

Patriot doctor, social activist, and doctor of the poor / Ravando Lie

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Abstrak

This article examines the efforts and achievements of Oen Boen Ing, a Tionghoa doctor, to improve the quality of health of the poorer inhabitants of Surakarta. Dr Oen played an important role in five different periods: Dutch colonialism, the Japanese occupation, the Indonesian revolution, Soekarno's regime, and Suharto's new order. Known for being a benevolent doctor, activist, and patriot of the revolution during his life-time, Dr Oen also gave medical assistance to the needy, which famously earned him the accolade of "doctor of the poor". During the Indonesian revolution, Dr Oen assisted the student Soldiers (tentara pelajar) and afterward was appointed the member of supreme advisory council (dean pertimbangan agung/DPA) by Soekarno in 1949. As a benevolent doctor and activist, Dr Oen is remembered for founding the Pant Kosala hospital after his passing. When he died, thousands of people gathered to pay their final respect to the doctor. He was honored with a ceremony conducted in the Mangkunegaran palace. Dr Oen's name will be eternally respected, especially in Surakarta.