

BAB V

THE CAUSES OF THE DYNAMICS OF BANJARMASIN DELEGATION ACHIEVEMENT ON PROVINCIAL MTQ AT SOUTH KALIMANTAN

Surviving as a general champion for four years in a row is an extraordinary achievement for Banjarmasin city. Even though it was said that the achievement of the general champion was just because of being the host of the year, however, Banjarmasin managed to survive with the development of each branch of the competition. Based on the achievements described in the previous section, the author trying to formulate some of the things that cause the dynamics of Banjarmasin delegation achievement from 2012-2021

A. Internal Factors

Internal factors are factors that concern the inside of something or come from the inside of something. In this case, internal factors include all the working parts of the Banjarmasin delegation and those under the control of Banjarmasin city. The following are the things that affect the dynamics of Banjarmasin delegation achievement from internal points as follows:

1. Quality of Participants

The greatest thing that can be prepared by the government for a competition is participant quality. Each region struggles to have adequate human resources to be selected being some of the best delegates to represent the region in a certain level of competition. Since the first time of MTQ, Banjarmasin was implemented in 1968, although there was only *tilawah* branch of the competition, the implementation starts from the smallest level that can be filtering the best participant of the time so that the success of the Banjarmasin delegation was not only at the provincial level, but at also going to national and international level.

However, MTQ at the smallest level such as the village-level or sub-district level has begun abandoned; even it implemented at the city-level due to the budget constraints where the participants more increase without more budgets. At that time, participants were drawn from schools in the area or on the participant's desire to register to sub-district officers. It was done with a reduced selection from the smallest regional which made the 'unplug participant' system appear and brought many new players from the outside region. On the other hand, increased the branches of the competition in MTQ with inadequate human resources make the achievements of the

Banjarmasin delegation in several eras had dimmed as Alfisyahr

Arsyad said:

“In the past, Banjarmasin always became the general champion because it was only the *tilāwah* branch of competition. But after many branches were added, begun from *tahfīz* branch, then Banjarmasin has not been able to catch up developments in another branch of competition because there were no participants that excel in another branch, except in *tilāwah* branch. Another branch of competition was held in around 1980, and there is a competition at the sub-district level, but after that, the competition begins from the city-level directly.”¹⁰¹

According to Alfisyahr Arsyad, Banjarmasin was often reaching the first place of a general champion when MTQ still has *tilāwah* for competition. Because there are many al-Quran experts for the art of reading al-Quran who live in Banjarmasin so the delegation at that time was excel in the *tilāwah* branch.

Banjarmasin was superior in the *tilāwah* branch in the previous era. It is different when the championship table in 2012 to 2021, because the points of the *tilāwah* branch had been deceased for several years, although, it did not affect the general championship points. It means that the points from other branches increased and helped the accumulation of Banjarmasin regional points. This matter indicates a significant development of other branches remembering the growing of al-Quran schools with various kinds such as al-Quran kindergarten,

¹⁰¹Alfisyahr Arsyad, Senior *Qari'ah*, Personal Interview, Alfisyahrin Kindergarten, May 03 2021.

Tahfīz house, *Tahfīz* camp, Quranic Home and many more. From these institutions, the talent based on al-Quran had been developed and taught for all the students.

As for now, the City Government made efforts to attract participants from the smallest region by holding the sub-district MTQ level named ‘Audition’. This audition was held to select the prospective participants of MTQ in each sub-district before competing at the city level. Auditions were held only for the branch with over-quota competitions with the available participants are two males and two females for each branch. If the quota exceeds in each group, then auditions will be implemented.

In addition, based on the list of individual winners for the *tilāwah* branch, it can be seen that there is some name that originally represented Banjarmasin, and in the next year was found to represent another region or vice versa. This matter will certainly affect the accumulation points of the regional championship due to participants from their region also can achieve the achievement over other regional names. As Arnajehan said:

“In the past, each region was free to recruit participants from any region with their rewards. Moreover, the region is the host of the year, so they were looking for participants and choose the best participants from any region so that the host reaches first place always at the regional championship. Why can this happen? Because LPTQ does not exist yet for the regulation, so participants can join the

competition in any areas, even for the participant who concerned to increase the income from joining this competition.”¹⁰²

The tradition of general champion for the hosts has been going on for many years because of many participants that chosen to follow the host area during the implementation of MTQ. A few mainstays of Banjarmasin in 2012 were also recruited to represent the hosts, which are detrimental to Banjarmasin city considering the potential of the participant. Some participants stated that one of their reasons follow another region on this MTQ is to seek experience and get used to appearing in public.¹⁰³ However, on other hand, this reason can be detrimental to the original participant’s area.

In response to this matter, LPTQ of Banjarmasin in 2014 made a policy separately that the Banjarmasin city is no longer takes participants from outside and appealed to the original participants of Banjarmasin to participate only in MTQ of Banjarmasin city-level. This policy was created with the aim of the City Government that only wants to empower delegates in their region. This regulation is also considered profitable because it provides more space for Banjarmasin people to participate in this event.

¹⁰² Arnajehan, Senior Official, Personal Interview, June 12 2021.

¹⁰³ Achmad Fadillah, Banjarmasin Delegation, Personal Interview on Whatsapp, August 4, 2021.

More than that, Banjarmasin LPTQ in the implementation 52nd MTQ of Banjarmasin city-level in 2020 more narrow participants from outside the region by disqualifying participants who have participated in MTQ and become champions in other regions. This is because many participants from Banjarmasin took part in other regions and become champions, but when Banjarmasin held MTQ, they came back following MTQ in Banjarmasin, resulting in a double champion in two areas and cause problems when sending delegates to the provincial level.

With the firmness, the result obtained is the decrease in the original participants from Banjarmasin city who took part in MTQ outside Banjarmasin. Unless, the participant still wants to participate in MTQ but loses in their area, or for any other reasons. However, if there are participants from the outside region who want to take part in Banjarmasin MTQ, the participants will be allowed to take part but required to have a domicile in Banjarmasin because of school, college, or work. Therefore, the domicile owned is not fictitious and the participant is not a hired player.

Some things have been designed and prepared by the delegation and the government. However, every performance or result of the competition is fluctuating in nature, as Fahrurazi said:

“There are some things that we cannot control, that is the results of the championship because all performances are judged depending on the participant’s situation while performing. Like skill, readiness, healthy, mastery of matter, and spirit, that all come from within of the participants. We learned from the 2016 MTQ in Barabai, which many participants perform in an unfit condition so that the results are decreasing. We just help them to prepare for the performance such as provide the necessary support health so the participants can perform the performance excellently. The rest is back to participants, and the result depends on Allah, but we always believe that effort does not betray the results.”¹⁰⁴

Such was the selection and preparation that went through, everyone remains the responsibility of the individual participant to prepare physically and mentally before participating in the competition. Because what the judges assess is what the participants show at the time of the competition. As for all the activities held by the City Government is an effort to continue developing resources and strengthen the Quranic generation.

2. Government Facilities

Banjarmasin City Government-issued spending for about 3 Billion rupiahs to facilitate religious activities in 2019. It is used for funding some activities like city-level of MTQ, *Hāfiẓ-Hāfiẓah* Selection, Worship Facility Assistance, and Assistance to Organizations and Religion Institutions. In accommodating MTQ, various activities are prepared such as the provision of needs for each

¹⁰⁴Fahrurazi, Head of Sub-section of Mental and Spiritual Development of Banjarmasin Government, Interview, Banjarmasin City Government Office, Banjarmasin, June 03 2021.

activity from sub-district audition; Pre-MTQ coaching; implementation of MTQ city-level; Training Centre of Banjarmasin delegation; and sending the delegation to provincial MTQ to represent Banjarmasin.

The facilities provided have also grown from year to year. In the 1980s training center had held at the coach's house. Then in the 2000's it continued to develop and was held in the hall or auditorium of schools, until the last few years it was able to hold training center at the hotel and even to Jakarta in 2015-2016.

“The good facilities will support and motivate participants to practice more. As long as there is the support of funding for the activities, then we will maximize it. If we did it just as simple as the previous year, there is no effort or increase. So we are looking for the best facilities that can support the activities of the participants to help them prepare for the competition.”¹⁰⁵

The Banjarmasin Government since 2017 has implemented a training center twice a year. Banjarmasin Government facilitated the inn for delegation while other regions accommodated participants in people's homes. As Fahrurazi said:

“We learned from previous years, we come and checking how MTQ was going and we found that the facilities for the delegation were not good enough. We learned from 2016 that many participants are not fit and unhealthy because our facilities are lacking. At that time, the delegation stayed in people's homes with limited space for

¹⁰⁵Fahrurazi, Head of Sub-section of Mental and Spiritual Development of Banjarmasin Government, Interview, Banjarmasin City Government Office, Banjarmasin, June 03 2021.

sleep. Since then, we try to appoint good facilities for the delegation to support their health. And it brings a good impact for their achievement.”¹⁰⁶

Moreover, the departure of the Banjarmasin delegation in 2019 for participating in Provincial MTQ at Kotabaru district was facilitated by the city government by using air transportation. In 2021, Banjarmasin was held learning center twice and added the simulation of the competition as a preparation before the Provincial MTQ. According to a testimonial from a member of the Banjarmasin delegation, Dina Andriani:

“It is an honor to represent the city of Banjarmasin. Representing Banjarmasin in MTQ from 2007 until 2021 for me there has been a lot of development and getting better. Every year has its impression and government support and facilities are feeling so helpful for us and support our needs. These facilities look so different from other regions. Like going to Kotabaru by plane, training in the hotel with the great coaches, we also provided for health needs. The progress is very far, from the training in the guesthouse or school hall, minimum transportation, and appreciation, until now growing to be much better.”¹⁰⁷

This significant development of MTQ management gives a new spirit and becomes a reference for other regions to do the same in South Kalimantan. Because developing Quranic events should be done like that in terms of accommodating facilities as according to Alfisyahr Arsyad:

¹⁰⁶Fahrurazi, Head of Sub-section of Mental and Spiritual Development of Banjarmasin Government, Interview, Banjarmasin City Government Office, Banjarmasin, June 03 2021.

¹⁰⁷Dina Andriani, Banjarmasin Delegation, Personal Interview on Whatsapp, Banjarmasin, July 12 2021.

“The old days felt more sincere, it is not mean that the current one is not sincere. But the old days with limited facilities and even though we learned *tilawah* from home to home, there is no award too, but the people at that time was successfully achieved the highest achievement. Seeing that the government has provided the children now with all facilities, it was good and it can motivate participants more to do their best. And actually, South Kalimantan was left behind other provinces who have facilities more than ours, but Banjarmasin already started and it began to be followed by other regions, so that was good progress,”¹⁰⁸

The Government of Banjarmasin also sees that giving facilities for MTQ must adjust to the targets of the year. To control the facilities and achievement of the Banjarmasin delegation, the Government made the Provincial MTQ one of the Main Indicators for the work of the Regional Secretariat of Banjarmasin city.¹⁰⁹ These facilities distinguish Banjarmasin from other regions. The government prioritizes facilities and maximizes practice, so in the last few years, the achievements are increasing.¹¹⁰

All these government-funded activities were expected to provide a good impact on the government’s performance achievements by targeting the general champion at provincial MTQ. The increase of budget provides adequate facilities for the delegation so that the

¹⁰⁸Alfisyahr Arsyad, Senior *Qari’ah*, Personal Interview, Alfisyahrin Kindergarten, Banjarmasin, May 03 2021.

¹⁰⁹Regional Secretariat of Banjarmasin, Planning Work, (Banjarmasin: Regional Secretariat of Banjarmasin City, 2020) 52.

¹¹⁰Muhammad Rizki Sholeh, Banjarmasin Delegation, Personal Interview on Whatsapp, Banjarmasin, August 4, 2021.

participants can finalize the preparation for the competition and develop the learning al-Quran in Banjarmasin.

3. Intensive Coaching

Coaching in MTQ activities is a preparation of the competition for a certain level. The coaching in MTQ referred to Training Center (TC). Banjarmasin LPTQ as the main task of an institution to prepare the potential resource coordinates this activity. This is usually held before the region sends a delegation to the provincial MTQ or National level.

However, the difference comes from Banjarmasin, the coaching is not only implemented for delegates that represent the city of Banjarmasin to the provincial level but also coaching has been held from the smallest regional which is the sub-district level. The coaching activities at the sub-district level are named Pre-MTQ. The Pre-MTQ is held after the participants have auditioned for the sub-districts. Although the past few years the audition is only for the *tilāwah* and *tahfīz* competition because so many participants joined these two branches. Participants were selected from the sub-district level at least amount of three people of male and female. After going through the audition, the participants who passed to MTQ city-level must follow Pre-MTQ activities, such as what delivered by Ahmad Sya'rani:

“In the sub-district level, we managed a Pre-MTQ event as a training platform for those who represent their respective sub-districts. This activity is held before MTQ city-level, so there are coaches in each branch of competition to each sub-district in Banjarmasin.”¹¹¹

Pre-MTQ activities have the same system as the Training Center, where participants are given time to practice for five days or more with a coach who has been sent by each district. This exercise was intended to measure and prepare the maturity of participants before participating in the competition. The difference between Pre-MTQ and Training Center is due to the level of MTQ. Pre-MTQ is a preparation for a city-level MTQ while the training center is a training to prepare the delegation before participating in MTQ provincial-level of South Kalimantan.

Through a series of auditions and rehearsals to prepare for MTQ, each sub-district of Banjarmasin has recruited participants who are ready to compete in city-level MTQ. The winner of city-level MTQ must be prepared again to follow a series of preparation for the provincial-level MTQ, and then the Government held a training center to increase the potential and ability of delegation.

In March 2021, LPTQ of Banjarmasin added a new activity in the preparation series for joining provincial-level MTQ by held a

¹¹¹Ahmad Sya'rani, Head of Islamic Community Guidance of the Ministry of Religion Banjarmasin, Interview, The Ministry of Religion of Banjarmasin City Regional Office, June 03 2021.

Simulation. Simulation is a method of training that demonstrates something in a similar condition to a real situation. In this case, the simulation that followed by the delegation is similar to the situation and conditions when they perform. The committee provides microphones, stages, lamps, bells, and assessment tools for judges to assess their performance. Participants in this simulation are given assessments and comments by the judges. The score that gained from the participants' performances becomes an evaluation material for each participant, trainers, and the committee as a benchmark of quality and the success of the coaching that has done so far. It was expected to be an opportunity for participants to train mental and spiritual readiness to compete as well as the skills possessed to mastering the stage when performing later.

“The training feels great and gets intense especially with the simulation of competition which is very helpful for us to prepare the performance. It is also training our minds and gives us the power to compete better.”¹¹²

Intensive coaching from LPTQ of Banjarmasin begin from sub-district auditions, Pre-MTQ, training center 1 and 2, and closed with MTQ Simulation are the efforts to increase the potential of participants. In addition, the first Chairman of Banjarmasin LPTQ

¹¹²Dina Andriani, Banjarmasin Delegation, Personal Interview on Whatsapp, Banjarmasin, July 12 2021.

ensures that the qualities of participants were not only measured from the coaching scheduled by LPTQ but also must be practice daily to optimize the abilities and achieve the best results, which are expected. The urgency of the training will perform during the competition according to Artoni Jurna:

“This intensive coaching through the MTQ is needed to mark the progress of developing Quran. Without MTQ, the progress of learning the Quran may be less visible and even stagnant because there is no movement as a reference. Participants’ abilities will be measure so they can be evaluated and seen for quality. Without MTQ, people’s interest in learning the Quran might not be as big as it is today”¹¹³

This opinion shows that MTQ is also a place for evaluating the training that has been done personally or institutionally. Moreover, how MTQ can trigger people’s interest to learn the Quran so that it can help the government’s goal to build a Quranic society.

4. Reliable Trainers

The trainer in MTQ is the person in charge of training participants in preparation before following MTQ. On a series of Banjarmasin preparation activities, the development of participant’s abilities definitely cannot separate from the coaching activities and the coach itself.

¹¹³Artoni Jurna, Senior *Qāri*, Personal Interview, Banjarmasin, May 04, 2021.

In every coaching activity, LPTQ recruits trainers for each branch of the competition. The difference between Banjarmasin LPTQ with other regions is Banjarmasin recruits trainers for each group, instead of recruits on a coach for each branch of competition. For example, if the recitation branch has 5 groups namely adults, teenagers, children, *tartil*, and blinds, then Banjarmasin recruited coaches following the section mastered in each competition group. For more details, the following is a list of branch coaches in the training center held by LPTQ of Banjarmasin 2021:

BRANCH/GROUP	SECTION	COACH NAME
Adult Recitation	<i>Tajwīd and Faṣāḥah</i>	Drs. H. Murjani A. Malik, M.AP
	Melody and Voice	Drs. H. Artoni Jurna, M.Ag
Teenager Recitation	<i>Tajwīd and Faṣāḥah</i>	H. Ahmad Bugdadi, M.Hi
	Melody and Voice	H. Ahmad Sawiti, M.Hi
Children Recitation	<i>Tajwīd and Faṣāḥah</i>	Hj. Siti Aisyah Sanusi
	Melody and Voice	H. Muhammad Yusuf, S.Sos.I
Blinds Recitation	<i>Tajwīd and Faṣāḥah</i>	Hj. Alfisyahr Arsyad

	Melody and Voice	Dr. H.M. Abduh Amrie, MA
<i>Tartīl Al-Quran</i>	<i>Tajwīd and Faṣāḥah</i>	Dra. Hj. Rahmawati, M.Pd.I
	Melody and Voice	Hj. Laily Agustini, S.Ag

The criteria for trainers recruited by Banjarmasin can be seen from things like personal achievements, experience in MTQ, and their expertise, which will make a different impact for participants. This was according to Fahrurazi:

“Usually for the coaches, we see if they have any achievements. At least for the provincial-level coach, we looking for them who have achievement minimum in provincial MTQ, and it is better if the coach has achievement at the national or international level. Then if the trainer has never been joint the MTQ, we can look at their expertise, are the expert, and master in a certain section of the assessment. Things like this are expected to be a motivation for participants because the experts trained them. We hope that if the coach was great, then trainees are also expected to be great.”¹¹⁴

With the criteria used for recruitment of each trainer, it was hoped that participants would be able to improve their abilities as well as the facilities that have been provided by Banjarmasin Government. Some of the coaches were also sent to accompany participants on the day of the Provincial-level of MTQ. Banjarmasin at least sends a

¹¹⁴Fahrurazi, Head of Sub-section of Mental and Spiritual Development of Banjarmasin Government, Interview, Banjarmasin City Government Office, Banjarmasin, June 03 2021

coach for each branch of the competition. Sending the coach is to help the preparation of participants at the time of receiving material to perform. Like the recitation branch, participants will receive *maqrā`* in the preliminary round within 16 hours before the performance. With a coach, participants will be more helpful to prepare for the performance.

On the other hand, some coaches usually were asked to become the council of judges at the provincial MTQ because of their quality and achievements. It is not surprising that some coaches from Banjarmasin that appointed the judges as Fahrurazi said:

“We always try to be sporty, which means we do not want order champion from us whoever the judges are. Although they had trained Banjarmasin, or they know us, the assessment that the judges gave depends on the performance of the contestant and it is the prerogative right of the judges. They become the judges because of their achievement in national and international events, and they are experts in South Kalimantan. They also go around to other regions to train the delegation. The most important is our participants have attended the coaching and were coached by reliable coaches. With such an effort, we do not need to order the judges to make us be the winner or to pros with us. Despite people’s negative assumptions always there, we understand that not everyone always likes it.”¹¹⁵

Therefore, it should be participant assessment is not depending on any area, or acquaintance of anyone. But it depends on the quality of the participant while performing, so there is no personal business as

¹¹⁵Fahrurazi, Head of Sub-section of Mental and Spiritual Development of Banjarmasin Government, Interview, Banjarmasin City Government Office, Banjarmasin, June 03 2021.

well as other interests that affect the judgment because of the professionalism of the judges which is based on the chosen people and expertise in their section.

5. Solidarity of Officials and Committees

Banjarmasin city in 2021 sent 13 officials and 14 committees in each section tasked with assisting the activities of competition for the delegation. The official in MTQ is the people in charge of assisting the participants in MTQ activities. As for the committee in any section has several tasks and responsibilities in certain sections to support the participants such as in the documentation section, transportation section, secretariat, and delegation accommodation section.

Solidarity of officials and committees were needed because they will coordinate with the committee of the host for the implementation of MTQ. Likewise to provide the facilities, provide participant needs, organize the activities, and administration files, and even accompany the participants until the performance. Being an official must be able to protect the participants so that they feel at home and excited to perform, according to Arnajehan:

“Becoming an official is to accompany the participants. But not just accompany, an official must also be able to protect the participants because when the participants want to perform, they need

support, enthusiasm, which is why we need to accompany the contestants so they can perform with confidence.”¹¹⁶

Good cooperation between committees is also the cause progress of a delegation. Good coordination makes the good performance for delegation itself. Good cooperation comes from inside if each member has identified goals and perceptions. The work ethic of each member personally also needed to avoid stacking tasks only to one person.

Official and the committee who became the delegates of Banjarmasin taken from a combination of Banjarmasin City Government personnel with the Ministry of Religion of Banjarmasin that united in Banjarmasin LPTQ as stated by Ahmad Sya’rani:

LPTQ is like a container that unites the Banjarmasin City Government with the Ministry of Religion. People who are given the mandate to use this MTQ indeed we have chosen from the best people who are diligent and responsible, so they can do their duties well. The committee’s performance evaluated every year for later rolling and improved where it needs to be improved because the cooperation of each delegate must continue well.”¹¹⁷

A senior teacher as well as a coach of the Banjarmasin delegation, Mr. Murjani A. Malik, also feels the role of official performance in MTQ:

¹¹⁶ Arnajehan, Senior Official, Personal Interview, June 12 2021.

¹¹⁷ Ahmad Sya’rani, Head of Islamic Community Guidance of the Ministry of Religion Banjarmasin, Interview, The Ministry of Religion of Banjarmasin City Regional Office, June 03 2021.

“Back to when I was still a participant, the official was active, giving information, supporting participants, helping with anything they can do while the competition was held. Then, years later, it was felt like the official was passive. They do not care about their tasks even though their work is very important. If they have no attention to participants, then participants also definitely feel less protected or cared for. Now, the officials and committees of Banjarmasin are active, protecting the participants, even with the coaches are also polite. This team has high solidarity with each other.¹¹⁸

Working in a team requires a sense of solidarity between the members to produce a good performance. The good performance will bring participants into a conducive and supportive atmosphere mental condition and confidence to show the best performance and hit the target of the Banjarmasin delegation

B. External Factors

External factors in this section are factors from things outside the control of Banjarmasin city that cause the dynamics of Banjarmasin achievement. The following are the external factors of the dynamics:

1. LPTQ System and Regulations

LPTQ as MTQ organizer has the authority technically to make the rules and regulations of the competition. The technical regulations for MTQ at the city or district level and

¹¹⁸Murjani A. Malik, Senior Qari, Personal Interview, Sungai Lulut Banjarmasin, June 04 2021.

provincial level will be referred to the rules of the National LPTQ. Within the last decade, technical regulations for participants had changed in terms of age limits and procedures of the competition.

The difference was found in 2014 and 2018 refer to the Manual Book of MTQ, the age limit of participants for the *tilawah* branch in any group has changed except for the adult group which is still in the age limit of 40 years 11 months 29 days. As the changes of age limit in *tilawah* groups are:

a. Teenagers group

In 2014, the age limit of the teenagers' group was 19 years 11 months 29 days, while in 2018 the age limit changed to 24 years 11 months 29 days.

b. Children group

In 2014, the age limit of the children group was 13 years 11 months 29 days and in 2018, the age limit becomes 14 years 11 months 29 days.

c. Blinds group

In 2014, the age limit for the blinds group was 44 years 11 months 29 days, but in 2018 changed to 49 years 11 months 29 days.

d. *Tartīl* group

The age limit of the *tartīl* group in 2014 was 10 years 11 months 29 days but in 2018 became 12 years 11 months 29 days.

The problem of changing the age limit in MTQ even became the cause of the decline of Tanah Laut District in Provincial MTQ 2021. This happened as a protest to LPTQ of South Kalimantan who is inconsistent about the age limit of participants in the 33rd MTQ of South Kalimantan.¹¹⁹ Tanah Laut district protested against two regions such as Banjarmasin and Banjar district, which are not according to the rules but passed verification and were accepted by LPTQ of South Kalimantan.

The rules referred to in this case are recommendations from South Kalimantan LPTQ to all regions to send delegates with sufficient age until the implementation of National MTQ

¹¹⁹Idda Royani, “*Nilai MTQN Kalsel Tak Sesuai Syiar Islam, Sukamta Dukung Sikap Tegas LPTQ Tala Undur Diri*”, <https://Banjarmasin.tribunnews.com/2021/04/07/nilai-mtqn-kalsel-tak-sesuai-syiar-islam-sukamta-dukung-sikap-tegas-lptq-tala-undur-diri?page=1>. Accessed on June 23 2021.

in 2022, because the provincial MTQ will be held only in 2021. However, the next step is just the intensive coaching for the best 1, 2, and 3 provincial winners to then select who has the right to represent South Kalimantan as host of the National MTQ in 2022.

The implementation of MTQ in 2021 is postponed from 2020 due to the pandemic covid-19. LPTQ of Banjarmasin city has held MTQ of city-level in early 2020 before the pandemic. The regulation suddenly changed from South Kalimantan LPTQ made LPTQ of Banjarmasin sent a letter of dispensation to the provincial LPTQ to permit some of the city's delegation who exceeds the age limit to continue the competition because of the implementation at the city-level has been holding for a year before. Therefore, with this permission, some participants keep joining the competition even if not sent to the next level. This also similarly happens to Banjar district.

However, according to LPTQ of South Kalimantan, the resignation of Tanah Laut district became an internal rival has reduced and the regional trophy was only contested by 12 districts throughout South Kalimantan. It is undeniable that the change in the age limit of participants will affect the

competition. Because the age limit that tends to be added allows older and more senior participants to join the competition so that it will tighten the competition and affect the results of the championship.

Besides that, the changes are also occurring from a technical implementation of adult and teenager recitation competitions. In 2014 and below, the conditions for taking *maqrā`* for the preliminary round for adults participants is 10 minutes before the performance. As for the latest guidelines for 2018, *maqrā`* will be handed over to participants when they will perform directly so that participants have no time to prepare what to read. Through the latest regulation, the maturity of skills and abilities of the participants in recitation al-Quran will be more visible.

2. Judges Assessment

Assessment is a prerogative right of judges based on assessment guidelines with rules following the knowledge of the Quran. The assessment is based on the quality of participant's performance, not the quality of the participants outside the competition. The quality outside the competition has not guaranteed winner, because the judging is depending

on what the participants look like at the time they perform. Furthermore, in the melody and voice section, the judge's taste for a certain style, rhythm, and variations will affect the judgment too.

“The judgment depends on the taste of the judges. Sometimes participants do not understand that in reciting Quran there was a feeling that should convey through the melodies. There are also participants who at the training are good, but when performs they look bad. Therefore, the assessment made is purely based on what is displayed.”¹²⁰

Each participant always has obstacles at the time of performance. The obstacles can be found when the participants appear in terms of health such as a sudden hoarse voice or unfit conditions. The errors can also happen because of nervousness or stage fright. The error in the recitation is more possible to happen in the adults' group because participants are not given time to prepare the *maqrā`*. So the quality of participants must show in the best performance to get the best score from the judges.

3. Intense Competition

The outcome of a competition is relative. Cannot be measure with certainty, but depends on the situation and the performance. One of the factors that can be influencing the

¹²⁰Artoni Jurna, Senior *Qari*, Personal Interview, Banjarmasin, May 04, 2021.

performance of the participant is competition with other regional delegates. Just like who is against whom. Sometimes one of good performance can be a standard measure of value for other participants because that is where participant's abilities will be compared. Compete with people who have experience in the national-international level is certainly different from people who have not experienced it.

Based on the individual championship table in the previous chapter, the competition of the *tilawah* branch was very intense. That could observe from the difference in the score of the winners that not too far away. The difference shows in the table below:

YEAR	THE DIFFERENCE	
	MINIMUM	MAXIMUM
2012	0,16	8
2014	0,16	4
2015	0,17	4
2016	0,17	5

2017	0,13	6
2018	0,16	6
2019	0,01	5
2021	0,16	3

The difference of the score between the best 1, 2, and 3 was always started at a decimal number which indicates that competition between regions is very intensive.

“We cannot deny that the potential development of participants in South Kalimantan is quite competitive because South Kalimantan is one of the repositories of *qāri-qāriah* in Indonesia. We already know that participants in other areas are great competitors, so we as the Banjarmasin delegation must have the spirit and motivation to practice and develop the potential. We have to be optimistic and compete in a healthy, sporty manner, intending to *share* al-Quran. It will have a positive impact on our delegates.”¹²¹

This intense competition becomes one factor causing the dynamics of Banjarmasin's achievement. The achievement is not always fixed because participants are different each year also face different rivals. It was so possible that the acquisition sometimes decreases and later increases, fortunately. Not all gains in the Banjarmasin delegation this decade can separate

¹²¹Fahrurazi, Head of Sub-section of Mental and Spiritual Development of Banjarmasin Government, Interview, Banjarmasin City Government Office, Banjarmasin, June 03 2021.

from the efforts of various parties of Banjarmasin city. Moreover, it means a lot to Banjarmasin city because the government supports the development of learning the Quran, which is measurable from MTQ.

Intense competition not only happens at the province level but even the champions of the MTQ provincial level is also do not necessarily can be won the national level MTQ. The higher level of the competition, the delegates are more qualified as well as their rivals. Here are the names of the championship from the Banjarmasin city delegation who won the national MTQ on *tilāwah* branch among 2012-2021:

- a. M. Rizki Fadillah, The 3rd winner of *tartīl al-Quran* in the national MTQ at Batam city on 2014
- b. Muhammad Rizqon, The 3rd winner of *tilāwah* on teenagers group at the national MTQ in West Nusa Tenggara in 2016. In the same branch on the next year of 2018 MTQ, he was also the 1st winner of National MTQ at North Sumatera.
- c. Dina Andriani, The 4th winner of *tilāwah* on adults group at the national MTQ of West Sumatera 2020.