

Political Movement and Indonesian Migrant Worker Beheaded in Saudi



[Antonius Herujiyanto AH01_011118]

Holding a banner reading that Saudi Arabia was a criminal against humanity, Indonesian activists staged a protest outside the Saudi Arabian embassy in Jakarta. Not only did they condemn the government of Saudi Arabia for having executed an Indonesian migrant worker, Tuti Tursilawati, but they also said that the Saudi government had failed to notify Jakarta that her execution was about to take place. She was beheaded on Monday (29 October) in the Saudi city of Thaif.

Unlike the activists, however, the oppositions such as those of PAN [the National Mandate Party of Muhammadiyah], the Gerindra Party, the Democratic Party, and the Prosperous Justice Party (PKS), had made use of the tragedy to attack the Indonesian government.

According to Dian Islamiati Fatwa, a politician from PAN, for example, the execution suggests two important things. Not only does it show the real weak Indonesian diplomatic capacity, but it also depicts how Saudi has, indeed, ignored and despised the Indonesian government.

She also pointed out the big amount of money that Indonesia has contributed to the Saudi government through both hajj and umrah pilgrimage. In the meantime, she added, how could it be possible for the Saudi government to have failed to notify the Indonesian government that her execution was about to take place?

She only concluded, therefore, that the Indonesian government was unable to give pressure against the Saudi government.

Not only has she mentioned that Indonesia keeps helping Saudi create many different jobs and employment in Saudi, but she has also clarified that the Saudi Chamber of Commerce has also counted that hajj pilgrimage from Indonesia had created more than 100 thousands of permanent jobs as well as having contributed 25-30 per cent of the national income from private sectors in Mecca and Medina.

According to her, each Indonesian performing hajj would spend at least USD 5,000.00. In 2017 alone, for example, there were as many as 220,000 performing hajj. It means that Indonesia annually spends as many as USD 1.1 billion in Saudi.

Indonesia should have been possessing a significant bargaining position!

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Mentioning how Prabowo had saved an Indonesian migrant worker in Malaysia, she said that Jokowi should have learnt from it. She also suggested that the Chairman of the so-called BNP2TKI or the National Placement and Protection Migrant Worker, who was also one of NU's leader, Nusron Wahid, resign from his post.

Tuti Tursilawati is one of the five Indonesian migrant workers who have been beheaded in Saudi. At present, there are as many as 19 Indonesian migrant workers waiting for their execution.

Source:

Syaf,voa-islam/read/politik-indonesia/2018/11/01/60805/terkait-tki-dieksekusi-matinusron-wahid-diminta-mundur/#sthash.qgGP3fQh.dpbs, "Terkait TKI Dieksekusi Mati, Nusron Wahid Diminta Mundur (Nusron Wahid demanded to resign due to recent Indonesian migrant worker's execution in Saudi)", in Indonesian, 01 Nov 18.

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