together to ensure that there is interaction between user and interface and it is part of system development process [18]. Interaction design is one of the research components in Human Computer Interaction (HCI) because HCI studies the human interaction with any product or technology [16].

The procedure involves in interaction design such as cognition, perception, ergonomics, quality experience and semantic need will be integrated in design process [19]. To attract the user attraction an app should be aesthetically nice [20]. The use of colors and objects should grasp the user. An captivating interface will provide more pulling factor for the user to use the app.

Design should be attractive but avoid using too many colors and to make design attractive colors, graphics and animation should be used rationally [14,20]. Graphics and animation should be relevant and for relevant assistance [21]. The goal is to make an easy to learn interface [22], so app users should not be exposed to too many new and fancy design elements

[23]. For users with visual impairment it is important to use physical landmarks such as edges of the screen [24]



Figure 1

The E-Mosque application of Masjid Abdullah Fahim is using specific icon in order to ease the viewer usage of the application. Covid 19 icon is the new icon in the application to assist the society around the mosque to get any relevant assistance from the mosque management. Besides that, the use of suitable icon would give better understanding for the viewer of the E-Mosque application.

Content Usability

Content refers to message communicated to users. Content includes all communicative components either in the sort of text or multimedia. Use terms that are related to real world. Conveying information in the language used by target audience will enhance users' understandability [16], The language should be simple, friendly and have lenient tone [26].

Content should be brief and specific. The limitation of small screen, very limited information should be provided on the screen [25], Simultaneously, it is essential not losing the crucial information, so information should be brief and specific [2].

Overloading mobile screen with lots of information may affect user's ability to interpret and understand it [15]. It is needed to provide only highly relevant information. In data intensive apps this can be achieved by giving effective visualizations to display past information [23]. Please leave 3.81 cm (1.5") of blank text box at the bottom of the left column of the first page for the copyright notice.

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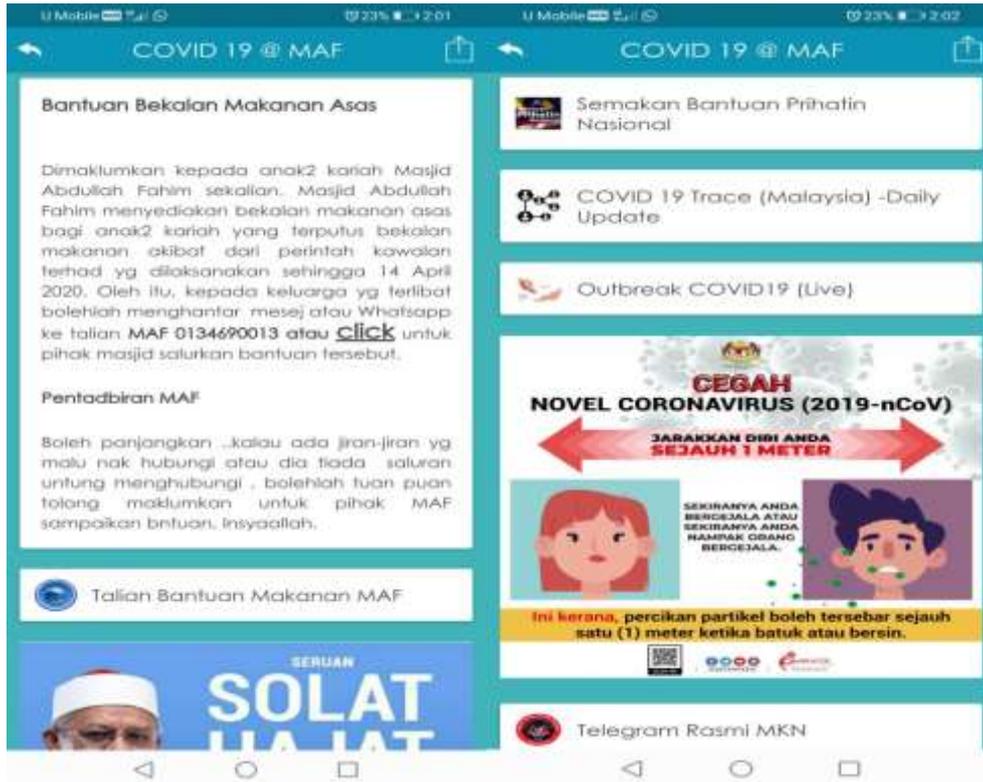


Figure 2

The content is important to make sure all the messages reach the community around Masjid Abdullah Fahim. The main important messages about Covid-19 are properly embedded under the icon of Covid 19 @ MAF (Masjid Abdullah Fahim). A clear message on the basic food assistance to the affected community around the mosque shown as a heading of the message. Other related information on Covid 19 as well as other assistance provided by the government agencies are also included in the E-Mosque application.[29]

5. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Probability sampling is chosen in this research. The simple random sampling is chosen in order to obtain a sample of the data. The place to collect the sample is Muslim Society in Taman Bertam Perdana dan Taman Bertam Putra who are the kariah(resident/society) under Abdullah Fahim Mosque. Abdullah Fahim Mosque institution has 2900 members registered from Taman Bertam Perdana and Taman Bertam Putra the resident.

The respondents of the sampling will be randomly selected. Questionnaires will be distributed to the respondents. The sample size selected were based on the criteria set according to Roscoe's rule of thumb. Sample size must be larger than 30 and less than 500 are appropriate conducted. So, this study uses 120 questionnaires based on the rule.

6. CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

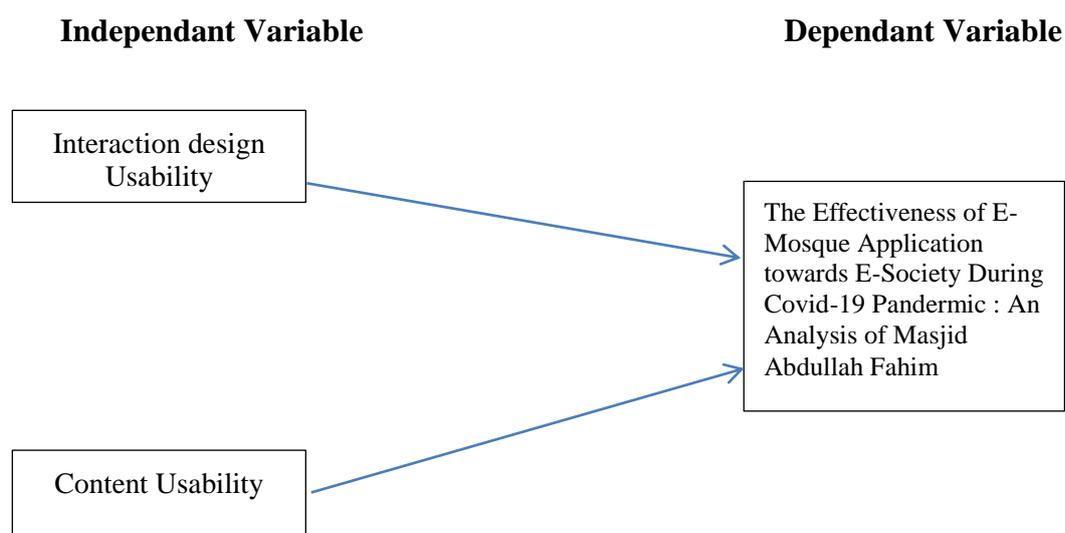


Figure 3 Conceptual Framework adapted from Hoehle & Ventakesh (2015)

7. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

This study is significant in assisting Islamic Penang State Department to increase the Muslim society involvement with mosque institution during Covid-19 pandemic. The growth number of young generation should form new way of attracting this group of society to be a part of mosque institution. The E-mosque application is a new normal way of interaction between the E-society with mosque institution especially Masjid Abdullah Fahim.

The E-mosque application will give the society an updated mosque activities and information. It is the proper way to provide better service to the society and create better understanding on effective usability of E-mosque application.

8. CONCLUSION

The Covid-19 pandemic needs to be taken as a new challenge to the mosque institution in order to sustain and improve their delivery system. The delivery system should be adapted systematically with the usage of technology to connect the society with the mosque institution.

The new normal act needs to be highlighted and explained properly in order to gain a full support from the Muslim community towards a new way of conduct of mosque institution.

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