

Indonesian Religious Ministry To Issue Codes of Da'wah in Electronic Media



[AH27_211017 AntoniusHerujiyanto_USD_Yk]

The Director of Islam Department of the Indonesian Religious Affairs Ministry, Khoiruddin, has said that the Ministry is to issue the ethical codes of conducting da'wah [Islamic missionary work] in social media and/ or electronic media. He said that the guidelines would be implemented by those Islamic preachers [the dai or proselytizers] in the hope that the materials delivered would be in line with those of Islamic values and the principles of NKRI [the Unitary Republic of Indonesia].

His statement was made after he read his paper, as the keynote speaker of a conference on the making of the da'wah ethical codes in social media and/ or electronic media held in Bogor, West Java, on Thursday (19 October).

According to him, such ethical codes are important. They are the guidelines for Islamic preachers or the dai, the da'wah broadcasting institutes, and all copywriters da'wah broadcast on television, radio, as well as film.

The guidelines comprise of at least four pillars. On top of having comprehensive understanding on Koran and Hadits, the dai should also understand the concepts of [Indonesian] nationality in this case the meaning of Pancasila, the 1945 Constitution, Bhinneka Tunggal Ika [diversity in unity], and the Unitary Republic of Indonesia (NKRI).

"It is prohibited, however, for da'wah preachers or dai from the deviant Islamic sects to deliver their da'wah on social and electronic. Those dai calling on conducting violent actions in the name of religions as well as those with ideology to change the state philosophy are also prohibited to do so," he was quoted as saying by *hidayatullah.com* in Jakarta on Friday (20 October).

The other items mentioned in the guidelines are, among others, not to use inappropriate words and that the contents of the da'wah do not deal with hate speeches and hoax.

The job description of the supervising team mentioned in the guidelines is that it would analyse, examine, and evaluate the da'wah programmes in electronic media. The team would also provide counsellors during the making of the da'wah programme, monitor the ones already broadcast, and operate with the Indonesian Broadcasting Commission (KPI).

Source: AdminHidcom, hidayatullah.com/berita/nasional/read/2017/10/21/126076/kemenag-susun-kode-etik-siaran-dakwah-di-media-elektronik.html, "Kemenag Susun Kode Etik Siaran Dakwah di Media Elektronik (Religious Ministry to issue ethical codes of conducting da'wah in electronic media)", in Indonesian, 21 Oct 17.

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