

YOUNG INTERFAITH PEACEMAKER COMMUNITY INDONESIA

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TOUR FOR PEACE 2019

Touring on weekend is an activity to fill holidays. However, Youths from all over West Java had some unique activities to fill their holiday with Tour For Peace. Tour For Peace is an annual event held by Young Interfaith Peacemaker Community (YIPC) Indonesia to commemorate World Interfaith Harmony Week (WIHW). The event had already done on February 16-17, 2019 and on February 23-24, 2019.

Tour For Peace 2019 invited 22 participants not just for recreation only, but also learning about differences and pluralism in West Java. The event aims to build a peace generation through young peacemakers.

First day on Saturday, 16th February 2019, Participants from muslims and christians are visited to Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Bandung. We did a dialogue with elder and leader of the church. After lunch, we went to Bandung Cathedral (St. Peter's Cathedral). It is located at Jalan Merdeka, Bandung. We learned about the history of the church, Catholicism, etc. We also introduced YIPC as an interfaith community and its movement.

Sunday morning, 17th February 2019, We went to people of Baha'i faith at Jalan Kejaksaan 24, Bandung. Baha'i religion is quite strange for Indonesian because of a few number and the policy system in Indonesia. However, all participants could enjoy and seem curious joining discussion. It was a new experience for participants meeting with youths from Baha'i.

Last weekend on February, We went to Motahhari Senior High School at Jalan Kampus II 13, Bandung to have a dialogue with The all Indonesian Assembly of Ahlulbayt Association (IJABI). IJABI is a Shia Muslim organization model of Indonesia. Shi'a Islam in Indonesia represents a small minority in that largely-Sunni Muslim country. There is a lot of cases of discrimination, negative campaigns, hate speech, and persecutions of Muslim Shi'a in Indonesia. It was a big step especially for muslim youths having dialogue with Shi'a and they learned everything about Ahlulbayt/Shi'a directly from Shi'a Muslim. All prejudices from muslim participants are clarified. Shi'a Muslims are need space and public discussion to answer misunderstanding between muslim in Indonesia.

After lunch, we had been prepared to go to Circundeu Village, Cimahi city. Live in with Sunda Wiwitan culture and society was our last schedule. Circundeu Village or Kampung Circundeu is a cultural village located in Cimahi that Sunda Wiwitan people existed. **Sunda Wiwitan** is a religious belief system of traditional Sundanese. It venerates the power of nature and the spirit of ancestors (animism and dynamism). Altough Sunda Wiwitan is a part of diversity in West Java, most of them are having trouble with civil right.

When we arrived at Circundeu, we served by a lot of delicious and special foods from Sundanese culinary. Most foods are produced from 'sampeu' (cassava) as their main food. Rice is main food for Indonesian, but for Sunda Wiwitanese, it is prohibited to consume because of their ancestor's rule. After dinner, we proceeded activity with dialogue with



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people of Sunda Wiwitan. Those are Kang Jajat, Kang Tri, Kang Diki, Kang Yana, and other Sunda wiwitanese. We asked a lot of question about their belief system and obstacles about living in the biggest muslim country. It was a new experience to meet and talk with them. The Dialogue was very exciting until at 10 pm, we closed the dialogue with pray from three different faiths. There were muslim, christian, and sunda wiwitan. All participants were directed to get rest to house of Circundeu society.

Sunday morning, we'd prepared to the next schedule. It was hiking to Salam Hill. The track was very challenging that we should have to be extra carefully. Another thing that made it fun that we should hike the track barefoot. It is the rule from Circundeu that every one who wants to enter some particular places at Circundeu area must walk barefoot. Some of areas are prohibition that no one could enter at all. All the rules and the culture are very unique to learn. The view top of Salam is very beautiful and calming as its name, Salam. Salam in arabic language means peace.

The day was getting hot outside, the participants went down to the meeting point at the village hall. Before we came back, the leader of Sunda Wiwitan, Kang Jajat, invited us to visit a religious site where people of hinduism in Bandung do the ritual. It is a groundwater where the followers of hinduism take the water for Melasti. Melasti is a Hindu Balinese purification ceremony and ritual, which according to Balinese calendar is held several days prior to the Nyepi holy day. Although Circundeu people have their own belief system, they still want to serve other ceremony religion gladly. This is the representation of living in a harmony among religions in Indonesia. We should be proud that local wisdom in Indonesia especially in Sunda Wiwitan culture is very tolerant in every life aspect.

The last schedule was Art For Peace. We learned a new thing about making art from young coconut leaf. The young coconut leaf in Sunda culture is so much useful almost for everything. Weaving the leaf into several art is not that simple. All participant seemed like so serious and focus to pay attention on direction from Kang Jajat and Kang Diki about weaving a good plait from the leaf. However, the time forced us to stop from our fun learning. We closed the event with listening several things about testimonial from participants and Sunda Wiwitanese about the event. We completed the event with closing pray from three different faiths.

Tour for Peace 2019 was giving us a lot of things about diversity. We'd met a lot of good people that have the common ground to build a peace generation. All of prejudices were replaced with love and understanding. It was a great time have been part of Tour For Peace 2019. We don't want to make this just to be celebration only, but also to be a strong and everlasting relationship about making the better world.