

Recognizing Indigenous Faiths To Create Blasphemy-Indonesian Pesantren



[AH21_171117 AntoniusHerujiyanto_USD_Yk]

In response to the Constitutional Court's [MK's] decision (on Tuesday, 7 November) to allow followers of local Indonesian "religions" or indigenous faiths to state their beliefs on their national identity cards or KTP, the General Chairman of the Indonesian Pesantren (Islamic boarding school) Coordinating Body or BKsPPI, cleric Didin Hafidhuddin, has said that the decision is against the soul and spirit of MK's decision No. 140/PUU-VII/2009, saying to retain the law No. 1/PNPS/1965 on the prevention of misuse and disgrace of religion.

"Recognizing "Penghayat Kepercayaan" ["Believers of the Faith"] or Indonesian indigenous faiths as having the same position as that of the [main stream] religions will, indeed, create restlessness within the Indonesian [Islamic] society especially through the cases of disgrace of religion and blasphemy," said the cleric during a press conference held in Bogor, West Java, on Tuesday (14 November).

According to BKsPPI, such a final and binding decision will end up with serious consequences within the society order, since the people will not able to file a judicial review.

Appreciating the consistent policies produced by the previous administrations, the Old Order and the New Order, respectively, BKsPPI said that both regimes had always regarded that the entity of indigenous faiths could not be as equal as that of the [main stream] religions.

Source: SKR/MAS, hidayatullah/berita/nasional/read/2017/11/16/128168/putusan-mk-dikhawatirkan-menimbulkan-kasus-penodaan-agama.html, "Putusan MK Dikhawatirkan Menimbulkan Kasus Penodaan Agama (BKsPPI worried that MK's decision create cases of disgrace of religion and blasphemy)", in Indonesian, 16 Nov 17.

BROADCAST DATE/TIME	HEADLINE	SOURCE	STATUS	COUNTRY	WORD COUNT	CREATING USER	DATE/TIME SUBMITTED
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