

Editorial:

MORALITY, *SISDIKNAS* AND PLURALISM

Morality has been becoming national problem for Indonesia since the last two or three decades. Even, some observers indicated that almost all levels of society are suffering from moral problems. Some observers, then, concluded that national education has succeeded in producing smart pupils and students, but it failed to form pupils' and students' morality. The attitude of elites in this country has shown us that some or even most of them do not have good morality. The "triumph" of Indonesia to "achieve" as one of the highest most corrupt countries is one of the evidence. Juvenile delinquency is another big problems faced by this lovely country. Narcotics, quarrel among students and some other types of delinquencies or even crimes on the streets have worried society. The societal situation has been deteriorated by the appearance of the Inul phenomena as the icon of the uprising of pornography in Indonesia. Surprisingly, it is only small parts of the people in this country who really realized of this enormous crisis. The rest may not consider it as a big problem.

Fortunately, critics of some social observers have wakened up some elites of the country. The new regulation of *Sisdiknas* (national system of education) is one of the results of the anxiety of small parts of people in the country. Regardless of the dispute around the *Sisdiknas* regulation, the Indonesian Legislative Assembly (DPR) has pronounced *Sisdiknas* as a national decree. Some people do hope that this new regulation would increase national morality of the next generation. In fact, *Sisdiknas* regulation is also in line with current international issue, i.e., pluralism. To be a pious adherent of a certain religion is part of human rights as it is also their rights to adhere or not to a religion. On the one

hand, undeniably, *Sisdiknas* would be more worthwhile for Muslims as they are the biggest part of the population in Indonesia. On the other hand, however, there are some fears that the new regulation would produce the power of Muslims which would not accommodate to pluralism in Indonesia.

Al-Jami'ah Journal of Islamic Studies is an international journal which accommodates to modern views of Islam. Some Western values such as democracy and pluralism would be accommodated and adjusted well according to Islamic values. It means that the some people's fear of such kind of "Islam phobia" is not really necessary. In line with this, some themes of articles in this volume represent modern views of Islam. They highlight that Islam also concerns worldly matters in order to verify the very basic principle of Islam, *rahmatan li al-'alamin*. In the future, we dream that all adherents of religions would live together in tranquil and peaceful society. Hopefully. (Editor/Muhammad Wildan)