ABSTRACT

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This researches stems from the low level of waqf literacy among nazhir (waqf managers) in Sirnasari Village, Tasikmalaya Regency, which has resulted in predominantly traditional management practices carried out without a comprehensive understanding of legal, administrative, and sharia-compliant asset utilization principles. This condition has led to various irregularities, such as endowed land being inherited, sold, neglected, or used for personal purposes, despite the fact that waqf assets should be managed professionally to ensure their sustainability and continuous benefit to the community.

The researches employed a descriptive method with a qualitative approach, aiming to provide an in-depth portrayal of nazhir's waqf literacy level. Data were collected through field observations, unstructured interviews, questionnaires, and documentation, enabling a comprehensive understanding of both basic and advanced waqf knowledge possessed by nazhir in managing waqf assets in Sirnasari Village, Tasikmalaya Regency.

The findings indicate that the level of waqf literacy among nazhir in Sirnasari Village is relatively low, both substantively and functionally. Limited knowledge, insufficient understanding of waqf law, and lack of technical management readiness reveal a significant capacity gap. This conclusion is supported by questionnaire-based test results, which show a waqf literacy percentage of 49%, indicating a generally low level of literacy across both basic and advanced dimensions. Consequently, this lack of literacy has led to various malpractices, such as the use of waqf assets for personal benefit, inheritance, unauthorized sale, or neglect—hindering the realization of waqf's intended social and welfare objectives. These findings reaffirm that the low level of waqf literacy serves as the root cause of numerous problems in waqf asset management, particularly concerning economic utilization, legal compliance, and the sustainability of social benefits.

Keywords: Literacy, Waqf, Nazhir