

# The Dynamics of Islamic Civilization

Satu Dasawarsa  
Program Pembibitan  
(1988-1998)

Forward:

**Minister of Religious Affairs**

Yudian Wahyudi	Iskandar Arnel
Akh. Minhaji	Jarot Wahyudi
Amirul Hadi	Nurasiah Fakhri Sutan
Hamdiah A. Latif	Shalahudin Kafrawi
Andi Faisal Bakti	Achmad Zaini
Mhd. Syahnun	Mizan Sya'roni
Lathiful Khuluq	Retno Sayekti
Ratno Lukito	Sahiron Syamsuddin
Ruswan Thoyib	Siti Syamsiyatun
Suprayitno Wagiman	

Introduction:

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MINISTER OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS  
REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

### FORWARD MINISTER OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

The central position of the Pre-Departure Program (Program Pembibitan) in the development of human resources of the Ministry of Religious Affairs is obvious from the following facts. First, it recruits the young, fresh but also best graduates of all of the 14 IAINs (Institut Agama Islam Negeri, or State Institute of Islamic Studies) throughout Indonesia. Second, the recruited graduates are trained, among other courses, to achieve the necessary 550 TOEFL to be sent to Western universities. Third, these young half Western-educated graduates will serve to develop human resources longer and will be more qualified than earlier generations of graduates of the State Institute of Islamic Studies sent to study at western universities.

Ten years after its creation in 1988, the Pre-Departure Program has achieved a fine reputation. Three trained graduates of the Pre-Departure Program hold Ph.D. degrees from three highly competitive Western universities. Four other trainees, also studying at highly competitive Western universities, will complete their Ph.D.s in the next year, while three others will graduate in three more years. More than fifty trainees are M.A. graduates of western universities of similar quality.

It should be noted that the trained graduates of the pre-Departure Program are capable not only of completing their programs of study, but also gaining international recognition for their achievements. It goes without saying that the moving individuals behind the publications of *Pengalaman Belajar Islam di Kanada* (The Experience of Studying Islam in Canada), *Petunjuk Praktis Belajar di Institute of Islamic Studies McGill University, Montreal, Kanada* (A Practical Guide to Studying at the Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University, Montreal, Canada), and *Islam and Development: A Politico-Religious Response* originated with the trained

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### Authors

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graduates of the Pre-Departure Program.

Two of these graduates were even eligible to present their papers to the most prestigious academic society of Middle East studies in the United States of America, or, quite possibly, in the world. Yudian Wahyudi presented his article entitled "The Debate about the *Sarfa*: Pro, and against" in The Annual Meeting of Middle East Studies Association Conference held in San Francisco, CA on November 22-24, 1997. Sahiron Syamsuddin presented his paper entitled "Abu Hanifa's Use of Solitary *Hadith* as a Source of Islamic Law" in the same conference. The latter paper will appear in *Islamic Law and Society* (Leiden: E.J. Brill), the most specialized journal in Islamic law till now. Yudian Wahyudi's article entitled "Ali Shariati and Bint al-Shati" on Free Will: A Comparison" will appear in *Journal of Islamic Studies* (Oxford University Press), vol.9, no.1 (January, 1998).

In the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the creation of the Pre-Departure Program, some of its graduates, who are studying at the Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University, have published a book entitled *The Dynamics of Islamic Civilization: Satu Dasawarsa Program Pembibitan (1988-1998)*. As a collection of articles submitted as class presentations, the book demonstrates the authors' position as students on the one hand, and their wide ranging study interests on the other. This book, although not including the work of trained graduates of the Pre-Departure Program who are studying outside McGill University, is another manifestation of their intellectual activity.

The trained graduates of the Pre-Departure Program deserve to celebrate the significance of the Program in the context of Indonesian development of human resources, at least in the Ministry of Religious Affairs. I would like to congratulate on their decade of success, while encouraging them to maintain and even expand beyond their accomplishment to date.

December, 1, 1997

Minister of Religious Affairs  
  
H. Tarmizi Taher

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To cope with the lack of methodological thinking of Indonesian Muslim intellectuals, Munawir Sjadzali, in his capacity as Minister of Religious Affairs, strove to create 'ulamā'-plus. These future Indonesian Muslim intellectuals are experts not only in religious matters in their traditional sense, but also in 'secular' ones. They should be able to read "yellow book" (*kitab kuning*) as a symbol of Indonesia's traditional Muslims and "white book" (*kitab putih*) symbolizing Indonesia's modernist Muslims as well. To achieve his objectives, Sjadzali developed the human resources of the State Institute of Islamic Studies by creating both the Pre-Departure Program and the 'ulamā' Training Program. To strengthen the candidates of both programs, he introduced a special program for the State High School of Islam (Madrasah Aliyah Negeri Program Khusus). He hoped these new intellectuals would become professors at the Excellent IAIN (Institut Agama Islam Negeri, or State Institute of Islamic Studies) that he was trying to establish in Surakarta.

The Pre-Departure Program, of course, is the most prestigious of Sjadzali's reforms, enabling some of its alumni to establish an organization by which they can contribute to the development of IAIN's human resources. Yudian Wahyudi, Siti Ruhaini Dzuhayatin, Hisyam Zaini, Ahzab Muttaqin, Rizal Qosim, Badrun Alaina, Lathiful Khuluq, and Ratno Lukito founded the Forum Komunikasi Alumni Program Pembibitan Calon Dosen IAIN Se-Indonesia (Communications Forum of the Alumni of the Pre-Departure Program) in Yogyakarta on June 21, 1994. They elected Yudian Wahyudi chairman of the organization. It is from Montreal that the organization celebrates the tenth anniversary of the creation of the Pre-Departure Program by publishing a book entitled *The Dynamics of Islamic Civilization: Satu Dasawarsa Program Pembibitan (1988-1998)*.

The authors of this collection of articles consist of five groups of alumni of the Pre-Departure Program. The first group (1988-1989) includes Yudian Wahyudi, Akh. Minhaji (both are from Yogyakarta), Amirul Hadi and



### *Acknowledgment*

Hamdiah A. Latif (both are from Aceh). The second group (1989-1990) includes Andi Faisal Bhakti (from Ujung Pandang). The third group (1990-1991) includes Mhd. Syahnan (from Medan). The fourth group (1991-1992) includes Lathiful Khuluq, and Ratno Lukito (both are from Yogyakarta), Ruswan Thoyib (from Semarang), and Suprayetno Wagiman (from Yogyakarta). The sixth group (1993-1994) includes Jarot Wahyudi (from Yogyakarta), Nurasih Fakhri Sutan (from Medan), and Shalahudin Kafrawi (from Bandung). The seventh group (1994-1995) includes Achmad Zaini (from Surabaya), Mizan Sya'roni (from Semarang), Retno Sayekti (from Medan), Sahiron Syamsuddin, and Siti Syamsiyatun (both are from Yogyakarta).

Of course, this publication would not have been possible without the contributions of many people. We would like to thank Minister of Religious Affairs dr. H. Tarmizi Taher not only for financing the publication, but also for sending us to study at the Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University. Our special thanks also go to the Canada-Indonesia Higher Islamic Education Project for facilitating our study at the Institute. Director of Islamic Higher Education Murni Jamal and his staffs Fadhil A.R. Bafadal and Imanah deserve to be mentioned for their help. We owe a debt of gratitude to Amirul Hadi, Sahiron Syamsuddin, and Shalahudin Kafrawi for being the three most active members of the Committee established for the publication.

**Montreal, November 18, 1997**  
**Alumni Pembibitan,**

**Yudian Wahyudi**  
**Chairman**