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## Level of Spiritual Intelligence Among Primary School Teachers in Ulu Selangor District, Selangor

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### Abstract

Teachers are individuals who are responsible in developing and improving the ability to manage spiritual intelligence among students. Therefore, it is important to be self-prepare in advance with a resolute spiritual intelligence. The question is, do the teachers now have a resolute spiritual intelligence and be ready for it? Therefore, this study will find answers to identify the level of spiritual intelligence among primary school teachers in the district of Hulu Selangor. The results of this study have shown that the level of spiritual intelligence of teachers are at a low level with mean value of 1.67 (M=1.67). Based on gender, it shows that female teachers also have low levels of spiritual intelligence (M=1.83) while referring to the academic status, it shows that teachers with certificate holder have low level (M=1.5) and teachers with less than 5 years of service periods (M=1.5) have low level of spiritual intelligence too. These results are very perturbing, and it will affect the various aspects of the process of educating and developing a perfect nation state. This is very vital because the spiritual intelligence aspect is closely related to the nature and influences of the human soul to have a meaningful and prosperous life.

**Keywords:** Spiritual Intelligence; Teacher; Primary School.

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## **Introduction**

Education is a conscious individual effort to develop personality and ability as well as self-potential quality by having spiritual intelligence, self-control, personality, intelligence, morals, and competency needed by oneself, society, nation and country. In being a quality moral human being, spiritual intelligence is an inner strength that comprises the spiritual, emotion and devotion aspects towards the Creator. According to Fatimah (2012), the spiritual intelligence is an aspect that is closely related to nature and the tendency of the human soul to have a meaningful and prosperous life. In addition, Fatimah (2012) stated that it is a very important element and is highly emphasized in Islamic law because spirit intelligence is closely related to human ethics and morals. In the context of Islamic teachings, spiritual intelligence is aimed at restoring godly life (Elmi Baharuddin & Zainab Ismail, 2015). This has been proven through the Word of “Allah SWT” in surah al-Dhariyyat, verse 56 which means;

*“And (remember) I did not create the jinn and humans except that they should worship and serve Me”.*

n addition, according to Tajulashikin Jumahat and Nor Faizah Abdullah (2014), spiritual intelligence is a combination of internal potential between soul and spirit as well as human cognitive activity in the form of behaviour and making good or bad decisions. While Mohammad Hidayatullah, Azhar Haq and Yorita Febry Lismanda (2019) asserted that spiritual intelligence is the ability of a person to manage values, norms and quality of life by using the potential of the subconscious mind or known as the voice of the heart.

However, according to Uranus Zamili (2019), although many have now succeeded and achieved success and excellence, but there are still those who do not care about the environment. According to him, this is due to the failure of the individual to manage his spiritual intelligence well and balanced. In this regard, the teacher is an individual who plays an important role in developing and improving the ability to manage spiritual intelligence. However, before that, teachers should first have the characteristics of good and balanced spiritual intelligence. Thus, through this study, the researcher would like to survey the level of spiritual intelligence among national teachers in the district of Hulu Selangor, Selangor.

## **Research Objectives**

Based on this study, the research objectives are as follows;

- 1) Identify the level of spiritual intelligence among primary school teachers in the district of Hulu Selangor, Selangor
- 2) Identify the level of spiritual intelligence among primary school teachers in the district of Hulu Selangor, Selangor according to gender
- 3) Identify the level of spiritual intelligence in among primary school teachers in Hulu Selangor district, Selangor according to education level
- 4) Identify the level of spiritual intelligence among primary school teachers in Hulu Selangor district, Selangor according to length of service

## **Literature Review**

Based on the review of previous studies, the researcher found that previous researchers have suggested that the element of spiritual intelligence should be given attention and to be studied among employees, especially teachers. According to Zainab et al. (2011) and Elmi & Zainab (2013) in their study have proven that religious knowledge is one of the indicators that can determine a person’s spiritual intelligence.

Moreover, according to Lucchetti et al. (2014) spiritual intelligence can affect mental health, quality of life as well as stress among employees. A study by Iyer Ramajanaki Doraiswamy and Mahesh Deshmukh (2015) who have focused on spiritual intelligence among employees has been proven that low levels of spiritual intelligence will cause employees will be prone to experience stress. Spiritual intelligence is able to support the human being physically as well as mentally. In addition, Spiritual Intelligence can also create a positive mental attitude so that a person can be easier to see opportunities and lead a joyful daily life. Spiritual intelligence is also capable of improving individual performance (Haji et al., 2013; Widodo, 2015)

In a study by Ardhiana Puspitacandri, Warsono, Yoyok Soesatyo, Erny Roesminingsih and Heru Susanto (2020) on 217 students of the Surabaya shipping polytechnic found that only 32.3 percent of the students had a high level of spiritual intelligence. In addition, a study by Muztaba, Syamsul Bahri and Farizal (2020) on 76 teachers in Al-Azhar School, Depok showed that spiritual intelligence has high influences of 58.6 percent on the level of teacher's performance.

## Methodology

For this study, researchers have used quantitative methods in the form of field studies. Field study is used to describe the mere nature of Expost facto (causal effect) that occurs in this study and can make accurate assumptions (Mohd Nasir, 2003). In addition, researchers have also applied the method of cross-sectional survey (cross sectional) based on an adapted questionnaire. In determining that this questionnaire was a good questionnaire, validity and reliability tests were performed. For the validity of the researcher has determined the validity of the concentrate and if it meets three conditions namely, all individual item values exceeded 0.7, composite reliability values were not less than 0.8 and AVE values exceeded 0.5. Researchers also tested the Cronbach's alpha reliability coefficient and the results found that the reliability value was high. The value of this coefficient is very important to indicate the degree of consistency of a study measuring instrument. In this study, will involve primary school teachers in the district of Hulu Selangor, Selangor. The number of samples involved was 168 primary school teachers who were selected at simple random which is the basic sampling technique in sampling.

## Findings

Descriptive Analysis;

Table 1.1. Gender

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Total</b>
Male	84
Female	84
<b>Total</b>	<b>168</b>

Table 1.2. Academic Level

<b>Level</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent, %</b>
Certificate	2	1.2
Diploma	4	2.4
Bachelor Degree	147	87.5
Master	15	8.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 1.3.Experience

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent, %</b>
Less 5	2	1.2
5 – 10	27	16.1
10 – 15	35	20.8
More 15	104	61.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 1.4. Mean Items

<b>Item</b>	<b>Mean</b>	<b>Standard deviation</b>
FPA1	1.58	.604
FPA2	1.63	.634
FPA3	1.72	.665
FPA4	1.58	.633
FPA5	1.65	.657
FPA6	1.61	.656
FPA7	1.70	.672
FPA8	1.79	.630
FPA9	1.74	.631
	<b>1.67</b>	<b>.642</b>

Table 1.5. Interpretation of Spiritual Intelligence Level

<b>Mean level</b>	<b>Indicator</b>
1.01 – 2.00	Low
2.01 – 3.00	Moderate Low
3.01 – 4.00	Moderate High
4.01 – 5.00	High

Source: Nunally, J.C. (1978)

Table 1.6. Spiritual Intelligence Level (Mean)

<b>Gender</b>	<b>Academic Level</b>	<b>Service Periods</b>
Male	Certificate	Less 5 years
Female	Diploma	5 – 10 years
	Bachelor's degree	10 – 15 years
	Master	More 15 years

Based on the research findings, a total of 168 primary school teachers in the district of Hulu Selangor, Selangor are involved in this study which comprises of 84 male teachers and 84 female teachers (Refer to table 1.1). Among these teachers, most of them are bachelor's degree holders which are 147 people or 87.5 percents. It is followed by master's holder which are 15 people or 8.9 percents and 4 people or 2.4 percent are diplomas' holder. There are also teachers who only have certificate level which are 2 people or 1.2 percents (Refer to table 1.2).

In addition, among these teachers have different durations of service periods. Majority of the teachers have served more than 15 years which are 104 people or 61.9 percent followed by 10 to 15 years of service which are 35 people or 20.8 percent. There are also teachers who have a service period of between 5 to 10 years which are 27 people or 16.1 percent while only 2 people or 1.2 percent who have served less than 5 years (Refer to table 1.3).

The results of this study have shown that the level of spiritual intelligence of primary school teachers in the district of Hulu Selangor, Selangor is low level with a mean value of 1.67 (Refer to table 1.4). Based on the level of spiritual intelligence of primary school teachers in the district of Hulu Selangor, Selangor according to gender, level of education and length of services showed no significant difference (Refer to table 1.5). The interpretation of the level of spiritual intelligence in this study was determined based on the level interpretation given by Nunnally, J. C., & Bernstein, I. H. (1994). (Refer to table 1.5)

## **Discussions**

Spiritual intelligence in Islam is the strength of the spirit, heart, feelings, soul, faith, istiqamah practices based on the law of Allah and praiseworthy morals and able to live life. There are various views on spiritual intelligence in Islam. Spiritual intelligence in Islam is capable of producing great human beings in terms of a good relationship with Allah, with human beings and nature. Thus, this study found that the goal of spiritual intelligence is aimed at obedience to God, restoring nature, strengthening oneself in the face of challenges, appreciating time and a sense of responsibility. Thus, the goal of spiritual intelligence is to form obedience to Allah SWT with sincerity and patience.

In addition, spiritual intelligence aims to restore natural nature so that human beings become pious and purify from any sins and blemishes. Furthermore, spiritual intelligence is important as a bulwark of defence for Muslims in facing challenges by valuing time and being responsible to oneself, society and the country. So, a spiritually intelligent man will always measure his level of whether he is obedient to God, good or loves God above all things. Thus, based on the goals that have been stated, then spiritual intelligence becomes important and even able to become an identity in Muslims today.

## **Limitation and future research**

Indeed, a researcher cannot avoid from discussing matters that related to the aspects of limitations in conveying a research. Among the significant limitations of the study that the researcher faced were in conducting a large -scale studies in order to be more specific and detailed. That is why in this matter, researchers have limited the research to spiritual intelligence aspect so that the findings of this study will be more satisfactory and more focused.

In addition, the limitations of the study also involved sampling and study population aspects in this research. This study involved 168 primary school teachers and limited to the district of Hulu Selangor, Selangor. He research instrument used has also been one that limits this study. The limiting bounding was the use of a set of questionnaires in this study. Since the questionnaire was used as an instrument in this study, the researcher was only able to assume that all the items listed in the questionnaire had been read by the respondents and had understood it. Therefore, the honesty of the respondents to provide feedback on all the items contained in the questionnaire is very important. Based on the limitations of this study, the researcher suggested that future researchers will enable to focus on aspects of spiritual appreciation. In addition, it is also proposed that the number of samples can be increased so that the results are more pertinacious.

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