

Demanding Their Freedom, Shi'a Migrants in Balikpapan Run Amok



[AntoniusHerujy anto AH28_210418]

Foreign migrants who stay in Rudenim or the Immigration Detention House in Lamaru, Balikpapan, East Kalimantan, have been reported to have run amok, destroying the facilities available in the House. Most of them are Shi'a Islam followers from Afghanistan. They demanded Friday (on 20 April) that they were allowed to freely come in and go out from their Rudenim.

The police chief of Balikpapan District, Commissioner Dody Susantyoko, has said that hundreds of them have, indeed, conducted violent actions within Rudenim. Their inappropriate attitudes such as smashing their rooms, breaking up the CCTV and destroying the garden and park around their Rudenim, however, are not tolerable at all.

According to him, not only do they demand not to be treated like prisoners, but they also ask for being moved to other cities such as Medan and Surabaya. Their representatives, Zakir Husain, Guzari, Asif Rahmini, Sir Agha, Ali Reza Facory, Rahmatullah Zahiri, Ali Khan Nazari, and Hussain Agha Haidir have also insisted to be detained in Rudenim.

There are 152 foreign migrants staying in Rudenim Balikpapan, comprising of 152 from Afghanistan, 2 from Somalia, and another 2 from the Philippines. The immigration management has agreed to eventually send them to other cities. The first batch, consisting of 40 people would be sent soon to other cities.

It was not for the first time for them to conduct such a violent action. Last January, they had done the similar things.

Source: [IS, kiblat/2018/04/21/tuntut-kebebasan-imigran-syiah-di-rudenim-balikpapan-mengamuk/](https://www.kiblat.com/2018/04/21/tuntut-kebebasan-imigran-syiah-di-rudenim-balikpapan-mengamuk/), "Tuntut Kebebasan, Imigran Syiah di Rudenim Balikpapan Mengamuk (Demanding their freedom, Shi'a migrants in Balikpapan run amok)", in Indonesian, 21 April 18.

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