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Contents

Foreword. [ii]

M. DIEN MADJID & JOHAN WAHYUDI,

The Kingdom of Linge and Early Islamization in Central Aceh. [1-20]

RETNO WINARNI & RATNA ENDANG WIDUATIE,

*Local Autonomy with its Problems in the Past and Present:
Focused Study in Jember Regency, East Java, Indonesia.* [21-48]

ABDUL HARIS FATGEHIPON & SATRIONO PRIYO UTOMO,

*Sultan Zainal Abidin Syah: From the Kingdom of Tidore
to the Republic of Indonesia.* [49-92]

FLORENCE BOSEDE FAMOLU,

*Identification and Teaching of Students with Specific Learning Disability:
Counselling Implications.* [93-110]

DEWI SALINDRI,

*The Undhuh-undhuh Ritual Change of Gereja Kristen Jawi Wetan Congregation
in Jember, East Java, Indonesia.* [111-148]

Info-tawarikh-edutainment. [149-158]

TAWARIKH: Journal of Historical Studies will provide a peer-reviewed forum for the publication of thought-leadership articles, briefings, discussion, applied research, case and comparative studies, expert comment and analysis on the key issues surrounding the history education and historical studies in general and its various aspects. Analysis will be practical and rigorous in nature. The **TAWARIKH** journal, with print ISSN 2085-0980 and online ISSN 2685-2284, was firstly published on October 28, 2009, in the context to commemorate the Youth Pledge Day in Indonesia. Since issue of October 2009 to date, the **TAWARIKH** journal has been organized and published by Minda Masagi Press owned by ASPENSI (the Association of Indonesian Scholars of History Education) in Bandung, West Java, Indonesia. This journal is published twice a year i.e. every October and April. For period 2012 to 2017, the **TAWARIKH** journal was accredited by Ditjendikti Kemdikbud RI (Directorate-General of Higher Education, Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia); and indexed also by SINTA Level 2 owned by Kemenristekdikti RI (Ministry of Research, Technology, and Higher Education of the Republic of Indonesia) in Jakarta. All articles in the **TAWARIKH** journal are available online also at: www.journals.mindamas.com/index.php/tawarikh

FOREWORD



In this era of a borderless world, the study of history seems to have been left out of the current development of knowledge and human civilization. The development of knowledge triggered by the Information Technology revolution has changed the pattern and ecosystem of human life and habits from the individual, family, society, to the nation-building.

When it comes to the issue of nation-building, whether realized or not, the people of this era need to go through the pages of old history. Otherwise, nation-building will not have a solid track and foundation. Only in the pages of old history, which requires thorough study and exploration, to know the origins of a nation leading to the study of language, religion, system of society, to the system of government.

When Brunei Darussalam declared concept of MIB (Melayu Islam Beraja or Malay Islamic Monarchy), as holdings of the nation in 1984, during which it gained independence from the British, then raised the question of why and how various MIB concept is necessary in Brunei Darussalam. Apparently, in order to answer this question, it is necessary to have a historical study to provide a solid answer.

When studied the history of Brunei Darussalam, it cannot be denied that the country belongs to the Malays, came under the rule of Malay, with Islam as a way of life and the faith of Bruneian community life. The concept of MIB should be used and defended in Brunei Darussalam, because it has been proven – through historical studies – to bring prosperity and harmony to various walks of life in Brunei Darussalam.

A life full of grace, bestowed by Allah SWT (Subhanahu Wa-Ta'ala or God Almighty) in the nation and state under the umbrella of this MIB concept cannot only be enjoyed by the Muslim community, but even more than that is also felt by non-Muslims. They are treated equally and not oppressed, as is the case with some Muslims who are sheltered as minorities around the World.

The importance of the study of history in nation-building not only applies to Brunei Darussalam, but also to other countries in the World. The emergence of "Rukun Negara" (Pillars of State) in Malaysia and "Panca Sila" (Five Basic Principles) in Indonesia, for example, cannot be fabricated just like that without the solid evidence that has been displayed by the results of historical studies.

Thus, in the face of the influence of borderless world life and it is difficult to anticipate what will happen in the future, then the study of history cannot be ignored. The study of history does not only belong to scholars and students of history, but it is a public property that everyone needs to know. Usually people who forget history will repeat the mistakes of the past. Do not let us be bitten by a snake twice in the same hole.

The scientific articles in the TAWARIKH journal, October 2020 edition, do not specifically examine the importance of the discipline of history and its relation to the development of the nation-state. However, these scientific articles still see the importance of historical studies in various aspects of life that are multidimensional and complex. Any field of life still requires historical studies and perspectives, so that it can be understood properly and comprehensively in the context of the present and here now. The past is indeed not history, but the past which has been studied and written systematically, scientifically, logically, and comprehensively has become a History.

Scientific articles on the Early Development of Islam in Aceh, Sumatra; Regional Autonomy and its Problems in Jember, East Java; the Role of Sultan Zainal Abidin Syah from Tidore in North Maluku; Identifying Learning Processes for Children with Disabilities in Nigeria; and Changing Ritual in Christianity and its Relation to Local Traditions, all of which require study and perspective from the historical discipline, so that the elements of continuity and change become very clear and easily understood by us, as the readers, who live in different times and places.

Enjoy reading the scientific articles in the TAWARIKH journal, October 2020 edition. Hopefully there will be many benefits.

Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam: October 30, 2020.

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