

Indonesian Islamic Leader: Terrorism Has Got To Do with Islam



[Antonius Herujiyanto AH18_140518]

While Polri or the Indonesian National Police and BNPT or the National Anti-Terrorism Agency have been busy denying that all terrorism actions taking place in the country have got nothing to do with a certain religion, the founder of the Indonesian Liberal Islam network, Ade Armando, has made his [other] controversial statement.

He said Sunday (on 13 May) that Muslims should have stopped pretending to agree with those conducted by Polri and BNPT.

According to him, the best thing to do is for Muslims to see the truth of the matter.

Ade, who is also a faculty member of University of Indonesia Jakarta, has even pointed out that the actions deal with Islam.

He said, however, that Islam would never encourage people to conduct such actions, but Muslims should admit that there are verses in Koran, which should never be narrowly interpreted, or else, they would mean to be similar to encourage Muslims to make wars and carry out terrorism actions.

Quoting four verses in Koran, namely, Al-Baqarah 191, Al Mujadilah 22, Muhammad 4, and An-Nisa 89, Ade Armando wrote about each of them, respectively, in his Facebook account.

"And kill them (the infidels) wherever you overtake them ..." (QS Al-Baqarah 191).

"Thou wilt not find folk who believe in Allah and the Last Day loving those who oppose Allah and His messenger, even though they be their fathers or their sons or their brethren or their clan..." (QS Al Mujadilah 22).

"So when you meet those who disbelieve [in battle], strike [their] necks until, when you have inflicted slaughter upon them" (QS Muhammad 4).

"They would like you to be unbelievers as they are unbelievers so that you will all be the same. Do not take any of them as friends until they have emigrate in the Way of Allah. But if they turn renegades, seize them and slay them wherever ye find them..." (QS An-Nisa 89).

He also said that if the word 'kafir' [or the infidels] were narrowly interpreted as non-Muslims, then, it would be only natural when Muslims would assume that Allah had instructed them to murder all non-Muslims.

As those who are surprised that some verses in Koran are with violent spirits, they need to realize that those verses were established when the Prophet was within in the war and bloody conflicts. So it would not be surprising to find instructions to kill in the Koran. They should be understood and read

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within a certain context. Such instructions should not be considered, thus, as to be literally followed as commandments carried out for ever and ever.

According to him, the instructions to kill as seen in Al Baqarah 191, should be read within the context when Prophet Muhammad and his followers were in the situation when their enemies were attacking them. It was in the situation of having to kill or to be killed.

In the meantime, the term infidels there should not be translated as non-Muslims.

The verses should be, therefore, be redefined in accordance to their setting (time and place).

To him, if the Great Koran with its' verses were narrowly read and interpreted, it would become and turn into war and terrorism guidelines for certain groups of Islam.

Source: BM/FS,kiblat/2018/05/14/ade-armando-terorisme-itu-jelas-terkait-dengan-islam/, "Ade Armando: Terorisme Itu Jelas Terkait dengan Islam (Ade Armando: Terrorism has, indeed, got to do with Islam)", in Indonesian, 14 May 18.

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