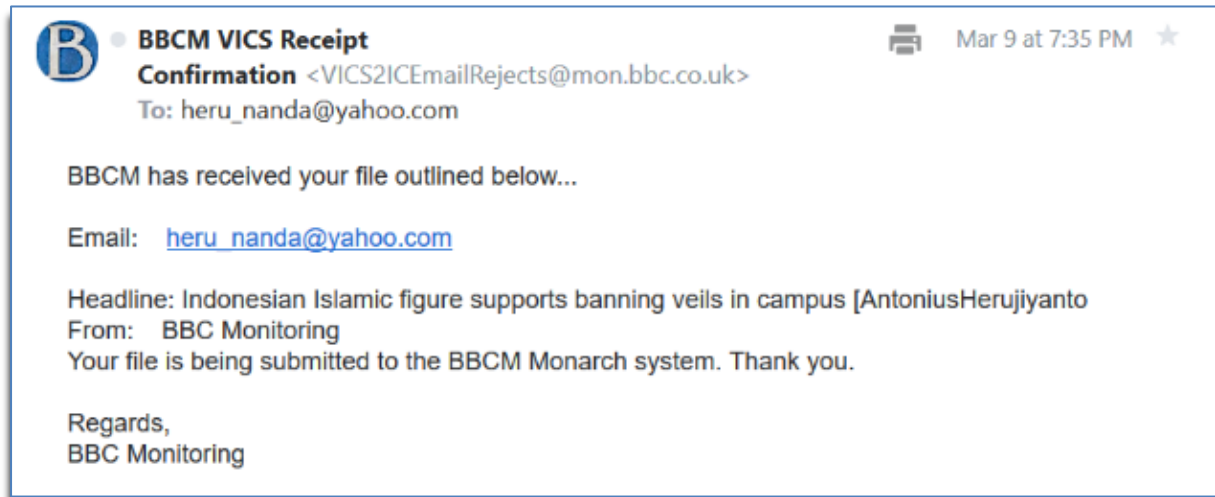


Indonesian Islamic Figure Supports Banning Veils in Campus



Chairman of NU [the largest Islamic community organization in Indonesia], Sulton Fatoni, has appreciated the rector of Yogyakarta Sunan Kalijaga UIN [Islamic State University], Yudian Wahyudi, for banning female students from wearing “cadar” [the full-face veils or the burqa] in campus. Mentioning that Yudian did not violate human rights, Sulton said Thursday (on 8 March) that the rector did not forbid them from covering their “aurat” [genitals] but only banned them to wear cadar or the burqa in campus.

The important NU religious leader also said, however, that he would not blame female students in UIN insisting on wearing the burqa if they believe that the burqa is part of the Islamic Sharia. According to him, Muslimah [female Muslims] may cover their aurat with the burqa, hijab, jilbab. He further said that it would be wrong if one banned them from covering their aurat.

It was reported earlier that Rector Yudian Wahyudi had said that the idea of banning to wear cadar in UIN is part of the attempts to expedite the process of learning-teaching activities. He had also said that he had never banned female students from wearing hijab and jilbab in campus.

Sulton said, thus, that he supported the rector’s decision, suggesting that the banning was only meant when they were in campus not when they were outside the campus or in other public sphere.

Source: Slonline suara-islam/read/kabar/nasional/25316/Dukung-Rektor-UIN-Suka-Larang-Cadar-Ketua-PBNU-tidak-Langgar-HAM, “Dukung Rektor UIN Suka Larang Cadar, Ketua PBNU: tidak Langgar HAM (NU: banning to wear cadar in campus not violating human rights)”, in Indonesian, 8 March 18.

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