Social Media Literacy in Covid-19 Pandemic  
(From the Qur’an’s Perspective)

Syafrizaldi¹(✉), Farida Hanum Siregar¹, and Ani Deswita²

¹ Universitas Islam Negeri Sumatera Utara, Medan, Indonesia  
syaf.rizaldi.csr@gmail.com  
² Institut Kesehatan Helvetia, Medan, Indonesia

Abstract. This research is a literature study on Social Media Literacy in the Covid-19. Activity in virtual can use social media. The development of social media is consistent with the improvement of statistics and communication technology. The presence of social media became out to have an effect on converting the manner of speaking from traditional to modern and all-digital, however also caused the continued communication to be more effective. The development of social media seems to give birth to a massive and radical flow of information, making the situation more complex and the reality that occurs is that the use of cell phone technology (HP) is able to access various things without being controlled. The existence of social media today is actually a problem for the country today. During the Covid-19 pandemic, social media was used as a tool to spread misleading and untrue information to the public which was termed a hoax. So many people were trapped in these hoax terms. Moreover, nowadays the society is not only a recipient of messages but more than that, they can also be a source and produce news or just share the information they get. The types of hoaxes are as follows: fake information, Clickbait, affirmation bias, misinformation, Satire, submit-truth, and Propaganda. Hoax also have an impact, including triggering anxiety, fear and panic in the community. Allah SWT said in Surah Al-Hujurat confirms that there was an obligation for every Muslim to take Tabayyun actions (research first) on a case submitted from another person so that something that was informed did not contain lies, then it would be a disaster or bad luck would happen to other people as a result of the untruth of the information submitted. Likewise, the command that was first revealed by Allah SWT to His Messenger in Surah Al-Alaq which contains the meaning of the command to read is the main basis for what humans do in their lives.

Keywords: Literacy · Social Media · Hoax · Information Technology · Pandemic Covid-19 · Communication

1 Introduction

Indonesia is a maritime country that is blessed with diversity, a country that has an abundance of demographics with a population of approximately 275 million people. From Sabang to Meraueke, from Pulau Weh to Rote presents a charm that should be
grateful for and the Unitary Nation of Republic of Indonesia is a fixed price that must be fought for peace, comfort, security and tranquility for all children of the nation. It must be admitted that there is no other country whose nation and state are like Indonesia.

Indonesia is the most important country in Southeast Asia with economic increase attaining 5.17% in 2018. Indonesia has stable increase in the export of medium generation which reflects the robust performance of the palm oil industry, rubber tires (low and medium technology), industrial automobile assembly, automotive elements and network cables (high and medium). Indonesia is a country with the 4th biggest population within the world which leads Indonesia as the 10th biggest country in terms of purchasing energy parity with a competitive human assets marketplace. Indonesia has abundant renewable (agricultural) and non-renewable (mine and mineral) resources. Indonesia is the most important archipelagic country in the world that has direct connections with the sector’s biggest marketplace with the Malacca Strait being the most active sea lane in the world and being the main path for international shipping [1].

Behind those, Indonesia has a myriad of problems in each day as a problem that comes and goes. In the era of 2016 to 2019, an uncertain political situation occur causing the chaos in the life of the country and nation. In those years the term “Hoax” emerged. In its meaning, Based on Indonesian dictionary, the term hoax is describe as containing the meaning of fake or misleading news and unverified news.

It could say that hoax is a popular term today which is defined as false and untrue news and does not have a reliable source. This is what is often milling about on social media whose existence is in the hands of most individuals in society. With smartphones (devices) that are owned, individuals freely receive information or even participate in producing or just passing on the information they get with shallow knowledge and understanding or even without good analysis.

Social media is a communication medium whose development is consistent with the improvement of data and communication era. Considering the fact that the advent of internet era, various communique technologies have been born so unexpectedly. Smartphones are today experiencing very sophisticated technological advances. Various applications that can be used in technology called smartphones or cellphones in Indonesian are called “gawai”. So that an application was born that makes it easy for mobile phone users to connect and communicate freely, namely social media applications.

According to Fitryani [2], the information brought by the media causes many problems in society, which can result from addiction to watching television shows, playing online games, chatting through social networks (social media), internet pornography content, infotainment, to criminal news. People easily consume the information they receive from the media. Especially social media which has become attached to society in the current era of globalization.

The impact of the presence of social media makes other mass communication media such as newspapers, radio, television less meaningful today, because roles and functions can be replaced by social media applications embedded in the sophistication of mobile devices. Social media is transformed into a medium that can be used for various interests of its users, ranging from just chatting and communicating with family or friends, to marketing or selling a product that is sold through social media. Social media is used
as a medium for instilling the beliefs and ideologies of a society. Social media can also change a person’s behavior to do something in a variety of uses that are more practical.

However, the presence of social media at this time has become a problem for the State at this time. The fact that is happening today is that social media is used as a tool to spread misleading and untrue information to the people who use social media make many people were trapped in hoax. Today’s society is not only a recipient of messages but more than that, as a source and produce news or just share the information they got.

But unfortunately, among the news that is informed to social media to the public, many are hoaxes, fake or lies news. We see this phenomenon as a very strange thing and at the same time we feel sad for the people who carelessly spread information that cannot be justified. Finally, the people who received the news had the same thoughts and perceptions as the disseminator of the news which was not necessarily and or untrue. So that this will cause turmoil in the socio-political order of this country.

Some news compiled by the author that many of riots action that occurred were triggered by misleading and untrue news or hoaxes, such as in Wamena Papua recently caused by information spread by unscrupulous people so that with shallow information mastery the people are consumed by the news then the riot broke out. We can explain this phenomenon in a theory of mass communication called agenda setting which is very relevant to the facts of reality that have occurred so far [3].

It takes a wise attitude from the community in consuming all information on social media. One of the wise attitudes that must be taken is social media literacy in order to provide a more objective view and find the truth from various information obtained from social media. Literacy is actually a philosophical attitude that is rooted in line with the development of human civilization. Including how Islamic teachings prioritize reading attitudes to their people.

Hoax itself only began to be used around 1808. The word is believed to come from hocus which means to deceive. The words hocus itself is an abbreviation of hocus pocus, a kind of spell that is often used in magic shows when there will be a punch line in their performance on stage (kumparan.com). Even Boese [4] said in his book “Museum of Hoaxes” that the term “hoax” was first used in 1709 in an almanac or artificial calendar created by Isaac Bickerstaff to forecast the death of astrologer John Partridge [5].

Based on Oxford dictionary [6], hoax is classified as a type of trickery aimed is pleasure or bring harm. Hoax in Indonesian means fake news and false information. Meanwhile, according to the English dictionary, hoax means ridicule, lying stories, and deceiving or deceiving. Hoax is to deceive somebody with a hoax [6]. According to Silverman in Jafar [7], hoaxes are a collection of information intentionally misleading data is offered as reality’. According to Werme [8], hoax is fake information that is intended to misleads people and has a political objective. Not only are hoaxes deceptive, but rumors also contains material which has no supporting evidence but is presented as if it were a set of facts. Besides that, a hoax can be used to identify someone by convincing them to believe something that has already been deliberately or mischievously produced. When used as a noun, a hoax is described as a prank or a trick put over someone (anything deliberately intended to deceive or trick) (“Hoax”. en.wiktionary.org). So it can be concluded that hoaxes are fake news that deliberately deceives people with the aim of making people believe what is informed or reported.
Today, hoaxes are fake news that often appear on the internet and have the aim of spreading panic and fear of people by irresponsible persons. The primary known media for spreading net hoaxes changed into through e-mail, commonly containing a warning about a fake claim. However, with the improvement of generation, especially on smartphones and social media, the sorts of hoaxes on the internet are growing and threatening.

Based on ahadi [9], the types of hoaxes are as follows: a). *Fake news*: News that seek to take the place of true information. This news attempts to confuse or include incorrect facts in a news story. The more absurd the untruths and conspiracy theories, the better for fake news writers. Fake news is a not a hilarious view on headlines. b). *Clickbait*: Trap links are Links purposefully placed within a website with the goal of enticing visitors to other websites. The information in this link is accurate, however the headline is overstated or includes an interesting image to attract the reader. c). *Confirmation bias*: the tendency to perceive current events and facts in a way that supports existing opinions. d). *Misinformation*: False or inaccurate information, particularly that designed to confuse. e). *Satire*: A piece of writing that makes a point about current events by using humour, irony, and exaggeration. Television shows like “Saturday Night Live” and “This Hour Has 22 min” feature satirical news. f). *Post-truth*: A situation in which emotions, rather than facts, are used to shape public opinion. g). *Propaganda*: The act of spreading information, facts, arguments, gossip, half-truths, or outright lies in order to sway public opinion.

Social media is an internet process through which individuals can interact with in information seeking, communicating, and making friends, with all the facilities and applications it has such as Facebook, Whatsapp, Twitter, Line and several similar applications [10].

Of course, the growth of social media correlates with the rise of information and communication systems, including the internet in 1970s with the emergence of Automatic Radar Plotting Aids (ARPA) which is a system belonging to the United States Department of Defense (Department of Defense US) which is focused on protecting computer networks against nuclear attacks because the Pentagon does not want to lose data and the communication system that was built is destroyed. In 1993 it was found a navigation that can make it easier for users to find what they want to find, the browser tool that was invented the first time was Mosaic which made a graphical display for users that simplifies internet navigation that could be used to retrieve data as needed and configure the data to be displayed.

In 1994, Microsoft as the largest software company released browser tool, namely Internet Explorer. Then in 1998, Google was the invention of the search engine. In addition, another search engine was Yahoo! which is very useful in helping users to use the internet into a useful information search tool. Inside the mid-2000s the development of the internet started rapidly and made the net an clean-to-use software program application for uploading content material to the net, so that during that year many blogs, video sharing websites, and social networking websites appeared.

The presence of social networking in the world began with Friendster in 2002, the next social media was Linkendin, a site that shares experiences about the world of business and work which was founded in the same year. Then in 2003 was MySpace site. In 2004,
Flickr appeared, a site that gave its users space to upload interesting photos and videos that could be shared with members on the site. In the same year, Facebook was introduced as a social networking media that allows us to exchange private and group messages, both pictures and videos. In 2006 a new networking site re-emerged, namely Twitter. In the same year 2009, an application-based social networking site appeared, namely WhatsApp, but in that year this application had not been requested by many people. This application focuses on exchanging messages between individuals and groups through several options, namely text, calls or video calls. Then, in 2010 appeared a media known as Instagram.

Line is the next social networking site that appeared in 2011. Then in the same year, Snapchat was a social networking site that facilitates users to exchange messages with editable photo media such as entering text messages and using effects on photos. Furthermore, in 2011, Google+ is an online site that has features in it that can be used to interact. Like Google Hangout for exchanging messages.

West and Turner [11] stated that believing rapid developments in new technologies could be harmful to society, we have seen great growth in accessing and receiving information. Social media is the result of developments in information and communication technology today. In line with Van Dijk [12], social media is a media platform that focuses on the lifestyles of users who facilitate them in doing activities and taking part. Therefore, social media could be seen as an online medium (facilitator) that strengthens the relationship among users as well as a social bond.

Social media, according to Boyd [13], is a collection of software that enables individuals and communities to gather, exchange, interact, and, in some situations, cooperate or entertain with one another. According to Wright and Hinson, social media has power in user generated content (UGC), which is content created by users rather than editors, as in traditional media. The goal of UGC, which is widely distributed on the internet, is to share and stimulate discourse among its users [14].

Because social media is one of the platforms of cyber media, its characteristics are similar to those of cyber media (cyber). However, Nasrullah [15] claims that social media has a distinct personality: a). Establish a network. The infrastructure that connects computers to other hardware is known as the network. This link is required because communication, including data transfer, can occur when computers are connected. b). Information In social media, information becomes a significant entity because individuals construct representations of their identities, produce content, and interact based on it. c). Keep a record. For social media users, archives take on the role of a character who says that data has been saved and can be accessed at any time and on any device. d). Participation. Social media creates a network of users that must be established by interactions between users, also friendships or followers. e). Society simulation. In the virtual world, social media plays a role as a medium for society. Social media has an unique personality and pattern that is often distinctive and not seen in real life. f). User-generated content. On social media, the content is fully owned and dependent on user or account owner contributions. In a new media culture, user-generated content (UGC) is a symbiotic connection that gives users with chances and flexibility to engage. This is in contrast to the previous (traditional) media, which saw the audience as a passive object or target in the delivery of messages.
The appearance of social media as a result of the advancement of information and communication technology is truly remarkable. Social media has revolutionized the way people communicate in society because of the different options available. The presence of social media has an impact on how people communicate in a variety of disciplines, including marketing communications, political communication, and learning system communication. The presence of social media not only had an impact on changing the way people communicated from traditional to modern and all-digital, but it also improved the effectiveness of ongoing communication [16].

In the publication Pekommas Journal, with the title Hoax Communication Interaction in Social Platforms and Anticipate, written by Christiany Juditha [5]. Information/fake news (hoax) is nowadays becoming more widely disseminated. According to a 2017 Mastel survey, people get hoaxes on a daily basis. Social media was the most popular method of disseminating hoaxes. In Indonesia, the hoax phenomenon raises suspicions about the information received and perplexes the population. This was exploited to instill slander and animosity by irresponsible parties. As a result, the goal of this research was to gain a better understanding of hoax communication interactions on social media and how to anticipate them. The research technique included a qualitative approach, focusing on three incidents of hoaxes that circulated in the community involving President Jokowi’s administration and DKI Jakarta Governor Ahok. According to the findings of this study, communication interactions were formed in a very dynamic manner. A political party that did not like the government was the sender or recipient of a hoax mail. Other parties who disagreed with the administration and denied hoaxes as support for the government received the message as well. In this case, there was a clear political purpose, with the intention of overthrowing the current government or preventing Ahok from becoming governor of DKI Jakarta again. Hoaxes that have been extensively disseminated on social media might lead to the public believing that the news is authentic. Institutional, technical, and literacy techniques were three major ways to predict the spread of hoaxes in the community.

Aminah [17], in the impact of hoaxes on Facebook social media on novice voters in the Global Communications journal. Social media Facebook is one of the most influential media in people’s lives today. Through these media, Information might be promptly disseminated to the general public, particularly Facebook users. This causes users to be concerned about filtering information to prevent fake news. The study aimed to see how hoaxes on Facebook affected newbie voters in Panga District, Aceh Jaya Regency, ahead of the presidential and parliamentary elections. The study was descriptive qualitative. The information was gathered through field research, included interviews with nine people. The study’s findings indicated that novice voters regularly used Facebook to get related information. However, the amount of hoax news stories that spread had an impact on naive voters. The influence of fake news on new voters was that it was difficult to tell the difference between fake and real news, that it was easy to be provoked, that it was simple to hate, and that it was easy to alter one’s mind.

Al-Ayyubi [18], in Ethics of Social Media in Responding to Hoax Reporting from a Hadith Perspective. Journal of the Study of the Sciences of the Qur’an and Hadith. This article will discuss the disturbing phenomenon that occurs in cyberspace, specifically on social media. Many negative issues were found raised by certain groups, or individuals.
They had a tendency to attack each other, the attacks were in the form provocation, defamation, offensive language, deception, opinion formation leads to abuse, and so on. Based on historical roots of problem, this phenomenon has occurred since the early days of Islam. To be precise, it was one of the wives of the prophet, ‘Aisyah, who was charged of having an affair with one of the officers of war. The situation then became the catalyst for the reveal that came down, namely the letter Bara’ah. At that time, the types of news mentioned above were spread by word of mouth. Currently, news, regardless of its form, is distributed via social media which is rapid and more massive, even this phenomenon had given rise to a special term, namely viral. The recommendation presented in the article was a hadith approach to the behavior and morals of any internet user on social networking, in order to be in line with the part and proportion in using social media.

2 Methods

The method used in this research is research using a qualitative approach by applying a meta-analysis study to make a literature review obtained from several studies that have been conducted previously and to summarize the findings from previous research [19]. Then, a systematic review was also carried out in this study in order to conduct a comprehensive literature search from previous individual studies [20].

Researchers used the literature study method to answer the problems described. This method is used to provide a comprehensive overview of previous research on a specific topic by showing readers what researchers have discovered about the use of social media iterations during the Covid-19 pandemic.

3 Result and Discussion

3.1 The Role of Social Media in Producing Hoax News in Pandemic

The development in information and communication technology has set in a newer trend in the mass media industry in Indonesia, namely the presence of various media that combine new communication technology and traditional communication technology. Media convergence has changed communication at a time when new, more extensive services can be achieved, all of which have changed a person’s way of life, way of communicating, perception, and belief [21].

In this instant and fast-paced era, the presence of new media is very helpful for audience connectivity, both in terms of speed and ease of access to information. Whenever and wherever and with anyone, people can easily access the information needed without the limitations of space and time. As mentioned above, the various social media applications have sprung from the growth of information and communication technologies that allows anyone to obtain or distribute information at any time and from any location. Nowadays android makes mobile phone screens enlivened with the birth of social network applications such as FB, Twitter, IG, Path, Line, Snapchat and others that can connect people and are always connected with anyone and anything and anytime because of its complex nature, even social media is able to penetrate the boundaries of social status which has been one of the barriers to communication [22]. Social media is media that is
connected not only to one platform, but to many platforms that allow us to communicate directly with many people at the same time in the form of chatting or sending emails [23].

Seeing how highly developed and dynamic social media is, of course, has both positive and negative implications. Even emergence of the various social networks as a result of information development and communication technology raises very fundamental problems and is able to create a catalyst in the dissemination of information and communication that can influence and control the mindset, perception and attitude of even the behavior of people who use the sophistication of information and communication technology. In fact, the last few years the turmoil that occurred in Indonesia was the impact of the application of sophisticated information and communication technology.

The development of social media seems to give birth to a massive and radical flow of information, making things more complex and the reality is that the use of cellphone technology (HP) is able to access various things without being controlled.

The pandemic did not stop the hoaxes because there were still hoaxes circulating about various things, including hoaxes about the pandemic, handling COVID-19, health myths and the hottest thing about vaccinations. In fact, many people also immediately believe and even share things that were actually wrong and have no clear source.

An expert at the Minister of Communication and Information Technology, Donny Budi Utoyo, noted that on average there were 4–5 new hoaxes related to COVID-19 circulating every day from February 2021 until now. Even today, there were still hoax news stating that the corona vaccine was not safe, as reported by the mass media, pikiranrakyat.com. The Chair with the Health Care Vaccine Committee from University of Missouri, United States, Laura Morris, said that many hoax news were deliberately spread in media. Even worse, many hoax information about the safety of vaccine included quotes from few researchers [24].

Malang Regency Communications and Information Technology noted that there were 1253 hoax corona virus issues as of December 6th, 2020. This certainly illustrates that there were so many hoax issues related to Covid-19 that were scattered throughout the country’s news and can have a negative impact on the community if not examined wisely [25]. Furthermore, the spokesman for the Ministry of Communication and Information, Dedy Permadi, said “hoaxes are still being spread with various issues regarding Covid-19 on social media. Data from the Ministry of Communication and Information reveals from January 2020–December 2nd, 2021, various hoaxes and disinformation have been identified.

Dedy Permadi stated that; “It has been found that 2010 hoax Covid-19 issues were found in 5,194 social media uploads, with the most distribution on the Facebook platform with 4493 uploads,” he explained. According to Dedy, access has been terminated for the 5051 uploads and 143 other uploads are in the process of being followed up. Meanwhile, for hoaxes about Covid-19 vaccination, 401 hoax issues have been found in 2476 social media uploads. As with the Covid-19 hoax, the most of these hoaxes regarding vaccinations were obtained from the Facebook platform, with 2284 uploads. Access has been cut off for 2476 of these Covid-19 vaccination hoax uploads [26].

From several searches that the author did, the author found one of the online news stories tirto.id with the title “A Decade of Social Media: from a Revolutionary Mover to
Table 1. Hoax news distribution table on social media regarding Covid-19

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Social Media</th>
<th>Hoaks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>2,396</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Twitter</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>YouTube</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>TikTok</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Instagram</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2,590</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a Hoaks Nest [27]. Then data from the Ministry of Communication and Information, as of February 25th, 2020, there were 127 cases of the Corona hoax, which spread across various social media lines (Table 1).

In accordance with the reports compiled, the Ministry of Communication and Information [26] revealed that in the period January to November 2021 there were 5,046 hoax content regarding the handling of Covid-19 that were spread on social media (medsos) and have been deleted. Of these, 2,467 content related to the Covid-19 vaccine hoax. Then that as many as 4,382 hoax content regarding the handling of Covid-19 spread on Facebook. Then, 560 hoax content about the handling of Covid-19 spread on Twitter [28].

“In Indonesia, there were 800,000 hoax spreading sites, practically all of which were propagated through social media,” according to the Ministry of Communication and Information. The National Police noted that the number of hoaxes spread from January to December 2018 reached 52 cases. However, from January to June 2019, the number of hoaxes spread has reached 51 cases. Find 405 Hoaxes about Corona, Kominfo Not Planning to Block the Internet [26].

The explanation above is a small part of the many facts that social media as a medium that contains a lot of hoax news and information flows every day is like a flood. The description above also showed that social media is a very fertile medium in producing hoaxes. The hoax news that is scattered on so many social media certainly causes concern, anxiety, panic and even fear in the midst of society.

### 3.2 Literacy in Social Media in Covid-19 Pandemic (From Perspective of the Qur’an)

We as Muslims, if we look at the description that has been described from the introduction earlier, as human beings we should think and act wisely in responding to the rapid flow of information conveyed through information and communication technology as described above. In this case the author has a formulation related to the strategy in responding to the above problems.

If it refers to a concept of teachings conveyed by Islam related to the problems of the people in responding to the phenomena that occur today, there is one teaching contained in the Al-Quran.
Al Qur’an Surah Al-Hujarat verse 6:

“O you who believe! If a terrible character offers you some news, verify it, lest you inadvertently inflict [damage] on some individuals and later feel remorseful for your actions.” (QS. Al-Hujurat: 6)

In another verse: Allah said in Al-Isra: 36

“And don’t go after anything you don’t understand (don’t attempt to get in or explain)!“ Surely, the senses of hearing, sight, and cognition are all to blame for that.”

From the verse above we can give an interpretation that there is an obligation for every Muslim to take Tabayyun action (study first) on a case submitted from another person so that something that is informed does not contain a lie then it will be a disaster or harm that will befall others as a result of untruth of information submitted.

In principle, a message received by us should be handled wisely and comprehensively. Therefore, the community or audience must be more mature and position their critical power in responding to the news they receive. Of course, the analytical and critical power is not born just like that. It requires broader information and knowledge and that of course must begin with the question of how much and accurate the information and understanding related to a news/information received. The accuracy of the information and understanding must be sourced from activities that lead to an activity that mobilizes all the abilities possessed to understand and understand a reality that is accepted within the scope of understanding reading and writing activities, especially in reading activities. Therefore, the term called “literacy” emerged. So in this paper, in my opinion, the author states that literacy is a strategy in responding to the phenomenon of the rise of news that is nuanced with lies or is not necessarily true.

Before moving on to something more specific regarding the term literacy, I will try to lead us to universal and fundamental values as human nature. Sometimes we forget the meaning behind God creating a number of senses in us. One of them is the functioning of the sense of sight through these beautiful eyes. We should interpret this eye sense ability as an understanding that since we were born into this world God has actually left a message that O humans, see this universe. Which in its meaning, God is telling us to read all the signs of nature as well as various phenomena that exist in this world so that with the ability to think humans are able to easily understand everything that is in front of them.

Then have we also forgotten that in the beliefs of various Muslims that the Prophet Muhammad SAW in his history was told of the descent or receipt of the first revelation is to command us humans to Iqra ‘(Read) read.

“Read in the Name of God. He turned Alaq into a human creature (an embryo). Your Lord is the Owner of the Greatest Honor, according to what you have read. That He instructed with a pen.” (Q.S Al-'Alaq: 1-5)
This means that reading in principle is an activity that cannot be separated by humans. And even more extreme, the author interprets that if there is a human who does not have reading activities, then he is not worthy of being called a complete human being.

The philosophical understanding above underlies our common understanding that literacy is a word that means activity. Active reading should be a top priority in this life. Literacy if interpreted linguistically means from Latin term ‘literature’ and English ‘letter’. Literacy refers to the capacity to read and write. However, visual literacy, which is defined as “the capacity to perceive and interpret visually transmitted information” is also included in the understanding of literacy (scenes, videos, pictures) [29].

In Surah Al-Baqarah verse 44 reaffirms the importance of reading (literacy) in every action and activity that we do in everyday life.

“How can you tell people to do what is right and forget to do it yourselves, even though you recite the Scripture? Have you no sense?”

This verse explains that humans are given by God in the form of reason, so humans should use it as well as possible, take advantage of that reason by always actively seeking and exploring knowledge as broadly as possible, and for that it must begin with reading (literacy) activities. Because by reading we can know and give knowledge that we already know the goodness of.

“Do not pursue anything about which you are ignorant. Hearing, vision, and the heart, for example, are all responsible.” (Q.S. Surah Al-Isra verse 36).

From this verse it teaches us that before believing something that is conveyed by someone, we should be *tawaqquf*. *Tawaqquf* is an attitude or act of refraining from immediately believing or rejecting a news.

Literacy should be entrenched among the Indonesian people, the majority of whom are Muslims. From the verses that the author describes above, it is explained how Islamic teachings originating from the revelation of Allah SWT, namely the Al-Qur’anulkarim, prioritize and prioritize literacy (reading) attitudes, so Indonesia should be able to ward off news or information scattered in social media with hoax nuances.

However, the author’s reading sources indicated that literacy activities in our nation are still poor. According to a 2016 Central Connecticut State University study, Indonesia ranks second lowest among 61 nations in terms of literacy, barely one level behind Botswana. Not only that, but the Indonesian has low reading skill, as evidenced by UNESCO research revealing that only one in every 1000 Indonesians reads a book. Then, according to 2019 statistics, Indonesia is placed 62nd out of 70 nations in terms of literacy levels, or in the bottom ten countries with poor literacy. This is based on a survey done by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2019 and provided by the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA).

Observing this, of course, we should be concerned, because this large and very diverse nation and inhabited by the majority of Muslims should be protected by people who prioritize literacy activities in their daily lives. This must be a concern of the Muslims themselves in order to create an intelligent and dignified nation as taught and guided by Allah swt and the Qur’an.
From the description that has been presented at the beginning of this article, there were so many fake news or the truth of which was not clear that was scattered in various news reports and on social media, and it was not uncommon for the audience to realize that they are controlled by the news information so that it can end in a dispute and social divisions or conflicts that occur everywhere. If you look closely, this happens because of the lack of mastery of relevant information and understanding related to the news delivered. In the sense that the literacy culture in our country had not been created properly. Because in the perspective of communication psychology that any stimulus received by audience will be processed through cognitive power that functions as a shaper of thought patterns and perceptions and even becomes the basis for behavior in the end [30]. So if a news report has reached an influence on the attitudes and behavior of the audience then this is a serious problem and can disrupt the life of the nation and state.

As a sense, this was such a sad and troubling reality. As a consequence, in this digital age, Indonesia confronts a very high danger of disseminating bad material. Hate speeches, fake news, extremism, and intolerance are all important dangers that Indonesian society is presently facing. This was due to the community’s limited interest in reading, particularly for knowledge about these bad concerns. Until a survey from CIGI-Ipsos 2016 explained that as many as 65% of the 132 million internet users in Indonesia believed in the truth of information in cyberspace without checking. Although it looks trivial, this is precisely what has the ability to sever Indonesia’s unity and solidarity.

Then let’s review the objectives of literacy as follows: 1. Help increase people’s knowledge by reading various useful information. 2. Help increase a person’s level of understanding in drawing conclusions from the information read. 3. Improve a person’s ability to provide a critical assessment of a written work. 4. Helping to grow and develop good character in a person. 5. Increase the value of one’s personality through reading and writing activities. 6. Cultivate and develop a literacy culture in the midst of society at large. 7. Help improve the quality of the use of one’s time so that it is more useful.

Observing some of the literacy goals mentioned above, therefore, one of the effective steps in dispelling the rise of hoax news and minimizing the emergence of horizontal disputes and riots as well as things that can threaten the stability of national security, the very appropriate solution is to continue to promote and encourage again the literacy culture in ourselves and in Indonesian society in general. Our intelligence in responding to news is an obligation, of course, through literacy activities, reading and looking at each phenomenon from a more accurate and wise perspective as our strength capital in improving the condition of this nation and country.

4 Conclusion

Social media is a communication medium whose development is in line with the advancement of information and communication technologies. Since the invention of the internet, various communication technologies were born so rapidly. Smartphones are today experiencing very sophisticated technological advances. Various applications are created that can be used in technology called smartphones or cellphones. So that an application was born that makes it easy for mobile phone users to connect and communicate freely,
namely social network applications which can be used as a medium for instilling the beliefs and ideologies of a society. Social media can also move a person’s behavior to do something in a variety of uses that are more practical. The presence of social media today is actually a problem for the country today. The fact that is happening today is that social media is used as a tool to spread misleading and untrue information to the people who use social media. The fact is that until now so many people were trapped in the term hoax. Today’s society is not only a recipient of messages but more than that can also be a source and produce news or just share the information they got.

Indonesia, which is a country with a majority Muslim population, should be able to address the issue of hoaxes on social media. If traced from the Qur’an as a guide for Islamic religious teachings, you should practice the teaching that the importance of literacy (reading) in everyday life and dealing with the hoax phenomenon that is very much produced through social media. Literacy should be entrenched among the Indonesian people, the majority of whom are Muslims. From the verses that the author has described above, it is explained how Islamic teachings originating from the revelation of Allah SWT, namely Al-Qur’anul karim, prioritize and prioritize literacy (reading) attitudes, so Indonesia should be able to protect itself against fake news or information disseminated on social networks. Thus, this article was prepared by the author in the hope that it can contribute to the development of topics related to the same themes as the contents of this article. The author recognizes that this article is far from perfect, the author really hopes for constructive suggestions and criticisms so that this paper becomes better and more useful for the readers. Finally, the authors say thanks for the attention and cooperation given during the work and presentation of this paper.

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