Local Officer in Lombok Verifies Videos on Christianization on Social Media

[Antonius Herujiyanto AH17_250818]

The Chairman of the Social Department of Nusa Tenggara Barat (NTB) province, Ahsanul Khalik, has officially verified the videos on allegedly trying to Christianise the people of North Lombok who were the victims of the earthquakes rocking the island on Sunday (5 August) and the following days.

The video shows how the volunteers providing humanitarian aids in the village of Onggong Lauk, Teniga, North Lombok, are conducting the so-called trauma healing programme.

During their actions, one of the volunteers with a glass of mineral water in his hand, seems to splash water to all children and the adults who are participating in the programme.

To some of those on liners, who are not Christians, the activities of splashing water (from a glass of mineral water) look like the activities of baptizing rituals in Christianity.

According to Ahsanul Khalik, the programme took place on Friday (24 August).

Mentioning that there was an indication of a hidden Christianization taking place in the village of Onggong Lauk, however, he clarified Saturday (on 25 August) that while splashing the water there were no Christian songs heard [suggesting that it was not the rituals of baptizing in Christianity].

In the meantime, a Muslim volunteer from Mataram City, Lombok, Farhan Abu Hamzah, also said Saturday (on 25 August) that he found Christian books lying about on the table at the volunteers’ post in the office of the village of Loloan.

As soon as the head of the village knows about the books, however, he moved them away.

According to Farhan his Islamic team has earlier warned the villagers and their head of the village to be careful and cautious on those making their efforts to Christianize them.

Calling on all Muslims to be more concerned with Muslims in Lombok, Farhan said that the head of the village of Loloan was, indeed, very selective in accepting the humanitarian aids. He would not accept the aids from the Christian Foundations.