

Pujada mandala: the beauty of tourist attraction for the symbol of tolerance / Made Handijaya Dewantara

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Abstrak

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Seeing many issues about intolerance between religious in Indonesia, a symbol is needed to be created. A tourist attraction located in Nusa Dua Bali, called Puja Mandala, has been established, and could be used as symbol of tolerance and unity in Indonesia. The election of new government is bringing a hope and positive impacts to the country's, for all kind of dimensions, including the approach to religious pluralism, promoting tolerance, and encouraging the unity. It also brings hopes to create symbol like Puja Mandala. Puja Mandala (known as circle of worship in Sanskrit) established as the attractions in Nusa Dua. In this area, there are five places of worship of the five religions in Indonesia the Moslem mosque, the Catholic church, Protestant church, Hindu temple, and Buddha temple. In this digital era, the popularity of Puja Mandala from the tourist is excellent showed by the visitor rating especially through Tripadvisor. Despite its popularity, the symbol has to face several obstacles including: marketing communication, lack of activities involving all religions, corruption issue, and lack of infrastructures. In order to promote tolerance and avoid any conflicts between religions, the government and societies need to develop some strategy including to build the symbol of religion tolerance and unity all across Indonesia like what have been established in Bali through Puja Mandala; to enrich the facilities and infrastructure in the worship area, to establish annual program and festival that involve all religions in every provinces in Indonesia, to protect Indonesia's tradition of religious pluralism as set out in Pancasila and the constitution of law, and to revise the curriculum for religious education in schools, ensuring both that adherents of religions or beliefs not recognized officially by the state are free to practice their own beliefs.