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Muhammadiyah Let the Court Decide on Its Mosque in Aceh



[AH28_231017 AntoniusHerujiyanto_USD_Yk]

Following the incidence of the arson attack on Muhammadiyah's Taqwa mosque in Bireuen, Aceh [on 17 October], PDM or the management of Muhammadiyah (the second largest Islamic community organization in Indonesia) chapter Bireuen has held a meeting with, among others, the management of pesantren [Islamic boarding schools) in Aceh which they call "Aswaja", Bireuen Regent and his deputy, Kapolres (Regional police chief of Bireuen), the Religious Community Harmony Forum (FKUB), Religious Department, Aceh Ulema Council (MPU), and Islamic Sharia Body.

"The meeting was attended by more than 50 people," the chairman of PDM Bireuen, Athailah Lathief, was quoted as saying by *hidayatullah.com* on Thursday (19 October).

According to him, the attack has something to do with their [the Aswaja's] efforts to refuse the reconstruction of the mosque.

Mentioning that the meeting was to discuss the finishing of its reconstruction, he said that there were strong efforts to stop constructing the mosque.

"The final decision of the meeting is to stop reconstructing it unless after having the permit from the people and the administration of Bireuen," he said, adding that it was, indeed, against the amended Aceh "Qanun" [Islamic criminal law] No.4/2016, saying that such a permit is not required any more.

PDM decided, thus, to please Aswaja take a legal action on it.

"If the court decides to prohibit PDM from continuing reconstructing the mosque, we will certainly stop doing it. Otherwise, PDM would, indeed, continue reconstructing it," said Athailah Lathief.

According to him, the actions of prohibiting PDM from continuing reconstructing the mosque only suggest creating the unnecessary conflicts among Muslims. Besides, the differences between Muhammadiyah and Aswaja are only dealing with khilafah wise in the sense that Muhammadiyah has decided not to observe the seventh day of one's death and not to commemorate the birthday of Prophet Muhammad.

Source: Andi,hidayatullah/berita/nasional/read/2017/10/22/126124/muhammadiyah-bireuen-persilakan-kalanganaswaja-tempuh-jalur-hukum.html, "Muhammadiyah Bireuen Persilakan Kalangan Aswaja Tempuh Jalur Hukum (Muhammadiyah to please Aswaja to take legal action against reconstructing Muhammadiyah's mosque in Aceh)", in Indonesian, 22 Oct 17.

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