

Empowering Rural Communities Through Digital Literacy Initiatives in India

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Article history

Submitted: 2023/04/12; Revised: 2023/05/16; Accepted: 2023/06/10

Abstract

India, as one of the countries with the largest population in the world, faces major challenges in increasing digital literacy in rural areas. Inequality of access and understanding of information technology can hinder social and economic development in rural communities. Therefore, community service through digital literacy initiatives is important to overcome this problem. This article aims to document and analyze community service efforts in increasing digital literacy in rural Indian communities. The main goal is to empower rural communities with basic skills and knowledge of digital technologies so they can access educational opportunities, employment, and online services more effectively. The service method uses Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) involving collaboration between educational institutions, non-governmental organizations, and local communities. These programs include practical training, workshops, and access to digital resources. The results of this service showed a significant increase in understanding of digital technology among the participating rural Indian communities. Program participants actively use digital devices for educational purposes, job searches, and communicating with government and health services. Additionally, there is increasing awareness of the economic potential that can be gained through digital literacy skills. So, it is concluded that digital literacy initiatives that focus on community service have great potential to empower rural communities in India. Through collaboration between various parties, rural communities can be given the tools they need to participate in the digital era, reducing inequality of access and opening the door to new opportunities. This article underscores the continued importance of such community service efforts to support inclusive development in India.

Keywords

Digital Literacy; Empowering; Initiatives; Rural Communities



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INTRODUCTION (Palatino Linotype 12, Space 1.15, Justify)

The introduction should briefly place the study in a broad context and highlight why it is important. It should define the purpose of the work and its significance. The current state of the research field should be reviewed carefully, and key publications

cited. Please highlight controversial and diverging hypotheses when necessary. Finally, briefly mention the main aim of the work and highlight the principal conclusions. As far as possible, please keep the introduction comprehensible to scientists outside your field of research. References should be cited as (Marchlewska, Cichocka, Łozowski, Górski, & Winiewski, 2019) or (Rizki & Wahdah, 2022) or (Gislason, Kennedy, & Witham, 2021) or (Hanifah, Alawiyah, & Agustin, 2020) or (Adam, Walker, Bezerra, & Clayton, 2020), (Nugroho & Hidayah, 2020), or (Otto & Dunens, 2021) or (Hasanudin, Fitrianaingsih, Rosyida, & Noeruddin, 2021) or (Fanjoy & Bragg, 2019) or (Wibowo & Darsono, 2022) or (Village et al., 2020) or (Nawawi et al., 2020) or (Fitriawan, Rohmatulloh, Asfahani, & Ulfa, 2020) or (Genon et al., 2022) or Solina, Rahmawati, & Igiassi (2022) or (Agdal, Midtgård, & Meidell, 2019). See the end of the document for further details on references. Technical terms should be defined. Symbols, abbreviations, and acronyms should be defined the first time they are used. All tables and figures should be cited in numerical order.

METHODS (Palatino Linotype 12, Space 1.15, Justify)

The research method should be included in the Introduction. The use of chapters (h1), subsections (h2), and sub-subsections (h3) in the discussion is in accordance with the needs of the discussion. It is also necessary to explain about the method of research / community service carried out chronologically (mention when the implementation is, at least month and year!).

Method: describes the methods used to carry out research / community service. Examples of methods: a) ABCD (asset based community development), community service that departs from the assets or potentials of the community, b) Diffusion of Appropriate Technology, for example research or service activities that produce products for the target group, c) Training, for example lecture or socialization activities accompanied by demonstrations or pilots to produce certain skills, d) Mediation, for example, activities that show PkM implementers as mediators in solving problems that exist in society, e) Advocacy, for example activities in the form of assistance to target groups (García, 2020). Can use other methods that are also commonly used. In the chapter name (h1), write as a Research Method or Method of Devotion, according to the conditions of the manuscript.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION (Palatino Linotype 12, Space 1.15, Justify)

Findings

The results obtained from the research must be supported by sufficient data. The research results and the discovery must be the answers, or the research hypothesis stated previously in the introduction part.

3.1. Subsection

Heading 1: use this style for level one headings

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Bulleted lists look like this:

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1. First item
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The text continues here.

3.2. Figures, Tables and Schemes

All figures and tables should be cited in the main text as Figure 1, Table 1, etc.

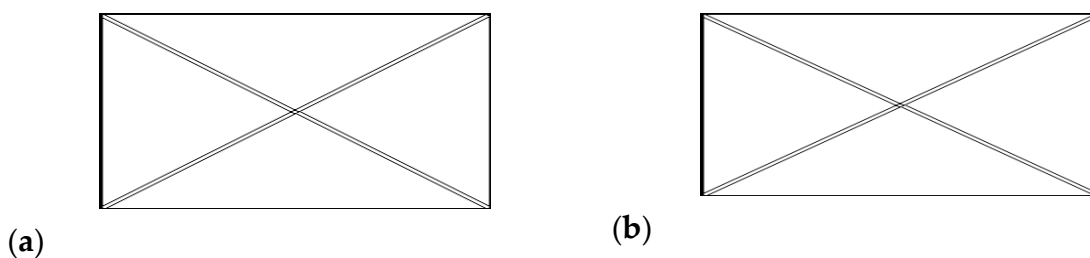


Figure 1. This is a figure; Schemes follow the same formatting. If there are multiple panels, they should be listed as: (a) Description of what is contained in the first panel; (b) Description of what is contained in the second panel. Figures should be placed in the main text near to the first time they are cited. A caption on a single line should be centered.

CONCLUSION (Palatino Linotype 12, Space 1.15, Justify)

The conclusion should answer the objectives of the research and research discoveries. The concluding remark should not contain only the repetition of the results and discussions or abstract. You should also suggest future research and point out those that are underway.

GUIDELINES ON REFERENCES

The literature listed in the References contains only the sources referenced or included in the article. We recommend preparing the references with a bibliography software package, such as **Mendeley, EndNote, Reference Manager or Zotero** to avoid typing mistakes and duplicated references. Referral sources should provide 80% of journal articles, proceedings, or research results from the last five years. Writing techniques bibliography, using the system cites APA (American Psychological Association) Style and the 6th edition.

Example:

Journal Article

- Agdal, R., Midtgård, I. H., & Meidell, V. (2019). Can asset-based community development with children and youth enhance the level of participation in health promotion projects? A qualitative meta-synthesis. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 16(19), 3778.
- Hasanudin, C., Fitrinaingsih, A., Rosyida, F., & Noeruddin, A. (2021). Pelatihan Menulis Artikel untuk Jurnal Nasional Terakreditasi dan Mengirim Melalui Open Journal System (OJS). *Indonesian Journal Of Community Service*, 1(3), 549-555.
- Wibowo, B. A., & Darsono, D. (2022). Community-Based Tourism Design to Develop a Historical Tourism Village in Yogyakarta. *Amalee: Indonesian Journal of Community Research and Engagement*, 3(1), 123-138.

Internet Website

- Hidayat, R., & Khalika, N. N. (2019). Bisnis dan Kontroversi Gerakan Indonesia Tanpa Pacaran. Retrieved October 17, 2019, from tirto.id website: <https://tirto.id/bisnis-dan-kontroversi-gerakan-indonesia-tanpa-pacaran-cK25>

Book

- Manu, G. A. (2020). *Aplikasi Monitoring Penelitian dan Pengabdian Masyarakat Internal*

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Book Section

Ikhwan, M. (2019). Ulama dan Konservatisme Islam Publik di Bandung: Islam, Politik Identitas, dan Tantangan Relasi Horizontal. In I. Burdah, N. Kailani, & M. Ikhwan (Eds.), *Ulama, Politik, dan Narasi Kebangsaan*. Yogyakarta: PusPIDeP.

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