

## The Role Of The Fatayat NU Organization In Supporting Gender-Based Social Integration

Ratna Utami Nur Ajizah<sup>1</sup>, A`ang Yusril Musyafa`<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institut Agama Islam Riyadlotul Mujahidin Ngabar Ponorogo

Email: [ratnautaminurajizah@gmail.com](mailto:ratnautaminurajizah@gmail.com)

<sup>2</sup>Institut Agama Islam Riyadlotul Mujahidin Ngabar Ponorogo

Email: [aang.yusril.musyafa@gmail.com](mailto:aang.yusril.musyafa@gmail.com)

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### ABSTRACT

This research is a community service study aimed at exploring and analyzing the role of the Fatayat Nahdlatul Ulama (NU) organization in supporting gender-based social integration in Ponorogo. Fatayat NU, as one of the autonomous bodies focused on women's empowerment, has a range of programmes and activities aimed at raising gender awareness, empowering women, as well as encouraging the active participation of women in various aspects of social, economic, and political life. The research uses a qualitative approach with case studies methods in Ponorogo that are active in Fatayat NU's activities. Data is collected through in-depth interviews, participatory observations, and document analysis. The results of the research show that Fatayat NU plays a significant role in the gender-based social integration process through several ways: (1) providing education and training focused on gender equality, (2) creating a space for dialogue and collaboration between women and men in the community, (3) improving women's access to economic resources and employment opportunities, and (4) encouraging the participation of women in decision-making at the local and national levels. The research concludes that Fatayat NU Ponorogo not only contributes to the empowerment of women but also plays a key role in promoting inclusive and gender-based social integration in Indonesia.

**Keyword:** *Supporting Gender, Based Social Integration*

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## INTRODUCTION

Fatayat Nahdlatul Ulama (NU) has an important role in supporting gender-based social integration in Indonesia. As one of the autonomous organizations under the umbrella of Nahdlatul Ulama, Fatayat NU focuses on empowering young women and teenage daughters. In this context, the organization plays a crucial role in promoting gender equality and strengthening the participation of women in various aspects of social, economic and political life.

One of the important processes in building a just and equal society is with gender-based social integration, which basically refers to an effort to unite individuals and groups in communities without discrimination or treatment based on gender. The aim of this social

integration is to create a social environment in which everyone, regardless of their gender, can participate fully and equally in all aspects of social life.<sup>1</sup>

In fact, gender-based social integration means removing the various challenges that could prevent men and women from participating in the same way. For example, measures that support gender-based social integration include making policies that support equal pay, removing gender stereotypes about education, and promoting women for leadership positions in the public and private sectors. Moreover, gender-based social integration also requires changes in social habits and attitudes that often reinforce inequality. Awareness-raising and educational campaigns on the importance of gender equality can help people change perspectives and reduce discrimination. By informing people about the rights and benefits of equality, societies can better support equal gender roles.<sup>2</sup>

Collaboration between these parties can enhance efforts to promote gender equality and ensure that current programmes and policies work well. For example, the success of gender-based social integration depends on the active participation of educational institutions or non-governmental organizations that focus on gender rights.<sup>3</sup>

It means giving everyone equal opportunities to participate in various aspects of life, such as education, employment, and decision-making. With various programmes and activities, Fatayat NU is trying to encourage the creation of these conditions.

As the country with the largest Muslim population in the world, Indonesia faces unique problems in terms of gender equality. Often, the role of women in society is limited by strong cultural norms and values. Therefore, organizations such as Fatayat NU play a vital role in changing unfair views and practices against women.

Fatayat NU was founded in 1950 and has grown into one of the largest women's organizations in Indonesia with various initiatives aimed at empowering women so that they can contribute fully to the development of society. The organization has an extensive network and various branches all over the world. With the support of Nahdlatul Ulama, Fatayat NU can easily enter local communities, enabling them to implement women's empowerment programmes.<sup>4</sup>

One of Fatayat NU's main programmes is education and training for young women. The program aims to enhance women's knowledge and skills in various fields, such as health, economics, and women's rights. Fatayat NU also strives to raise awareness of the importance of gender equality and give women the opportunity to participate actively in society.

In addition to participating in education, Fatayat NU is also engaged in policy advocacy. The organization often talks and works with governments and other non-governmental organizations to influence policies that promote gender equality. For example, Fatayat NU has helped enact laws that protect the rights of children and women.

To support gender-based social integration, Fatayat NU also develops economic programmes to help women become more financially independent. These programmes include skills training, enterprise capital assistance, and support for women who want to start or develop their own. By gaining financial independence, women can become more empowered and have a better position in the family and society.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Souter, D., & Anri, V. D. S. *UNESCO's Internet universality indicators*. (UNESCO Publishing, 2019), 34

<sup>2</sup> Biggs, R., De Vos, A., Preiser, R., Clements, H., Maciejewski, K., & Schlüter, M. *The Routledge Handbook of Research Methods for Social-Ecological Systems*. (Routledge, 2021), 66

<sup>3</sup> Fernández, R., Isakova, A., Luna, F., & Rambousek, B. *Gender Equality and Inclusive Growth*. (International Monetary Fund, 2021), 90

<sup>4</sup> Laffan, M. F. *Islamic Nationhood and Colonial Indonesia*. (Routledge, 2003). 41

<sup>5</sup> Shalihin, N., & Firdaus, F. (2019). Transformasi Gender: Strategi Pembebasan Perempuan dari Jerat Pembangunan dan Kapitalisme. *Sawwa Jurnal Studi Gender*, 14(1), 109. <https://doi.org/10.21580/sa.v14i1.3366>

Fatayat NU is also active in building networks and cooperation with various groups across the country and abroad. To enhance the capacity of the organization and its members, this cooperation includes exchange of information, training, and technical support. Therefore, Fatayat NU has the ability to continue to improve the performance of its programmes and reach more women throughout Indonesia.

Fatayat NU also focuses on women's participation in decision-making. The organization seeks to increase the representation of women in various decision-making forums, both at the local and national levels. Thus, women's voices and aspirations can be heard more and taken into account in the development process.

Fatayat NU also emphasizes the importance of social inclusion in all their programmes and activities. The organization strives to ensure that all women, including those from marginal groups, have equal access to empowerment programmes. This social inclusion is essential to ensure that no women are left behind in the development process.<sup>6</sup>

In addition, Fatayat NU also emphasized the importance of Islamic values in support of gender equality. By using a religious approach, the organization seeks to raise public awareness of the importance of respect and equal opportunities for women. This approach is effective given the strong influence of religion in the daily life of Indonesian people.

Evaluation and monitoring is an important part of the activities of Fatayat NU. The organization regularly evaluates the programmes implemented to ensure that they are running according to the objectives and provide maximum benefits for women. By carrying out the evaluation, the organization can also identify the challenges and obstacles faced and find appropriate solutions.

The success of Fatayat NU in supporting gender-based social integration is not free of strong support from all sides. Governments, communities, and various other organizations have given significant support to the various initiatives undertaken by Fatayat NU. This good cooperation is essential to ensure that efforts to empower women can go smoothly and the desired results.

In the long run, the role of Fatayat NU in supporting gender-based social integration is expected to bring about significant changes in society. By empowering women and promoting gender equality, Fatayat NU contributes to the creation of a more equitable and inclusive society. Thus, women can play a full role in the development and make a meaningful contribution to the progress of the nation.

In conclusion, Fatayat NU has a very important role in supporting gender-based social integration in Indonesia. Through various programmes and initiatives, the organization strives to empower women and promote gender equality. Support from all sides and an inclusive approach are the key to the success of Fatayat NU in carrying out this role.

## METHODS

The study uses qualitative methods to study the role of the NU Fatayat Organization in supporting gender-based social integration. This research focuses on the experiences and views of the people involved in the organization and how the organization affects the community. A case study method is a qualitative approach used to dig deeper understanding of a particular

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<sup>6</sup> Munasaroh, A. (2022). Problematika Kekerasan Berbasis Gender Dan Pencapaian Gender Equality Dalam Sustainable Development Goals Di Indonesia. *IJouGS Indonesian Journal of Gender Studies*, 3(1), 1–20. <https://doi.org/10.21154/ijougs.v3i1.3524>

phenomenon in a particular context. This approach emphasizes the comprehensive exploration and understanding of the phenomena using descriptive and narrative data.<sup>7</sup>

Case study methods allow researchers to investigate phenomena in real-life contexts in depth. Researchers can use a variety of methods, including participatory observations, in-depth interviews, and document analysis, to gather rich contextual data by selecting one or more relevant cases.<sup>8</sup> In this study, a case study was conducted in Ponorogo on communities active in the activities of Fatayat NU. This technique provides an opportunity to understand the internal and external dynamics that affect the role of organizations in gender-based social integration holistically.<sup>9</sup>

In the analysis of case study data, researchers will use qualitative techniques to identify themes, patterns, and relationships that emerge from the collected data. The process involves categorization, coding, and thematic analysis to build an in-depth understanding of the role of Fatayat NU and its impact on gender-based social integration. This approach allows researchers to develop a sharper and more detailed insight into how organizations operate and contribute to social change in the community studied.

The research location is focused on the community that is active in Fatayat NU activities in Ponorogo. Data-gathering techniques include in-depth interviews, participatory observations, and document analysis.<sup>10</sup> Deep interviews will be conducted with Fatayat NU Ponorogo members, organizational leaders, and members of the community involved in the activities, to understand their perspectives on the role and impact of the organization in gender-based social integration. Participative observations will be carried out by engaging in Fatayats NU activities to observe social interactions, programmes run, and their impact on the community. Document analysis will be done on the activities reports, programs, and communications materials of Fatayat NU to understand how the organization supports gender based social integrations.

The data collected will be qualitatively analyzed using categorization and coding techniques to identify the main themes and sub-themes.<sup>11</sup> Thematic analysis will be used to compile the key themes that emerge from the data, as well as to associate them with the role of Fatayat NU in gender-based social integration. The triangulation of the data will be done using data from various sources to validate the findings and ensure the accuracy of the research results.<sup>12</sup> The results of the research will be compiled in a report containing findings and recommendations to Fatayat NU organizations and relevant parties, and will be disseminated through seminars or workshops to design action based on research findings.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This study found that the NU Fatayat Organization plays a very important role in supporting gender-based social integration in Ponorogo. This study finds that NU fatayat serves

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<sup>7</sup> Ardyan, E., Boari, Y., Akhmad, A., Yuliyani, L., Hildawati, H., Suarni, A., Anurogo, D., Ifadah, E., & Judijanto, L. *METODE PENELITIAN KUALITATIF DAN KUANTITATIF: Pendekatan Metode Kualitatif dan Kuantitatif di Berbagai Bidang*. (PT. Sonpedia Publishing Indonesia, 2023), 41

<sup>8</sup> Denzin, N. K., & Lincoln, Y. S. *The SAGE Handbook of Qualitative Research*. (SAGE Publications, 2017), 26

<sup>9</sup> Gerring, J. *Case Study Research*. (Cambridge University Press, 2016), 71

<sup>10</sup> Creswell, J. W., & Poth, C. N. *Qualitative Inquiry and Research Design*. (SAGE Publications, 2017), 32

<sup>11</sup> Hutauruk, M. R., Sutarmo, Y., & Bachtiar, Y. *Metodologi Penelitian untuk Ilmu Sosial Humaniora Dengan Pendekatan Kuantitatif*, (Penerbit Salemba, 2022), 69

<sup>12</sup> Helaluddin, & Wijaya, H. *Analisis Data Kualitatif: Sebuah Tinjauan Teori & Praktik*. (Sekolah Tinggi Theologia Jaffray, 2019), 87

as an effective means of connecting different sections of society, especially in the struggle for gender equality. The organization provides a platform that enables women to participate actively in social and religious activities. In the end, this will lead to a positive and big social change at the community level.

As a result of in-depth interviews with members of Fatayat NU, it is known that the programmes run by the organization are focused on enhancing the capacity of everyone and promoting gender equality. It is proven that the skills training programmes offered by Fatayat NU help women acquire the practical skills necessary to pursue their own financial independence. These programs include training in skills such as business skills, health, and education that support women's empowerment.



Picture 1. Skill Training Activities

The seminars, studies and discussions conducted by Fatayat NU on gender issues provide a deeper understanding of women's rights and the importance of gender equality. Through these activities, members of the community get so much useful information about ways to address gender inequality and promote equality in various aspects of life. These discussions also created space for women in Ponorogo to share experiences and strategies in dealing with gender challenges in their communities.

Participatory observations during the study found that there were several outstanding programmes of the Consultative Institute for Empowerment of Protection of Women and Children (LKP3A) Fatayat NU which showed that the activities of Fatayats NU also served as a container for positive social interaction between women from different backgrounds. Community activities, such as routine meetings, social events, and discussion groups, The development of the LKP3A program is intended to ensure that Fatayat NU cadres know the law, have access to justice, and dare to take attitudes and decisions concerning their fate as well as help build solidarity among women and strengthen support networks.



Picture. 02 LKP3A Activities



Picture. 03 Halaqoh Nasional

This social interaction plays a crucial role in reducing the stigma and discrimination that may exist in society as well as strengthening social support for gender equality. The findings also highlight that Fatayat NU has succeeded in creating an inclusive and supportive environment for women to engage in social and religious activities. Their programmes not only provide skills training but also strengthen the confidence and role of women in society. Through these activities, Fatayat NU contributes to changing public attitudes to the role of women and overcoming existing gender stereotypes.

However, the study also identifies a number of challenges faced by Fatayat NU in carrying out its role. One of the main challenges is the resistance of some members of society who still hold the traditional view of gender. This resistance often hampers the acceptance and effectiveness of the programmes run by Fatayat NU. Therefore, changing public attitudes has become one of the main challenges to be overcome in order to the goal of gender equality.

In addition to social resistance, Fatayat NU faces resource constraints that affect the scope and effectiveness of their programmes. Funding, facilities, and labor constraints are factors that reduce the organization's capacity to run the program optimally. The findings indicate that there is a need for additional support from outside parties, including governments, the private sector, and donors, to strengthen Fatayat NU's capacity.

The discussion of these challenges suggests that additional strategies are needed to address social resistance to gender programmes. One of the strategies suggested is to enhance communication and dialogue between Fatayat NU and the community. Educating about the benefits of gender equality through educational and awareness-raising programmes involving different sections of society can help reduce negative attitudes and increase support for gender-equality efforts.

Another important strategy is to expand cooperation with various parties, including other organizations, government agencies, and the private sector. This partnership can help Fatayat NU access the additional resources needed to broaden the scope and impact of their programmes. By building a strong partnership, it can enhance its capacity to implement programmes effectively and broader and more impactful outcomes.

The results of the observations show that the active involvement of members of the organization and the community is crucial to the success of the program. The support of all stakeholders, including governments and related institutions, is essential to creating an environment that promotes gender equality. This involvement ensures that the programmes run by Fatayat NU remain relevant and beneficial to the community and support gender equality efforts.

Documentation of Fatayat NU's activities shows that the organization has demonstrated a strong commitment to gender equality. Activity reports, communications materials, and

programme documents reflect structured efforts to gender equality goals, highlighting the importance of transparency and accountability in the implementation of programmes, as well as showing how Fatayat NU manages and evaluates their programmes.

Although Fatayat NU has made a lot of progress, there are still parts that require further attention. For example, expanding program coverage and increased material support can help overcome some of the constraints faced by organizations. Periodic evaluations and strategy improvements are also important to ensure that the programmes remain effective and responsive to the needs of the community.

These findings provide a basis for the development of more effective policies and programmes in support of gender equality and social integration. By understanding the role and challenges faced by the Fatayat NU, policymakers and stakeholders can design more focused and efficient initiatives. This includes increasing financial and material support, as well as addressing social resistance to gender issues.

What needs to be underlined is the importance of developing results-oriented strategies and involving various stakeholders in gender equality efforts. By strengthening cooperation, increasing support, and expanding programme coverage, Fatayat NU can increase the impact and effectiveness of their initiatives. Continued support from all sides will play a major role in ensuring the success of gender equality programmes.

Overall, this research provides valuable insights into the contribution of Fatayat NU in supporting gender-based social integration in Ponorogo. These findings show that Fatayat NU plays an important role in promoting gender equality and building more inclusive communities. The findings also emphasize the importance of sustained support and comprehensive strategies to those goals.

By addressing the identified challenges and taking advantage of opportunities to expand support, Fatayat NU can continue to contribute to positive and sustainable social change. This research provides a solid foundation for further steps in improving and expanding gender equality programmes, as well as ensuring that these initiatives have a meaningful impact on society.

The findings also provide a basis for further research on the role of community organizations in supporting social integration and gender equality. Using the results of this research, it is expected that there will be innovations and improvements that can improve the effectiveness of future gender equality programmes. This research paves the way for future studies that could further explore other aspects of the role of community organizations in achieving social change.

The results of this research are expected to be a guide to other community organizations that want to implement gender equality programmes. By understanding the successful strategies and challenges faced by Fatayat NU, other organizations can adapt this approach to their own context, thereby strengthening global efforts in achieving equality and social integration.

## CONCLUSION

This research shows that Fatayat NU plays an important role in supporting gender-based social integration in Ponorogo. Through skills training programmes, seminars, and community activities, Fatayat NU facilitates the active participation of women, promotes gender equality, and creates positive social change. However, challenges such as public resistance and resource constraints hinder the effectiveness of the program. To overcome this, additional strategies are needed, such as improving communication with the public and expanding cooperation with various stakeholders. This research also opens up opportunities for further study of the role of

community organizations in gender equality. Continued support and comprehensive strategies are essential to strengthening efforts to gender equality. The result could be a guide for other organizations in implementing similar programmes and strengthening gender-based social integration.

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