

Urban sufism and its impact on social change in Indonesia

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Abstrak

The Indonesian people are now witnessing the rise of religion in many parts of their daily lives. This phenomenon can be seen TV, mass media, and the internet which presents various religious activities such as dhikr, prayer, and religious talk shows. Interestingly, the pilgrims who participate in the activities of urban sufism are not just made up of ordinary people, but also the actors, celebrities, government officials and the middle class. It is a social movement since the pilgrims have general responsibility to change the morality of society by practising an inclusive form of Islam. Therefore, sufism is not really a religious belief that focuses on individual interests, but also very encouraging pilgrims to contribute positively to society. Sufism had an important position in Indonesian society, though for a long period of declining role of modernity. However, sufism has drawn pilgrims in urban areas because of its positive and beneficial values for society. Indeed, urban sufism actually has played an important role in social change in Indonesia. Although it is not a political institution, but the principles and characteristics have encouraged and influenced people to become good citizens and participate actively in the consolidation of democracy. As a result, urban sufism has a positive and significant influence on social change in Indonesia.