

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 General

This chapter will elaborate the Islamic Mental and Spiritual Building Policy that was promulgated by the AFC also known as *PMAT 9:91*, see Annex A. The policy was introduced by the MAF with the intention to facilitate all AF units and personnel to use it as a base of reference in planning the Islamic activities for the whole year. As mentioned earlier, this policy has existed in the AF for approximately thirteen years but its' function in grooming the AF personnel to become a good and faithful Muslim that will become the front liner and the defender for the country against any intruders have not indicated any positive result. With that initial statement, it is necessary for a study to be conduct to discuss in detail the implementation of the listed activities as selected by the unit and it could be achieve through the survey that will be discuss in Chapter 3.

2.2 Definition

The important terminologies that need to be defines are effectiveness, *mental, spiritual and building*. Those terminologies are the main words in the research and it appropriate to elaborate and understand in detail.

2.2.1 Effectiveness

Effectiveness is defined power to be effective; the quality of being able to bring about an effect (Hyperdictionary.com Webster Copyright @ 2000-2003 WEBNOX CORP). The other meaning is the ability or power to have a noticeable or desired effect; the impact toward an action or reaction (Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English). In the context of this research, effectiveness mean to identify how effect or what is the impact of the implementation of the Islamic Mental and Spiritual Building Policy to the personnel in a particular army unit. This research would like to know the effect and impact of the *KAGAT* role especially in assisting the implementation of this policy.

2.2.2 Mental

Mental is defines as connected with or happening in the mind; involving the process of thinking (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary). In the context of the study, we would like to identify how important is the mental function in shaping and molding the army personnel to become a durable soldier, mentally and spiritually by giving appropriate Islamic knowledge, the basic Islamic teaching such as *Al Quran*, *Hadith* and others related Islamic subjects and practices. With those knowledge and practices, the mind will be able to change the thinking process of the personnel toward the organization of objectives.

2.2.3 Spiritual

Spiritual is defines as connected with the human spirit, rather than the body or physical things; connected with religion. Spirit is the unseen by which the validity of the human claim of submitting to God in total surrender of the whole self, in utter obedience to His will, is test. That is

why the Glorious *Quran* put this quality, believing in the unseen, as the first quality of pious people, who are guided and directed by this book (*Al Quran*) for the attainment of success in this life and happiness in the after life (*alam barzakh*). When we say 'spirit' or 'spiritual', we mean that link which connects our temporal, contingent existence in this world with the Self-existent, Everlasting God Who exists from eternity to eternity (Spiritual Life in Islam, Dr SM Darsh). Spiritual is something that cannot be feel or seen. If the personnel do not understand this, the implementation the listed activities will fail and probably create problem to the units since the personnel do not understand the implementation rational.

2.2.4 Building

Building or build is define as creating something using something else as a basis; to make something a permanent part of a larger structure; to use something as a basis for further progress. In the context of this policy, to achieve the aim of building the Islamic mental and spiritual strength of the personnel, it must be base on basic references such as *Al Quran*, *Hadith*, and the Islamic teaching. In the context of this study, building is mean as how the policies that involve the mental and spiritual building become a reality and could be achieve. One of the ways is through educating the personnel with basic Islamic knowledge and teachings, and then followed by the practical activities.

2.3 Subject

There are a few articles related to this subject written by some writers but with different emphasis. Those written articles are in the form of journals or working papers that was not conclusive and concrete enough in understanding the conducts and performances of the policy. Most of the topics from the articles written are quite similar but in different approach and concentration. Some of the

articles did mention about the *KAGAT* expectations and hopes the implementation of the *PMAT* 9:91 that had been discussed and elaborated in the Islamic Mental and Spiritual Building Policy (*Mohammad Rahim Awang*, 1989 and *Burhanuddin Abdul Jalal*, 1996).

2.4 The Content of the Policy PMAT 9:91.

The *PMAT* 9:91 have laid out the basic content of the program for the development of Islamic Mental and Spiritual Building for MAF Muslim personnel. This is to ensure all Muslim personnel who serve under the MAF must abide the Islamic teachings and appreciate it with consciousness and realization. The policy also has also laid out a special education programmed for the development of Islamic Mental and Spirit for every MAF personnel throughout their service. Beside that, it also provides supervision and references from time to time in assisting the implementation of the policy. This policy is divides into three parts such as Building Policy, Mental Durability and Spiritual Durability. Based on this, the unit's will be able to make a plan to develop the unit Islamic understandings through the execution of the listed activities. The objective in the creation of this policy as stated in the *PMAT* 9:91 is to visualize the reality, soldiers that have a strong physical, mental and spiritual endurance. This objective will materialized through the emphasis of basic education, development plans, spiritual programmed and following the guidelines of the policy.

2.5 The Basic Education

The policy has emphases on the importance of basic education of personnel in order to achieve the main objective of this policy. Although this policy do not list in detail the subjects to be acquired by every personnel, but it is mandatory for the personnel to know the basic Islamic knowledge such as reciting *Al Quran*, *fardu ain*, *fardu kifayah* and others related subjects. This policy

has listed the guidelines in acquiring basic education in term of activities such as classes conducted in the mosque or *surau* after the *maghrib* salah for three hours weekly, additional classes (formal class) conducted two hours weekly and personal reading of religious books or articles by personnel for one hour weekly. *This activity must be plan accordingly to ensure every personnel have equal chance attending the classes since some might be involved in night duty or went out-station.*

2.6 Development Plan

The development plan are additional to the present physical training policy, with the aim of producing a new breed of soldiers in term of physical, mental and spiritual durability. The forms of development could be divide into two that are mentally durable personnel through the basic Islamic teachings that included the *fardu ain* and *fardu kifayah* and spiritually durable personnel through training and appreciating the correct and true Islamic teachings and practices.

2.6.1 Mentally Durable

Every Islamic soldier who serves in the MAF must be able to perform the correct and perfect basic Islamic teaching (*fardu ain* and *fardu kifayah*). In the AF, any serving personnel is prohibit practicing any kind of *wrong Islamic teachings and practices*, instead they should:

- 2.6.1.1 Acquire a mature and strong Islamic background, clean from any wrong thinking or un-Islamic teaching.

2.6.1.2 Receive the basic Islamic teaching comprising the following matters *Fardu ain* education, *Fardu Kifayah* education, *Jihad* education, Family education, Moral education, Leadership education, *Al Quran and Sunnah* education, *Ibadah* education, Islamic Civilization education and Islamic *Tasawwur*.

All the Training Establishment, formations and units are compulsory in performing not less than 800 hours yearly to enable their personnel to acquire the knowledge as listed above. For the recruit and cadet training center, it is mandatory to prepare training period for two weeks especially for the religious education. The duration may be distributed in the overall training programmed of two training establishment.

2.6.2 **Spiritual Durability**

Throughout the service, it is compulsory for every Muslim AF personnel to acquire the following characteristics such as *Muslim*, *Mukmin* and *Muhsen*. To acquire such characteristics, every personnel either officers or soldiers must attend the training and spiritual education session as instructed by the higher formation from time to time.

2.7 **The Spiritual Programmed**

The basic content of Spiritual Building training is mandatory for all Muslim personnel with the supervision from KAGAT. The contents for these practice included reading the *Al-Ma'thurat*, *Qiamullail*, *Halaqat Zikir*, Recital of the *Al Quran* and group compulsory/un-compulsory prayers. Reciting the *Al-Mu'thurat* is the basic spiritual education programmed and it must be perform at least once a week.

2.7.1 ***Al-Ma'thurat***. This collection of important Qur'anic verses and hadith have been compiled and presented to form a short text on *zikir* (remembrance) by *Imam Shaheed Hasan Al-banna*. This collection is normally to be recites every day after *Maghrib* and *Subuh* prayers. The recital of the *Al-Ma'thurat* is in the basic spiritual education to be performs at least once a week.

2.7.2 ***Qiamullail***. It is plan at least once yearly for the duration of 12 hours. The activities conducted during the *Qiamullail* are the compulsory prayers including *salah Maghrib*, *Isya*, *Subuh* and the *salah sunat*.

2.7.3 ***Halaqat Zikir (Reciting Event)***. *Halaqat zikir* is normally performed in many forms or activities such as the '*tahlil*' programmed, conduct every Friday night.

2.7.4 ***Khatam Al Quran***. The *Al Quran* reciting competition conducted at various levels is a yearly programmed in the AF. The *Khatam Al Quran* is the ultimate event conducted in the month of Ramadan that involved all personnel in the particular unit.

2.7.5 **Group Obligatory/Salah Sunat**. The obligatory salah are the five times daily prayers such *zohor*, *asar*, *maghrib*, *isya* and *subuh* and also the *Friday Salah*. The un-compulsory salah are salah that shall be performing in conjunction with the celebration such as fasting celebration (*Hari Raya Puasa*) and Haj celebration (*Hari Raya Haji*) and the un-compulsory salah after the *isya* salah in the fasting month.

2.8 Implementing the Policy

The implementation of this policy is expecting to produce a new breed of faithful, pietistic and respectable soldier (sorotan Darat, 1996). The policy had laid down some requirement for personnel to achieve maturity in Islamic thinking and not going against Islamic teachings and conversant with the basic Islamic knowledge. Those requirements could be achieve through the teaching of basic *fardu ain*, basic *fardu kifayah*, jihad, and morals, *Al Quran and Sunnah*, *Ibadah*, *Tamadun Islam and Tasawwur Islam*. The implementation of the policy will be able to produce personnel with three main characteristics such as *muslim*, *mukmin and muhsen*.

The policy had laid down lists of activities to be conduct for more than 800 hours yearly by every personnel according to their localities. The activities are:

2.8.1 Friday Night Prayer. This prayer will be conducted from *maghrib* till *isya* for an about one hour which included activities such as obligatory *salah* for *maghrib* and *isya*. Recite of the *yaa'sin* verses and assimilate (*tahlil*). These activities would be conduct an hour weekly or 52 hours yearly.

2.8.2 Friday Sermon (Including *Salah*). It will be conduct for one hour weekly or 52 hours in a year.

2.8.3 *Takbir and Sermon between Hari Raya Puasa and Hari Raya Haji*. This activity will be conduct for the two celebrations in an hour's duration.

2.8.4 **Sermon during the Islamic Important Day.** The celebration of each nine occasions/day will be conducted for two hours including the sermon, *maghrib* and *isya* prayer. The nine Islamic occasions are *Maal Hijrah*, *Maulidur Rasul*, *Israk and Mikraj*, *Nuzul Al Quran*, *Badar Kubra*, *Nisfu Sya'abans*, *Asyura Day*, *Hari Raya Puasa* and *Hari Raya Qorban*.

2.8.5 **Khatam Al Quran.** The session is to mark the completion of the recital of the *Al Quran* normally it conducted in the month of Ramadan; duration of two hour in a year is allot to perform those activities.

2.8.6 **Group Salah.** All personnel no matter where they are located should perform the group *salah* or prayer for the five obligatory *salah*. The policy assumes that every obligatory *salah* will be conduct within twelve minutes. This meant, in one day each personnel spent about one hour to perform the obligatory prayer.

2.8.7 **Khemah Ibadah.** This activity shall be conduct twice yearly and each session is allocate approximately six hours to complete. The unit is given the liberty to choose the kinds of programmed suitable for this activity.

2.8.8 **Qiamullail.** This activity will be conduct once a year for the duration of twelve hours. The activity should be conducted in a mosque or *surau*, starting with the *Maghrib* prayer, a few voluntary prayer will start at about 0300 in the morning, *Subuh* prayer and ending with a *Subuh sermon* at the next day.

2.8.9 **Salah Sunat Tarawiah.** According to the policy, it is suggest that every personnel perform this prayer during the whole month of Ramadan. This meant a total of thirty hours was allocated to be performed this prayer in one year, one hour daily.

2.8.10 **Tahlil in-conjunction with the MAF & Unit Anniversary.** The policy suggested that this activity to be conducted on the last Friday night before both anniversary. This special *tahlil* will take approximately two hours for the session.

2.8.11 **Maghrib Lesson.** This activity would be programme by all units' mosque and *surau* at least three times weekly where each session will take about one hour. Besides that, the unit is encouraged to plan for six *maghrib* learning session a week to facilitate the personnel that cannot attend because of night duty. What is important, in one year every personnel will be able to clock a total of one hundred and fifty six hour of *maghrib* lesson

2.8.12 **Islamic Religious Class.** Every formations and units should plan these classes to be conduct for two hours a week.

2.8.13 **Islamic Book and Article Reading Activity.** This activity is mandatory performed by every personnel at least an hour a week. Units should have the initiative to provide the related reading articles and books for the personnel.

The total time taken for each personnel in performing these activities should not be less than 857 hours yearly. This is the suggest time that every personnel should achieve in terms of Islamic activities. Hopefully with such activities, and with every personnel's putting his heart and committed to the cause, the objective of producing solider that are durable in mental and spiritual strength will materialize.

2.9 The Desired Objectives

After implementing the policy, it should achieve the following objectives:

2.9.1 To inculcate genuine values as an excellent based on the Islamic teaching at all administration level of the AF.

2.9.2 To create an environment when AF personnel is incline to the good, clean and posses positive values against any comments and suggestion toward the goodness and chastity of the whole world.

2.9.3 To produce a disciplined, honest, effective and consistent soldier that is faithful to God Almighty.

2.9.4 To produce the courage and fighting spirit based on hard work and willingness to work heartily as a service to religion and community.

2.9.5 To produce an incredible force that is reliable physically and spiritually.