

The Killing of Islamic Leaders in Marawi Affects Those Conducting *jihad* in the City



[AH23_181017_AntoniusHerujiyanto_USD_Yk]

The Indonesian terrorism observer Harits Abu Ulya has said about two important things in the aftermath of the death of two major ISIS-affiliated leaders Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute in the southern city of Marawi, the Philippines. First, it had something to do with the terrorist groups in the Philippines, and the second one was dealing with those living in Indonesia.

He said that their death would significantly affect the group's fighting spirit against the [Philippine forces](#).

"They should consolidate as quickly as possible to appoint their new leader(s) to maintain their group solidity. They seem, however, to have to face the reality that there does not seem to be found among them [yet] with their capacity and influencing power similar to or bigger than those of their late two leaders," he was quoted as saying by voa-islam in Jakarta on Tuesday (17 October).

Mentioning the historical background of the conflict in Marawi, he said that the factors of the economic, social, religious, and political interests would become the variables of groups' existence such as Maute in Marawi to survive despite their having weaker and smaller capacity.

Harits Abu Ulya, who is also the Director the Community of Ideological Islamic Analyst (CHIA), said further that up to the present Indonesia had not become the promising place for them to establish and to set up groups similar to that of Maute in Marawi.

He also said that it was especially due to the existing many different factors and aspects.

"So another effect of the death of the two major ISIS-affiliated leaders in Marawi is towards the supporting small Indonesian groups willing to conduct jihad in Marawi," he said, adding that their willingness to do so was due to their similar theological understanding and their political affiliation to ISIS. In reality, however, they were witnessing how weak Maute group was and now their leaders had also been killed while engaging in a standoff with the [Philippine forces](#).

"They also began to find more difficulties in building up the co-ordination and in establishing the safe route to transport the logistics needed including supply the human power resources," Harits said, explaining that it did not mean that there was no more terrorists in Indonesia.

According to him, however, the Indonesian government should remain alerted since the existing sporadic terrorism actions in Indonesia might also be the "deadlock" effects and responses of those small groups of terrorists who believe that Indonesian can become their alternative possible conflict zone after the regions such as Marawi cannot accommodate them any longer.

Source: Bilal, [voa-islam/read/indonesiana/2017/10/17/53786/kematian-petinggi-isis-marawi-dinilai-pengaruhi-daya-dukung-di-indonesia/#sthash.dtUV6qTH.dpbs](#), "Kematian Petinggi ISIS Marawi Dinilai Pengaruhi Daya Dukung di Indonesia (The death of two major ISIS-affiliated leaders in Marawi affects supporting small Indonesian groups planning to conduct jihad in the city)", in Indonesian, 17 Oct 17.

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