

THE RELATIONSHIP OF RELIGION TO TRIBAL, RACIAL AND INTERFAITH CONFLICTS

HUBUNGAN AGAMA DENGAN KONFLIK SUKU, RAS DAN ANTAR UMAT BERAGAMA

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Abstrak

Keberadaan berbagai agama merupakan sunatullah yang telah ditetapkan oleh tuhan di bumi ini. Dengan adanya agama, manusia akan mendapat pandangan hidup yang akan mereka pegang seumur hidupnya. Dalam beragama, setiap masyarakat dipengaruhi oleh suku maupun budaya di masing masing daerah. Dalam pelaksanaannya, setiap agama saling mengadakan kontak sosial antar masyarakat baik itu positif maupun negatif. Dalam beragama, setiap umatnya akan mengembangkan dan menyeruh kepada masing masing pemeluk agamanya. Selain itu dalam setiap agama tentunya terdapat perintah untuk toleransi antar agama. Artikel ini ditulis dengan menggunakan metode kajian pustaka. Adanya pluralitas agama dan suku serta makin tingginya moderenitas horizontal bangsa Indonesia telah menimbulkan kontak kontak sosial budaya secara cepat dan meluas, termasuk kontak antar umat beragama. Akibat terjadinya kontak atau interaksi antar umat beragama tersebut kemudian dapat terjadi konflik ketika satu diantara kedua kelompok menganggap kelompok lain merugikan, baik identitas maupun berbagai kebutuhannya. Persoalan persoalan pada level sosial-budaya antar kelompok agama maupun ditambah dengan persoalan politik sering melahirkan konflik antar umat beragama. Oleh karena itu, persoalan agama dalam masyarakat merupakan persoalan yang harus ditangani dan ditanggulangi dengan segera karena menyangkut penganut umat beragama agar tercipta kehidupan masyarakat yang damai dan hidup rukun selaras sesuai dengan yang dicita-citakan oleh setiap agama di seluruh dunia.

Kata Kunci: hubungan agama; konflik antar agama; kerukunan hidup beragama

Abstract

The existence of various religions is a sunatullah that has been established by God on this earth. With the existence of religion, humans will get a view of life that they will hold for the rest of their lives. In religion, every society is influenced by ethnicity and culture in each region. In its implementation, each religion establishes social contact between people, both positive and negative. In religion, every member of the community will develop and call upon each adherent of their religion. In addition, in every religion, of course, there is an order for tolerance between religions. This article was written using the literature review method. The existence of religious and ethnic plurality as well as the increasing horizontal modernity of the Indonesian nation has given rise to fast and

widespread socio-cultural contacts, including contact between religious communities. As a result of contact or interaction between religious communities, conflict can then occur when one of the two groups considers the other group to be detrimental to them, both their identity and their various needs. Issues at the socio-cultural level between religious groups and coupled with political issues often give birth to conflicts between religious communities. Therefore, the issue of religion in society is a problem that must be addressed and dealt with immediately because it involves adherents of religious communities in order to create a peaceful society and live in harmony in accordance with what every religion in the world aspires to.

Keywords: religious relations; inter-religious conflicts; religious harmony

INTRODUCTION

The existence of various religions is a sunatullah that has been ordained by God on this earth. With the existence of religion, humans will get a view of life that they will hold for the rest of their lives. In religion, every society is influenced by ethnicity and culture in each region. In its implementation, each religion establishes social contact between people, both positive and negative. In religion each of his people will develop and call on their respective religions. In addition, every religion certainly has orders for tolerance between religions.

A plurality of religions and ethnic groups will put forward the horizontal modern attitude of the Indonesian people related to social contact between one group and another. The assumption of an interaction or social contact between religious communities can lead to a conflict when groups perceive a loss. Factors causing conflict include an identity, problems at the socio-cultural level with religious groups, and political conflicts that result in conflicts between religious communities.

Therefore, the problem of religion in society is a problem that must be addressed and dealt with immediately because it involves adherents of religious communities. This is done in order to create a peaceful community life and in harmony with what the world's religions aspire to.

METHODOLOGY

The author uses a type of library research, namely by collecting sources relevant to the research being carried out, including from research final assignments, books, magazines, newspapers, and so on. Then, researchers sort through data validation. Furthermore, researchers are able to explain, so that the article can be easily understood by readers (Hartani & Nulhaqim, 2020).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Definition of Religion

Religion is as a foundation or foundation of a human being in this world, as a pillar that has goals, directions, and beliefs. People are able to think with patterns of behavior that meet the requirements



to run. Religion contains an existential and ritual component. Therefore some religions are classified and become important things in the social structure (Ishomuddin, 2002).

According to Ronald Robertson (1970), the division of religion is divided into two, namely inclusive and exclusive. The meaning of inclusion is regarding the formulation of religion in the broad sense of a religion, which views beliefs and rituals by prioritizing holiness. This understanding assumes that religion has rules, not only symbols and systems, but also upholds a non-theistic belief, such as humanism, nationalism and communism. In contrast, exclusivity limits a religion in a system of beliefs governing the existence of beings, powers, or the supernatural.

In the encyclopedia of Islam in Indonesia, religion comes from Sanskrit. In the beginning, religion entered Indonesia, there was the name of the holy book of Buddhists which was classified as Hindu Shiva, which means holy book. From there, the word then became famous in society in Indonesia. With reference to the current situation, the holy book is a belief that is put forward by the community. The title of the book is the Buddhist scriptures, religion is a rule that is very important and primary for people who put forward a belief.

The purpose of religion itself is to regulate all aspects of life both in terms of worship, religious rituals or those that are directly related to God or those with fellow human beings or socially.

B. Function of Religion in Community Life

1. Educational Function

For someone who is a legal adherent, one of the religions believes that the rules must be obeyed, which brings a positive direction towards the safety and happiness of society. (Ishomuddin, 2002)

2. Rescue Function

Everyone in achieving a goal that actually needed a rule. It is solely for the purpose of determining whether life brings salvation or woe. Here, humans are ordered to carry out processes in the world by tidying up according to their respective beliefs.

3. Function as Atonement

Someone if he feels a regret in a mistake and he hastens to repent then the heart will feel calm. Here, get to know a sense of closeness in belief in yourself. In other words, a relationship between man and his religion if he repents, purifies himself and returns to the straight path.

4. Function as social control

Agreement is required at the start in a group. If someone



personally can self-introspect in his own goodness, then he can exemplify a way or approach through input from other people. Vice versa, set rules for self-improvement, self-introspection, then religion will be peaceful and peaceful (Ishomuddin, 2002).

5. Transformative function

Religious life makes changes in a person's life within a group or group in a life and religion that is well received and in accordance with the teachings of the religion he adheres to.

6. Creative function

Religious teachings encourage, foster a sense of productive work, not for self-interest, but prioritizing the interests of others.

7. Sublimative function

Order in religion is very concerned about human efforts not only in the afterlife, but also in the world where there are rules that provide a life full of benefits. Religion really appreciates human life, all efforts that a person makes as long as it does not conflict with religious values, accompanied by sincerity will be worth the reward (Ishomuddin, 2002).

8. Its function is to foster a sense of solidarity

Society in religion is based on belief in each

individual. Here it becomes a benchmark for one's beliefs by prioritizing a sense of unity, fostering a sense of solidarity with any religious group so as to create a life that is dynamic, prosperous, safe, tolerant among fellow religious people.

9. Why are there different religions in the world?

The question that people often ask is a classic question that is often faced by religious experts. There are so many religions adhered to in the world community, there are even more than a hundred religions in the world, why can this happen? Then, what is the cause of different religions? First, this is closely related to the human search process in finding the creator. In his heart, actually humans ask a lot of inner questions about the creator of the universe, starting from how human origins happened, and what influences human life.

For this reason, if humans find answers to their questions, then there is a sense of calm and confidence in humans and they find the religion they believe in. Second, religion develops along with human civilization brought by prophets and apostles and developed by society, then perfected by the next prophet. From the



teachings of the apostles and prophets, some are in accordance with what was taught. With a difference, so that a new religion appears in human life. In addition, human civilization is one of the important factors in the diversity of religions that exist from all human civilizations that were born and developed. They have different beliefs and ways of life. In addition, there are also teachings that have been passed down from generation to generation throughout the history of human civilization. Apart from that, science influences thinking in religion long before the rapid development of science. Religion is important in answering the problems that occur in society about the life problems they face. In different religions, the thoughts of one person and another are very different, so in religion there is no compulsion to believe in it.

C. Definition of Conflict

Conflict in society is normal and the causes can be varied. Conflicts can occur because one party considers that the other party is harming it, in other words there is a conflict caused by a problem (Soerjono Soekanto, 1996:88). As for social conflict which is defined as a conflict, division between units, social groups, through social

interaction based on a problem in social interaction. (Nawari, Ismail, 2011).

The community in carrying out social interactions can take the form of positive good relations, which have cooperative values where life will produce a life of peace. However, people who carry out social interactions put forward the wrong intention, namely competition which will result in conflict and conflict. (Keren Armstrong, 2000:10) Holsti confirms that basically any type of relationship or interaction shows the nature of conflict. (Soekanto, 1996). So it can be concluded that inter-religious conflict is a conflict between religious groups and followers of other religions because one party is considered to be detrimental to their religion.

D. Faktor Penyebab Konflik Antar Umat Beragama

1. *Truth Claim*

The tendency of people to embrace religion seeks to justify the teachings according to their respective beliefs. In this case, what is contained in the religion that he defends is sometimes a lack of understanding of the religion of the previous noble grandmother. However, the surging spirit sometimes humiliated other people who did not agree with him even though they adhered to the same religion. Admittedly, belief in



what is right is based on God as the only source of truth. The plurality of humans causes the face of truth to appear different when it is about to be interpreted. Because, this difference cannot be separated from various references and backgrounds of people who believe in it. They claim to understand, own, and even practice these sacred values purely. This belief will make changes to the concept of belief according to their respective understandings. Absolutism is a sense of intellectual arrogance whereas exclusivism is a social arrogance. Meanwhile, fanaticism is emotional arrogance. Finally, extremism is excessive behavior and aggressiveness is excessive physical action. (Mahzar, 2010)

2. Differences in doctrine and mental attitude

Doctrines instilled in a religion can sometimes trigger inter-religious conflicts. Because in a doctrine and rules of life, every religion is different because sometimes their life guidelines between one and another can be the same or contradict each other. On the other hand, adherents of religions think that their religion is the right and truest, and sometimes they compare and blame the doctrines of

adherents of other religions. In addition, da'wah activities that are radical from adherents of other religions also have the potential to trigger other religions to blame each other. Therefore, there is a need for tolerance between religions. This is because the doctrines they hold are different and in fact this belief cannot be forced.

3. Differences in the level of culture

Reality shows that the tension that occurs between people is closely related to factors outside the scope of religion itself. (Bahtiar Effendy, 2001:24). In this position, the occurrence of conflict can be in the form of the values of a social perception by prioritizing their respective understandings, with the results of their understanding of the teachings they adhere to, and due to giving birth to a truth claim. In the history of religion, there has long been a doctrine of exclusivity whereby my religion is the most correct, other religions are misguided and misleading. The existence of various cultures and civilizations of different societies is a big trigger for inter-religious conflict. For example, there are two civilizations namely traditional and modern civilization. If



modern civilization embraced by a religion is more widely followed by the community, it will allow conflicts between religious communities to occur due to cultural clashes.

4. The problem of the majority and religious minorities

The problem of the majority and minority religions is a trigger for conflict that often occurs in society because the mass of a religion influences the occurrence of conflict and usually the victims both physically and psychologically from adherents of that religion are religious minorities in a society, for example, the religious ethnicity of the rohinyah who are Muslims in In Vietnam, the majority of the Vietnamese population are Hindus and Buddhists, while Islam there is a religion brought by the Rohingya ethnic community who are immigrants.

Thus, automatically the followers of Hinduism and Buddhism there are very many when compared to the minority spiritual ethnicity. The main goal of religious tolerance is indeed to create peace within one religion with another, but the problem is that the problem of the minority of adherents of a religion is also influential. Not infrequently the losses suffered by minorities

are enormous, such as disruption of worship, religious rituals to expulsion from an area, and it is not uncommon for clashes between adherents of religions to occur.

5. Differences in ethnicity, race and religion

The existence of differences in ethnicity, race and religious adherents is often associated with triggering the causes of conflict in society. Differences in character and character make a society often contradict each other with what they believe in and believe in, in addition to differences in character and character that trigger other conflicts is competition between groups, ethnic groups and ethnicities in pursuit of power, politics and existing resources (Nawari, Ismail, 2011: 6). Judging from the view of the conflicting parties and the initial source of conflict there are 3 types, namely macro, micro, and convergence. First, the macro cause, seen as the initial cause of the conflict is the competition between the groups of people who adhere to a religion that seizes power, and existing natural resources. Both micro-approaches look at the initial source of conflict from the existence of competition between individuals in the



fulfillment of needs, and in accordance with the basic aggressive disposition of the human being. Meanwhile, the convergence approach explains that a conflict is a combination of macro and micro elements between individuals and groups.

6. The doctrine of jihad

Many societies misinterpret the meaning of jihad in Islam. The notion of jihad is synonymous with war and physical violence, which is a false interpretation in society. Jika jihad in ancient times was carried out by fighting in the path of Allah. Thus, it is valid that in ancient times jihad in its essence was to establish the true and upright teaching of the conquest of a territory. But in the era of modern jihad that is increasingly not supposed to be done. The modern-era jihad in the present scope can be interpreted as various views in their respective perspectives. Because jihad is known to be close to a struggle of physical warfare. Thus, it must now be reversed to the social jihad known as fighting poverty and ignorance of the people. There are still so many cases against Muslims who have discriminated against poverty and ignorance. The spirit of change is impossible to realize

except in the presence of jihad. (Tasmara, 2002:39)

This doctrine is expected to be instilled in the next generation, so that Islamic young men have the ability to align themselves with other youth, from other religions that are now seen as more advanced. Nowadays people are reluctant to hear from the word jihad, whereas without a jihad a Muslim is lacking in an achievement of value in self-esteem, a Muslim is said to be incomplete without the spirit on himself from other words jihad. Jihad here in conclusion, puts on the body soul for an affirmation of the glory and dignity of Islam.

E. Efforts to Control and Resolve Inter-Religious Conflicts

1. Controlling potential conflicts

The definition of social control is the process of inviting community members to comply with the applicable rules and values. (Nawari, Ismail, 2011:9). The purpose of social control is to achieve harmony between stability and changes that occur, in this case the social sphere. The purpose of conflict control and its control efforts are as follows:

- a. So that potential conflicts do not occur
The way to control the potential for



conflict is so that conflict does not become a problem in various forms, depending on the agreements and traditions in society. For example, in renewal, ethnic minorities (Chinese and Arabs) mingle with the majority (Javanese). Demands for Chinese and Arabs to mingle with Javanese society and to be active in reform institutions formed by the top-down government

b. To foster and sustain integration in social life

Religious people can develop agreed values as instruments so that potential conflicts do not grow and integration develops, so that values are developed, for example traditions that develop in society such as mutual cooperation, mutual help, realizing local philosophies, and the meanings of local symbols that become symbols between religions. In controlling potential conflicts, especially in relation to maintaining traditional values, there are five models:

- 1) Thicken a belief in society in terms of its customs.
- 2) Reward people who obey customs.
- 3) Developing a sense of shame to the souls of people who deviate from customs.
- 4) Developing a sense of fear in society in the souls of people who want to deviate with threats and violence.
- 5) Creating a legal system, order system, sanctions that are binding and firm for violators. (Koentjaraningrat, 1985).

2. Conflict resolution

Conflict resolution is an effort to deal with the causes of conflict and build long-lasting social interaction between conflicting groups. Broadly speaking, there are two approaches to conflict resolution, namely the Marxist approach, which requires a resolution by way of revolution which can also be in the form of a movement of resistance. and there is also a functionalism approach, which is persuasive and emphasizes the role of the mediator. There are four types of mediation to function as a mediator between the two conflicting parties:



- a. The mediator builds and improves communication
- b. Providing information between conflicting parties
- c. Become a friend to the parties to the conflict
- d. Encouraging parties between groups or individuals in terms of active negotiations.

Forms of conflict resolution between religious communities are very diverse, namely:

- a. Integration or collaboration
Integration or collaboration is a form of conflict resolution that is carried out jointly between conflicting parties using a win-win approach. The interests between the two in a conflict, when both are equally important and difficult to compromise.
- b. Compromise
In the form of a compromise, the parties to the conflict agree to share limited resources. Between the two parties agreed to peace, but the agreement was not the first choice for each party.
- c. Competition
In resolving this conflict, it tends to be win-lose, the stronger side will win and dominate. This model is useful especially in situations of limited

available resources, also when it is a critical period that requires quick decisions to be taken.

- d. Accommodation
In the form of accommodation, the party is willing to accommodate the needs of those who sacrifice their own interests.
- e. avoiding (avoiding)

In the form of avoiding or avoiding, it means that one and or both parties avoid in a conflict situation.

In building an attitude of anti-ethnic and racial discrimination, it is necessary to have a role that can support the welfare of society, including in the school environment and community environment.

1. School

Develop policies by prioritizing anti-ethnic discrimination attitudes in schools. This is one of the important issues to foster a sense of tolerance, respect, affection among friends in the school environment. In this way, it is hoped that inter-ethnic mutual respect will be created through school institutions.

2. Society

Making a bill to eliminate the topic of ethnic and racial discrimination should not only focus on discrimination issues, for example discrimination against ethnic Papuans. That is



because every human being is equal before God Almighty, has the same degree. Humans in this world have the same position, that is, both are born with the same dignity, degree, have the same rights and obligations. In this way, humans are created and cannot choose to be created as part of a particular race or ethnicity. The existence of racial and ethnic differences is not a reason for differences in rights and obligations between individuals in society.

The description of the problem is that there was an incident in the riot between ethnic Madurese and Dayak in Sampit, Central Kalimantan and there was a split in the conflict which resulted in many victims in the riot. From this incident, when a teacher enters the classroom, a teacher should be able to take an *ibrah*, a lesson to be learned by students at school. In addition to linking these issues and giving understanding to students, teachers can also pray together from the tragedy that has occurred. The teacher must have a sense of sympathy, empathy for the victims in the incident. From this incident, a teacher needs to explain that in life, fellow friends, neighbors, other people, Indonesian

citizens must prioritize mutual tolerance, respect differences. The teacher must explain how important it is to promote harmony and brotherhood to build peace among human beings.

Here the role of educators and the role of school institutions as a student environment becomes an important point in growing anti-discrimination. The role of educators can strive to prevent discrimination by exemplifying and implementing it in schools. Some steps educators can apply include:

- a. First, every educator is required to have an understanding of the importance of harmony, a prosperous, peaceful and dynamic life, namely by applying an understanding of anti-discrimination to students. In this case educators can study alone or take part in training held specifically from the institution or school.
- b. Second, educators are required to be able to provide examples. In the school environment, educators act as parents who can shape the character of students,



both in class and outside the classroom.

- c. Third, schools should provide special training to educators and education staff who have an interest in schools or institutions on how to understand, respect, and act humanely, fairly, and democratically towards other ethnicities.

In directing and supporting the teacher's steps in building an attitude of anti-ethnic discrimination, the role of the school is also very decisive in this regard. Some policies that can be implemented in schools to support the growth of anti-discriminatory attitudes among students and increase their sensitivity to respect other ethnicities in their schools include:

- a. First, schools can make rules with reference to the School Law which are binding, meaning that all students, educators and education staff are required to comply with rules regarding respect for certain ethnicities and races so that awareness grows in individuals

about the importance of respecting one another.

- b. Second, schools have an active and supportive role in a program that builds anti-discrimination. In this case, it is hoped that students can take lessons and become bridges for students' understanding, for example creating a dialogue study forum to initiate the scope of the importance of harmony in creating harmonious, dynamic, harmonious and prosperous relationships.
- c. Third, schools provide a training role for educators and special education staff on an understanding of anti-discrimination.
- d. Fourth, schools create a curriculum that includes anti-discrimination attitudes.

F. Relationship between Religion and Tribal, Race and Religion Conflict

Religion in society is as a rule of good. A rule was created to discipline the people. The relationship between religion and conflict, race and religion is also related to the role of society. Therefore, society is the main actor



in the goal of group welfare. Religion is full of rules aimed at humans, as a direction, if humans do an act based on religion. By studying religion, one of them will foster a sense of tolerance, mutual help, respect for differences, respect. In this case, if we understand religion and respect differences in ethnicity, race, religion as individuals and groups, it will foster peace and prosperity, and minimize conflict. Then, if religion is not used as a rule then what happens is that the religion will be damaged. Therefore, conflict will be interrelated with race, ethnicity and religion.

G. Relations between Religion and Tribe and Race

Indonesia is a unitary state where there are various religions, tribes, ethnicities and races (SARA). Religion, ethnicity, ethnicity and race are united under the auspices of the Indonesian nation which is symbolized by the Garuda Bird (Pancasila). Because of its diversity, it is no exaggeration to say that Indonesia is a pluralist country. The Indonesian people in their daily lives come into contact with people who have many differences, both ethnic, cultural and religious differences. Pluralism as a fact that in a life with humans there is diversity of ethnicity, race, culture, and religion. Pluralism as a perspective for mutual respect (appreciative) in a heterogeneous

society, namely various ethnicities, races, religions and social groups is to accept each other, encourage participation, develop traditional culture and specific interests in the common life environment.

Religion will maintain society in fixed societal patterns, for example in diversity, there are customs of family life, ethnicity, marriages that have a religious background and are bound by religious and cultural sanctions. None of the religions and beliefs professed by mankind teach violence, hatred towards humans and living things. The reality is that there is a wrong understanding of the teachings of the religion they adhere to. Differences in ethnicity, race, religion are inevitable in God's creation. Denying these differences is the same as denying nature.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Religion is a feature of universal human social life in the sense that all people have ways of thinking and patterns of behavior that meet the requirements to be called religion. Factors that cause inter-religious conflict include differences in doctrine in each religion, issues of differences in ethnicity, race, ethnicity, cultural level, as well as issues of majority and minority between adherents of the two religions. Efforts to deal with inter-religious conflict are preventive measures such as establishing good communication between religious communities,



increasing trust and faith between adherents of different religions, and developing values that are considered good by society. Meanwhile, efforts to resolve conflicts can be done by means of: integration or collaboration, compromise, domination or competition, accommodation, avoiding.

In terms of religion, each religion has its own thoughts and guidelines. A person who adheres to one religion with another certainly has differences in behaving and acting according to his religion. One's belief about religion is indeed a very sensitive matter because it involves adherents of other religions. Therefore, to avoid clashes between religious communities, each religious adherent should have a high tolerance attitude.

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