



# The Concept of Teacher Personality and Student Character

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## Abstract

Teachers have a big responsibility for keeping the learning process going at school. Whether we realize it or not, besides the tools and everything else related to teaching and achieving educational goals, it turns out that the teacher's personality is a huge factor in how well learning happens. This study aims to determine how much influence a teacher's personality has on students' character in the learning process. This study uses a qualitative method with a library research approach, which is a method of collecting data and materials related to the discussion topic and its issues from library sources, which are then analyzed using the tahlili method, a method of interpreting Quranic verses by describing the meanings contained within them. The results of the study indicate that in performing their duties, teachers have many requirements, one of which is related to the nature of teachers, namely: being authoritative, honest, responsible, fair, sociable or not arrogant, loving their work, able to discipline themselves, forgiving, always wanting to align their knowledge and improve their professional skills with the latest developments in science, and loyal to the nation and state. Teachers should not expect gratitude for their services to students. In carrying out their duties, teachers must act sincerely and selflessly, seeking only the approval of Allah. This implies that a teacher's personality is not merely a teaching style but a foundational element that significantly influences the internalization of values, character development, and students' emotional well-being. Therefore, it is crucial for teachers to cultivate a positive and professional personality as a role model, and schools must provide support to enable teachers to contribute maximally to students' character education.

## INTRODUCTION

Education is an effort undertaken by educators through guidance, teaching, and training to help students undergo a process of self-development toward

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achieving their goals. Educators are expected to guide educators to become noble, polite, and, of course, ready to compete in this era of globalization (Aslan, 2019; Fatoni, 2020; Shinta & Ain, 2021; Sulis Tyaningsih & Yurna Yurna, 2024; Wardhani et al., 2024). Serving one's parents, teachers, and dedicating oneself to society. Education derives from the root word "didik," which means to nurture and provide training, instruction, and guidance regarding morality and intelligence. Considering the objectives of the law on the national education system, it can be interpreted that current graduates do not meet expectations and tend to exhibit secular, materialistic, rationalistic, and hedonistic attitudes that is, individuals who are intellectually intelligent and physically skilled but lack mental and spiritual development and emotional intelligence. A teacher is someone whose primary duty is to educate, teach, guide, and evaluate students at all levels of education, including formal, primary, and secondary education. Having the profession of a teacher means that one must maintain one's image, authority, example, integrity, credibility, and personality. A teacher's personality is the ability of an individual to reflect good character, maturity, serve as a role model for students, and uphold noble moral values. A teacher's good personality influences their teaching methods, thereby impacting the quality of education and fostering positive behavioral changes in students. Teachers must possess adequate personality competencies to achieve a balance between their individual selves and their professional roles as figures to be emulated and trusted, upholding principles and values that form the core of their daily activities (Sasmita & Arqam, 2022; Syah et al., 2024; Wally, 2022).

Law No. 20 of 2003 concerning National Education System in Chapter II Article 3 states that the purpose of national education is to develop the potential of students to become people who are faithful and pious, have noble character, are healthy, knowledgeable, skilled, creative, independent, and become democratic and responsible citizens (Abdullah, 2022; Chandra, 2023; dkk, 2022; Khunaifi & Matlani, 2019). The objectives of education are very ideal, but not easy to achieve, because education is a long process that requires struggle and sacrifice. Education is not only a means of transferring knowledge, but also a means of developing behavioral values. Personality is a highly influential factor for a teacher. It is the teacher's personality that will determine whether they will become a good educator and mentor for their students or a destroyer of their future. A teacher's behavior in teaching, whether directly or indirectly, has an influence on students' learning motivation, both positively and negatively. In other words, if the personality a teacher displays in teaching aligns with students' expectations, then students will be motivated to learn effectively.

Teachers also encourage students to dare to do the right thing and accustom them to take responsibility for their actions (Jainiyah et al., 2023; Simamora & Simamora, 2022; Umasugi, 2020). Teachers also act as assistants when students urinate or vomit in class, or even when someone defecates in their pants. Teachers who carry students when they fall or fight with their peers, act as nurses, and perform other tasks that demand patience, creativity, and professionalism. The requirements for teacher competencies essentially apply to all subject teachers across all departments/levels of education, including Islamic Education teachers. However, unlike other subjects that tend to emphasize cognitive competencies, Islamic Education teachers are not only required to be competent in teaching but must also be able to educate and mentor their students so that the material presented can be internalized in their daily lives, both by the teacher personally and, more importantly, by the students (Judrah et al., 2024; Parnawi & Ahmed Ar Ridho, 2023; Suseno, 2021; Taabudillah, 2023).

## METHODS

This study uses a qualitative method with a library research approach, which is a method of collecting data and materials related to the discussion theme and issues taken from library sources (Engkizar et al., 2022; Guspita, 2025; Ikhlas et al., 2025; Khairunisa et al., 2025; Faddhia et al., 2025; Wulandari et al., 2024). The data was then analyzed using the tahlili method, which is a method of interpreting verses from the Quran by describing the meanings contained in the verses. The data sources were drawn from journals, books, and articles related to teacher personality and student character. The analytical tools employed by the researchers included thematic coding and literature categorization, enabling elements such as integrity, exemplary behavior, and discipline to be identified and labeled according to the research theme. Subsequently, tahlili analysis was conducted, which involves the interpretation of Quranic verses-with attention to lexical aspects, the context in which the verses were revealed, inter-verse relationships (munasabah), and the interpretations of scholars, as well as the meanings contained within the context of teacher personality and student character. Researchers apply thematic analysis by synthesizing the results of their analysis of the literature; for example, linking the values of discipline revealed in the verses with the formation of students' disciplinary character according to the literature on character education. This technique allows researchers to systematically establish connections between the messages of the Qur'an and the results of their literature review. This process also involves the stages of data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing according to the Miles & Huberman model, so that the presentation of results is more structured and easier to understand (Akmal et al., 2024; Engkizar, Kaputra, et al., 2022; Fitriani et al., 2023; Istiqamah et al., 2024; Mustafa et al., 2025; Wati et al., 2025).

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Understanding Teacher Personality

Personality refers to moral character, noble character, wisdom, and authority, as well as serving as a role model for students with stable personalities. Teacher personality plays a very important role and function in shaping children's personalities, preparing and developing human resources, and improving the welfare of society, the progress of the country, and the nation in general. A teacher's ability in teaching is a combination of personal, academic, technological, social, and spiritual abilities that comprehensively form the standard professional competence of a teacher, including mastery of subject matter, understanding of students, educational teaching methods, personal development, and professionalism. A teacher is an educator whose primary duty is to teach, in the sense of developing students' creativity, emotions, and willpower as the implementation of the ideal concept of education. The various definitions above clearly indicate that an Islamic Religious Education Teacher is a chosen individual whose job is to teach Islamic religious knowledge, possessing knowledge and behavior that are trustworthy and believed to be true, and serving as a role model for their students (Engkizar, Guspita, et al., 2025; Htay et al., 2025; Jaafar et al., 2025; Okenova et al., 2025; Rahman et al., 2025; Syamsuddin, 2022; Zola & Mudjiran, 2020). As teachers of Islamic Religious Education, it is only natural that teachers of Islamic Religious Education should have personalities in which all aspects of their lives are "uswatun hasanah" (good examples). The personality of a teacher is uswatun hasanah. How high is the status of a teacher that it is only natural for teachers to be given various titles that are not found in other professions.

Being God-fearing, teachers, in accordance with the objectives of Islamic education, cannot educate students to be God-fearing if they themselves are not God-fearing. For they are a model for their students, just as the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) was a model for his community. To the extent that a teacher

can set a good example for all their students, to that extent will they be deemed successful in educating them to become a noble and virtuous generation of the nation.

Having noble character and good manners are important in educating students' character (Amin & Nurhadi, 2020; Engkizar, Muslim, et al., 2025; Iskandar et al., 2025; Putri et al., 2025; Rambe et al., 2025). Teachers must be role models because children tend to imitate others. One of the goals of education is to cultivate noble character in students, and this is only possible if the teacher also possesses noble character. In Islamic education, noble character refers to character that aligns with Islamic teachings, as exemplified by the Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him. Teaching activities and the teacher's attitude are very important. The success of teaching is greatly determined by the teacher's nature and attitude.

Fair, Honest, and Objective Being fair, honest, and objective in treating and evaluating students during the teaching-learning process is something that teachers must do. These qualities must be supported by an understanding and practice of moral values and social-cultural values obtained from community life and learning experiences.

Being disciplined in performing duties, discipline stems from daily habits and lifestyle, regular learning, and loving and valuing one's work.

Perseverance and diligence in work, perseverance in working diligently without fatigue or self-interest is a quality that teachers must possess in performing their duties so that the programs outlined in the established curriculum can be implemented as intended (Engkizar, Jaafar, et al., 2025; V. D. Wulandari et al., 2022; Wyananda et al., 2022).

Authority, Authority must be possessed by teachers, as it ensures that the teaching and learning process is carried out effectively, disciplined, and orderly. Thus, authority is not merely obedience and compliance with existing regulations as explained by the teacher. The personal qualities that students expect from teachers at school are physical attractiveness, courage, authority, and intellectual qualities such as high intelligence, a good memory, the ability to analyze human life issues in an integrated manner, and the ability to find solutions to the problems experienced by students. This personal reference is certainly appropriate when confirmed with the personality of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, who possesses a number of outstanding qualities, namely: shiddiq (honest and truthful), amanah (trustworthy), tabligh (confirming and internalizing values), and fathanah (intelligent) (Engkizar et al., 2024; Febriani et al., 2023).

Personality is a factor that greatly influences the success of a teacher as a human resource developer. Islamic religion teachers are required to understand the personality characteristics necessary to serve as role models for their students. The personality characteristics related to the success of Islamic religion teachers in their profession include: 1. Cognitive flexibility 2. Psychological openness (Engkizar et al., 2023; Mutathahirin et al., 2022; Ummah et al., 2025).

According to Jalaluddin, the classification of personality types can be examined from various aspects, including biological aspects. Hippocrates and Galenus argued that the dominant bodily fluid type influences a person's personality type, namely: i). Choleric type, caused by the dominance of yellow bile in the body. Its characteristics are somewhat emotional, easily angered, and easily offended. ii). Melancholic Type, this type is caused by the dominant presence of black bile in the body. Its characteristics are somewhat reserved, self-conscious, easily saddened, and often despairing. iii). Phlegmatic Type, this type is influenced by the dominant presence of phlegm. Their nature is static, slow, apathetic, passive, and lazy. iv). Sanguine type, this type is influenced by the dominant red blood fluid. Their nature is somewhat active, agile, cheerful, and sociable.

Everyone who is going to perform the duties of a teacher must have personality. The characteristics of a teacher's personality include: i). A positive attitude towards their overall duties as a teacher and towards the overall educational situation. ii). Understanding, appreciation, and demonstration of the values that a teacher should uphold. iii). Efforts to make themselves a role model and example for their students.

In performing their duties, teachers have many requirements, one of which relates to their character. A teacher can be considered good if they possess the necessary qualities and align with the guidelines of their duties and responsibilities as an educator. Education experts offer varying perspectives on the specific qualities a teacher should possess. Generally, the qualities of a teacher include:

Authority is something very important for a teacher to have. A teacher who has authority means they have sincerity, strength, and the ability to make an impression and influence others. Honesty is essential for teachers to maintain integrity in both speech and heart, ensuring that their words align with reality. Accountability requires teachers to take responsibility for their actions. Fairness and wisdom in decision-making are vital for teachers to avoid favoritism toward certain students. Teachers must make decisions as fairly as possible without considering anything else, as they must evaluate all students equally, regardless of their wealth, parents' background, and other factors. Approachable and humble, a good teacher is one who builds good relationships with colleagues, students, and the community.

Love for one's work, no matter how difficult the tasks a teacher must undertake, must be accepted with joy, sincerity, and an open heart. Able to discipline oneself. Forgiving. Not quick to anger, when faced with a problem involving a student, a teacher must remain patient and able to control their emotions. Willing to listen to the opinions of others. Always seeking to align their knowledge and enhance their professional skills with the latest advancements in science and technology, while remaining loyal to the nation and state. Not expecting gratitude for their services to students, teachers must perform their duties sincerely without seeking reward, and only seek the pleasure of Allah alone.

### **Teacher Personality Traits**

Professional teachers, as required by Law No. 20 of 2003 on the National Education System and reaffirmed in Law No. 14 of 2005, must meet certain criteria that constitute qualification requirements. The following will explain the various personality competencies that a teacher must possess. These personality traits should be distinctive characteristics or traits that set teachers apart from other professional roles.

First, a disciplined individual. Discipline is the key to success for anyone, including teachers. A teacher who seeks success in performing their professional duties must possess a high level of discipline. Conceptually, discipline is a mental attitude to do the right things at the right time and truly value time. Second, an honest and fair personality. Honesty is a principle. With it, an honest person lives by principles. An honest person is heading in the right direction. When they refuse to think, act, or behave dishonestly, they are already on the right path. And those who are dishonest live in error. Therefore, be honest. Become a good person so that it is easy for us to live in goodness (Engkizar et al., 2018; Sabrina et al., 2024).

Third, be a clean person. Cleanse your mind, cleanse your heart, cleanse your heart. Only by behaving in this way will we cleanse our lives. Teachers who have personality will treat students fairly, without discriminating in their treatment of students. They do not consider whether their students are smart or dumb; they treat all students equally. Fourth, a person of noble character

Noble character is behavior based on religious teachings, social norms, and does not conflict with local customs. Noble character comes from religious

scriptures. Therefore, noble character is usually universal, meaning it is accepted by anyone and anywhere. Noble character is important for teachers to possess because they serve as role models for their students. Students are more likely to imitate a teacher's behavior than their words. Therefore, teachers must possess noble character.

Fifth, Exemplary Character Whether we realize it or not, the exemplary character of an individual will influence their surroundings. The exemplary character demonstrated by community leaders will have a significant impact on the community in which they live. In fact, such exemplary character can even change the behavior of the community around them. Through their exemplary character, a leader can easily influence many people to achieve a goal, and of course, a good goal. Similarly, a teacher's exemplary character should not only be demonstrated at school or in the school environment, but can be demonstrated wherever they live. Teachers are role models for students, and even those who regard them as teachers will emulate them. Professional teachers possess good character and serve as role models for everyone. They are role models in all aspects of their behavior and speech. Their life becomes a model that will guide students toward the right path (Asril et al., 2023; Saputra et al., 2023).

Sixth, a stable personality. In order to perform their professional duties well, teachers must have a calm and stable personality. This is important because many problems that arise in the world of education are caused by teachers who do not have a calm and stable personality. As a result, many teachers act unprofessionally, even engaging in unethical behavior. To become a stable individual, teachers are advised to follow the steps below. The following ten steps will serve as a strong foundation for developing a stable personality in teachers: a. Improve your image and self-quality b. Make exercise a habit c. Smile, greet, and interact with others d. Always think positively and optimistically e. Continuously acquire new knowledge f. Be open to change g. Build trust in friendships h. Ensure adequate rest i. Cultivate creativity j. Assert yourself

Seventh, Stability. Emotional stability is very important for teachers. Teachers who are unable to control their emotions will have a negative impact on their students. Simply put, emotions can be understood as fleeting feelings that rise and fall quickly, or as psychological and physiological states and reactions (such as joy, sadness, sorrow, and love). Therefore, emotions can be seen as desires that must be fulfilled to achieve a sense of satisfaction in the mind once they are successfully expressed. Therefore, emotions play a role in helping you behave proportionally when interacting in social communities (Nasril et al., 2023; Uldiman et al., 2024).

Eighth, Maturity Maturity is one of the requirements for teachers or educators. In other words, for someone who wants to become a teacher, one of the requirements is that they are mature. The term "mature" or "adulthood" is often described as the state in which an organism has reached full development. Typically, this refers to humans. A mature person is someone who is no longer a child and has become an adult man or woman. Various aspects of maturity are often inconsistent and conditional. Someone may be biologically mature and possess the 38 behavioral characteristics of an adult human being, but still be treated as a child if they are under the legal age of adulthood. Conversely, someone may be legally considered an adult but lack the maturity and responsibility that reflect adult characteristics.

Kesimbangan, a patient and tolerant individual. Patience is an important trait for a teacher to possess, and indeed, everyone should cultivate this quality. Etymologically, the word "patience" originates from the Arabic term "shabara," meaning "to restrain oneself" or "to control," with its opposite being "complaining." In simple terms, patience can be understood as the ability to accept all suffering and remain steadfast in the face of temptation. Or, in another sense, it is the attitude of

steadfastness, whether in obtaining something undesirable or losing something desirable. To cultivate patience within themselves, teachers are required to have broad knowledge and insight, as well as an understanding of their own strengths and weaknesses and those of their students. They must be able to understand developmental psychology, learning psychology, possess good didactic and methodological skills, maintain emotional stability, and think positively—toward themselves, their students, and the circumstances at hand.

Tenth, Authoritative Personality. In terms of authority, teachers must excel in realizing spiritual, emotional, moral, social, and intellectual values in their personalities. Teachers must also excel in understanding science and technology in accordance with their respective fields. Teachers should also be able to make independent decisions, especially regarding various matters related to learning activities. A teacher must be able to make quick and accurate decisions. To build authority, a teacher should pay attention to the following: a) Consistency between words and actions b) Be the first to act c) Make words a bond d) Hold on to true values. Eleventh, a Person with Self-Confidence Self-confidence or optimism is a state in which a person is able to control and maintain their beliefs. An effective teacher is one who has self-confidence (optimism). This attitude greatly influences students' enthusiasm and motivation to learn. The classroom atmosphere will feel pleasant, joyful, and conducive to learning if the teacher is optimistic. To cultivate self-confidence, teachers must have a good mental attitude, physical fitness, mastery of the subject matter, and didactic and methodological skills. Additionally, they must have a positive outlook on themselves and their students, understand the learning objectives, and have high hopes for their students' future.

## CONCLUSION

Personality is character, noble character, wise and authoritative, and serves as a role model for students with a stable personality. The personality of teachers plays a very important role and function in shaping children's personalities, in order to prepare and develop human resources and improve the welfare of society, the progress of the country, and the nation in general. In performing their duties, teachers have many requirements, one of which pertains to their character traits: being authoritative, honest, responsible, fair, approachable or humble, passionate about their work, self-disciplined, forgiving, always seeking to align their knowledge and enhance their professional skills with the latest advancements in science, and loyal to the nation and state. Teachers should not expect gratitude for their services to students. In performing their duties, teachers must act sincerely without seeking personal gain, and only seek the approval of Allah alone.

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