

Indonesian Council: No Employees Asked for Wearing Christmas-themed Clothing



[AH03_031217 AntoniusHerujiyanto_USD_Yk]

The Secretary General of the Indonesia's largest body of Islamic clerics or MUI [the Indonesian Ulema Council], cleric Anwar Abbas, has called on the country's businessmen not to insist their employees [specifically those working in shopping malls, department stores and restaurants] to wear Christmas-themed clothing. Otherwise, he said, that it would taint the existing interfaith harmony.

"MUI had to issue a fatwa (religious ruling) in 2016 [on barring Muslims from wearing Christmas-themed clothing] because of some Muslims' feeling restless due to many Indonesian employers who had asked their employees for wearing Christmas-themed clothing," said the cleric in Jakarta on Sunday (3 December).

According to him, such an attitude would likely create many different unexpected reactions. It will be best if the government can talk about it to the businessmen.

"The state is obliged to respect both Islam and Christianity. It would be great to see and maintain the interfaith harmony in Indonesia," said the cleric.

Source: Ameerah, [arrahmah/2017/12/03/mui-imbau-pengusaha-tak-minta-karyawannya-pakai-atribut-natal/](#). "MUI Imbau Pengusaha Tak Minta Karyawannya Pakai Atribut Natal (MUI calls on businessmen not to ask their employees for wearing Christmas-themed clothing)", in Indonesian, 03 Dec 17.

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