

## Jokowi's Decision Disappoints Ahokers



## [AntoniusHerujiyanto AH0708\_100818]

Instead of choosing former Constitutional Court (MK) chief justice Mahfud MD as his running mate in the coming presidential elections, President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) as the incumbent has chosen the General Chairman of the Indonesian Islamic Council (MUI), cleric Ma'ruf Amin.

Not only has his decision surprised many people including his political rival, Prabowo, but it has also made Ahok's supporters [they are also automatically Jokowi's supporters] get so angry that they decided to become golput [not to participate in the elections]. To them, the cleric was one of those causing Ahok [former Jakarta governor] be sent to jail [on blasphemy case] for two years.

The Ahokers [the supporters and followers of Ahok] have also expressed their feeling disappointed especially they are identical to Jokowers [the supporters and followers of Jokowi]. They express their feelings on many different Indonesian social media.

Denny Siregar, in his Twitter, @Dennysiregar7, for example, metaphorically expressed his strong feeling disappointed, saying, among others, that Jokowi's decision is an anti-climax act and an "early-ejaculation"... strongly putting off the burning heart in such a way that it would be hurt to put it on again....

He has also said, however, that he cannot help laughing out loud to know the running mate of Prabowo [namely, Sandiago Uno (the present vice-governor of Jakarta)]. Those supporting Prabowo should have been suffering more than Ahokers.

He further said that watching the coming 2019 Indonesian Presidential elections would be like watching the final game of the FIFA World Cup: instead of watching such a great game of German versus Brazil, it ends up with watching Nigeria versus Algeria. It would be obviously less interesting. However, people would remain watching the very final game!

Another Ahoker, who is also a social media activist, Birgaldo Sinaga, on his Instagram account, @birgaldo\_sinaga, he wrote, admitting to have been very speechless watching on TV on how Jokowi has announced who his running mate is....

To him, cleric Ma'ruf always reminds him of the face of Ahok during his trial, where the cleric convincingly said that Ahok had committed a religious blasphemy.

Mentioning that to imprison Ahok is an awful history of Indonesian Nation, he said that to vote for the person sending Ahok to prison is a tragedy.

Another Ahoker with his account named holy money @arifinpribadi wrote on his Twitter Friday (on 10 August), accusing cleric Ma'ruf for having been an anti-pluralist as seen in his 2017 statement [during 2017 Jakarta gubernatorial elections], saying that Muslims were obliged to vote for leaders who were Muslims.

Wondering whether or not cleric Ma'aruf Amin would respect pluralism, Arifin admitted that he was frightened. He further questioned whether or not the Indonesian millennials would vote for him. They would be, certainly, faced with such a great frightening option.

He also wondered whether he would dare to vote for the person who had said that liberalism, secularism, and pluralism were misleading and heretical.

Feeling being betrayed, he said that he would be for the very first time to become golput, not to participate in Indonesian Presidential elections.

In the meantime, @SiegerAnwalt, has shared his upset, asking three questions with his own reply to the last question: "How many Ahokers are there who really disappointed?" Then, "How many

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Ahokers are there who are disappointed because of being sympathetic to their Ahoker friends?" And, lastly, "How many people are there happily clapping their hands because those Ahokers are disappointed?

To the last question, he wrote: "Got you!"

Source: SKR/MAS,hidayatullah/berita/nasional/read/2018/08/10/148297/ahoker-kecewa-jokowi-pilih-kiai-maruf.html, "Ahoker Kecewa Jokowi Pilih Kiai Ma'ruf (Ahokers disappointed with Jokowi's decision to choose cleric Ma'ruf as his running mate)", in Indonesian, 10 August 18.

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