

Appealed by Police, Indonesian Islamic Youth Leader To Be Criminalized?



[Antonius Herujiyanto AH16_241118]

The General Chairman of *Pemuda Muhammadiyah* or the Youth Wing of Muhammadiyah [the second largest Islamic Community organization in Indonesia], Dahnil Anzar Simanjuntak, has been appealed by the police for a witness to an alleged corruption on Friday (23 November).

He seemed to imitate an important political figure and the former General Chairman of Muhammadiyah, Amien Rais, when he came to the police office, guarded and accompanied by tens of Muhammadiyah members [they would wait for him during the investigation] with several lawyers. They also seemed to believe in the truth of their own popular terms, “being criminalized” and “criminalization.”

[Some Muhammadiyah members who are controlled by Amien Rais have called themselves as the government oppositions. It is also despite the point that President Jokowi is, in fact, a member of Muhammadiyah.]

Quoted by one of the Islamic media “*Sang Pencerah*” Saturday (on 24 November), he said that he would leave his case up to Allah and that he used to be faced with being criminalized especially in dealing with the cases of Siyono [on alleged terrorist case] and that of Novel Baswedan [on his being attacked with a hydrochloric acid (HCl) by unidentified people].

According to the Executive Director of Indonesia Political Review [IPR], Ujang Komarudin, the investigation has also got to do with his position as the spokesperson of Prabowo’s National campaigning team in the 2019 presidential election.

He said Saturday that the very political movement was meant to look for his possible mistakes in order to weaken and tune down his strong criticism against the government.

[In the meantime, the Jakarta Police's anti-Corruption Division [Tipikor], [Police Grand Commissioner Adjutant](#) Bhakti Suhendarwan said Friday (on 23 November) that it was a normal procedure for the police to conduct investigations.]

It was also reported that members of *Pemuda Muhammadiyah* all over the country were starting to express their support to Dahnil Anzar, there was a report saying that he had returned 2 billion Rupiahs fund to the Youth and Sports Ministry.

Denying for having done so, he said that it was conducted by *Pemuda Muhammadiyah*. The very Youth Wing of Muhammadiyah had said that the contract with the Ministry was automatically cancelled [as soon as the police appealed him for a witness to the alleged corruption on the fund].

[It was in 2017 when the two largest Islamic Youth organizations, *Pemuda Muhammadiyah* and Ansor (the Youth wing of NU) were granted IDR 2 billion and IDR 3 billion, respectively, by the Youth and Sports Ministry. The grant was based on their proposals to conduct activities together in the so-called Islamic camps in Yogyakarta 2017. The opening of the activities was officially opened by President Jokowi.]

Sources: 1. Ameerah, [arrahmah/2018/11/24/pemuda-muhammadiyah-se-indonesia-kecam-upaya-kriminalisasi-dahnul-anzar/](#), "Pemuda Muhammadiyah se-Indonesia Kecam Upaya Kriminalisasi Dahnul Anzar (Members of Muhammadiyah youth wing strongly condemn efforts to criminalize Dahnul Anzar)", in *Indonesian*, 24 Nov 18.; 2. [eramuslim.com/berita/nasional/dir-ipr-dahnul-hendak-dibungkam.htm](#), 25 November; 3. [arrahmah/2018/11/24/dahnul-anzar-bukan-saya-yang-kembalikan-uang-2-miliar-tapi-panitia/](#), in *Indonesian*, 24 November.

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