Another Indonesian State University Bans Their Students To Wear Arabic Hijab



[AH19_161017_AntoniusHerujiyanto_USD_Yk]

Vice Rector III of the Islamic State (UIN) of Kalijaga Yogyakarta, Dr. Waryono Abdul Ghafur, has warned that UIN bans UIN students from wearing clothes ala Arab inside the campus. He said that it was meant to reduce the habit of calling "kafir" [the infidels] to those having different cultural values.

Waryono's statement was made during the opening ceremony of a seminar on the Involvement Dialogue of the Campus Da'wah Institute (LDK) and Campus Bureaucracy in Preventing Terrorism on Wednesday (11 October).

The activities were held in co-operation with the National Counterterrorism Agency (BNPT) and the Co-ordination Forum of Terrorism Prevention (FKPT) Yogyakarta. The similar activities had been and would be carried out in all Indonesian 32 provinces throughout the country in 2017.

"I strongly prohibit wearing "cadar" [burqa or niqab] in campus since all of us live in Indonesia. So, do wear the ordinary Indonesian costumes," he said, adding that the main idea of wearing the clothes was to cover up the "aurat" [genitals or part of the body which may not be visible especially while performing a religious ritual]. It was very important, thus, not to call "kafir" [the infidels} to those wearing other than those of Arabic clothes.

[Last year, the Indonesian Ulema Council (or MUI comprising of clerics from Indonesia's largest Islamic organizations, including Muhammadiyah and Nahdlatul Ulama) issued a fatwa against the so-called "jilboobs." The Council decried Indonesian women who covered their hair but dressed slightly less modestly below the neck. The issue had, however, died down despite the MUI's protestation of its "vulgarity." In the meantime, another state university, Lambung Mangkurat University in South Kalimantan had happened to instruct female college students that they were not permitted to wear "cadar" to campus. According to its Rector, Sutarto Hadi, a niqab would make it difficult for university staff to identify students. He added that the full-face cover was not typical to Indonesian culture.]

Explaining that it was unfair to wear "cadar" in the very UIN Kalijaga campus, Waryono said that those wearing "cadar" were able to see and look at those with no "cadar", but not the other way around.

According to him, such a situation may easily trigger distrusting to each other.

In the meantime, however, eramuslim.com has wondered whether or not wearing "cadar" has got something to do with terrorism.

Source: Rmol/Ram,eramuslim/berita/nasional/innalillah-uin-jogja-larang-penggunaan-cadar-di-lingkungan-kampus.htm, "UIN Jogja Larang Penggunaan Cadar di Lingkungan Kampus (The Islamic State (UIN) of Kalijaga Yogyakarta bans "Arabic hijab")", in Indonesian, 13 Oct 17.

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