

Indonesian Ethnic Group Insist Their Religion Name, Not “Believers of the Faith”



[AH20_161117 AntoniusHerujiyanto_USD_Yk]

The community of ethnic Baduy living in Lebak, Banten province, have refused their religion to be “renamed” *Penghayat Kepercayaan* [PK, or “Believers of the Faith”] and stated it in the column of “religion” on their Family Cards (KK) and e-National Identity Cards (e-KTP).

[The Indonesian Constitutional Court has recommended “PK” to call “all Indonesian indigenous faiths”.]

“We strongly refuse and object to state PK in the column of “religion” on our Family Cards (KK) and e-National Identity Cards (e-KTP),” an important figure of Baduy, Santa (45) said in Lebak on Wednesday (15 November).

According to him, the community of Baduy and their ancestors are the followers of their religion named “Selam (Sunda) Wiwitan.” They are not the followers of PK. [He even said that PK was an (new) organization, not a religion.]

Insisting that their religion is “Selam (Sunda) Wiwitan”, another important figure of Baduy, Samari (65), said that it was the name of their religion which had also been stated in the column of “religion” on their 1970-2013 Family Cards (KK) and National Identity Cards (KTP). The column of “religion” on their 2013-2017 KK and KTP has been left “blank”.

He also said, therefore, the recent decision of the Constitutional Court on acknowledging all Indonesian indigenous faiths should be immediately implemented.

According to him, by being able to state “Selam (Sunda) Wiwitan” in the column of “religion” on their Family Cards (KK) and e-National Identity Cards (e-KTP), his community would be able to participate in the 2018 Lebak regional elections.

In the meantime, the head office of the Directorate General (Dirjen) of Civil Administration of Home Ministry, Zudan Arif Fakhrullah, said that there were, so far, two possible options to name the followers of the Indonesian indigenous faiths, namely, *kepercayaan terhadap Tuhan Yang Maha Esa* [“Believers of one God”] and *Penghayat Kepercayaan* or “Believers of the Faith” [PK].

He also said that although the Constitutional Court had recommended to use the term PK, but there was no specific regulation about it.

Source: MAS, hidayatullah.com/berita/nasional/read/2017/11/16/128143/warga-baduy-tolak-kolom-agama-penghayat-kepercayaan.html. “Warga Baduy Tolak Kolom Agama Penghayat Kepercayaan (Baduy community refuse the term PK for their religion “Selam (Sunda) Wiwitan””, in *Indonesian*, 16 Nov 17.

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