

**POEM**

(Photo caption: Waiting for electricity in Aid Houses and Free Electricity Installation)  
(read page 4-5)

**Residents land used to construct road**

Dina Damayanti  
Aceh Besar  
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Residents of Gle Bruek Village, Lhoong Sub District, Aceh Besar are worried. The problem is that some part of their land has become an alternative road for Meulaboh – Aceh. And their concern has worsened because until now, there has not been any compensation from the government.

“It has been two years, however the government has not given us any compensation at all,” said Syarifuddin (30), a resident of Gle Bruek village.

**Due to emergency**

According to Syarifudin, when the tsunami hit Aceh, some of the main roads that connected Banda Aceh – Meulaboh were totally devastated. The Indonesian army from the reconstruction troop (zikon) constructed an alternative road to open up the isolation of the regions hit by tsunami.

Due to emergency, they built such road in another location, which apparently belonged to the residents.

“Whereas the land used for such road previously consisted of rice-fields, graveyard, corn-fields, plantations, even ruins of residents’ houses,” Syarifudin said again.

**Forced to purchase land again**

The area of land taken by the alternative road caused many residents to feel cheated.

Sabarullah (22), as an example. Since his land was used for this road, he therefore had to purchase new land to be able to acquire aid housing from an NGO. And he had to pay 3 million rupiah for a 16x16 meter<sup>2</sup> land.

“My land, which was used for road, was 15x12 meter. Quite large for a house,” he said while smiling bitterly.

For compensation, the people demand that the government pay an appropriate price. In particular plantation land which is Rp. 40,000 / meter. While for housing land the price is Rp. 70,000 / meter.

**Blockade**

Since they have not received any response, the people have begun to block the road crossing Glebruek village using tree trunks, thus making it difficult for transportation between districts.

Due to such, the people stated that if the road still remains unpaid, then in a few days ahead they shall permanently close the road.

Other than Gle Bruek village, there are two other villages experiencing similar situations, namely Pudeng Village and Pasie Village, Lhoong Sub District. The distance of the alternative road, which took over residents’ land reaches more than 5 kilometers.

(Cartoon)

**SMS**

**Peace be unto you.** I am very pleased to see Aceh residents, who are strong in facing these trials. Especially when witnessing the possible economic development, whether in villages or cities.

FAISAL ARIEF  
Jeulingke  
(08126973257)

**Gambling** is everywhere, prostitution continues to increase, drunken people are adding up, there were WH parties who were also involved, but the worst part is that corruptors are still roaming around. Where did Islamic regulations go? Do they apply only to those at lower level? If that is the case why don't we dismiss WH? Prostitution is worth more than a corruptor. Please do not turn Islam regulations into puppets on a string.

KHALISULATFA  
Nagan Raya  
(085277036091)

I would like to say something to WH, particularly the one in Banda Aceh, and NAD in general. Why only raid those with no head scarves, but letting the ones with tight clothing in the middle and below go. They roam free and are not raided, please go down to the markets and take a look at those Aceh women, from their heads they are Moslem, but when we look downward, they are not Moslem, and they look western, that is not our culture. What is the point of covering the head if the clothing is tight? WH, please lecture them.

AZHAR  
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(085260479701)

**Corruption**

**Cases in Deah Baro and Alue Deah Teungoh**

**The Low Quality Houses Made by YBI**

Muhammad Azami  
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Mursinah (38) and Burhanudin (50) acknowledged that they were exalted when receiving information that they shall receive houses. Just like hundreds of other KK (Family Heads) in refuge, living in barracks is extremely inappropriate.

Therefore, when the Yayasan Berkati Indonesia (YBI) were planning to build houses in Deah Baro and Alue Deah Teungoh Villages, Meuraxa Sub District, Banda Aceh, the residents were extremely happy.

"At the moment, we think that rather than living in barracks, it is better to live in a house, even though the one to be built will be a semi permanent house," said a number of residents.

Six months after the tsunami, the construction began. In accordance with the plan, the houses built were semi permanent type 36 houses. YBI was only the implementing party since the original donor was an NGO from USA.

**Something weird**

YBI built 191 housing units. 100 units for Deah Baro village and 91 units for Alue Deah Teungoh village.

At the beginning, some of the residents admitted that they did not notice anything strange. However, when the construction phase reached 50 percent, residents saw that there

were many items that were out of place. Nevertheless, there was nothing they could do since they were not involved.

“All the construction materials, workers, and et cetera were brought in by them. Logs for instance, they brought from Riau. What the specifications were, we did not know. We were not involved,” said a number of residents of Deah Baro village.

### **50 percent empty**

Approximately six months ago, YBI stated that construction has finished. Head of BRR, Kuntoro Mangkusubroto, even participated in the opening ceremony. However, a number of residents refused to receive them. Until now, as acknowledged by the YBI itself, more than 50 percent of houses in Deah Baro village are not inhabited by the residents.

While in Alue Deah Teungoh village, approximately 30 percent is inhabited. The cause is that the residents assessed that the quality of the houses are below standards. The majority of the woods used are now being eaten away by termites. Other parts have softened, and some are even ruined.

Not only has the quality of the woods become a problem, the roofs also leak during rain. Water floods their houses when the rain pours. The foundation construction was not in accordance with the standards. Some of the houses have shallow foundations.

### **Not responsible anymore**

How much fund was allocated for one housing unit? According to the Office Manager of YBI, Ridwan Manatu, to Ceureumen, last Friday, in the beginning it was R.30 million per unit, but then at the end of 2005 it was increased to become almost Rp.40 million.

Concerning the various complaints from residents, Ridwan said that the house project has finished. YBI, he said, is no longer responsible.

All forms of damages that took place after the houses were handed over are no longer the responsibility of YBI. This has directly become the responsibility of house owner. House damages also occurred because the residents ignored them,” he said.

What about the quality of the woods used? Ridwan also admitted that the woods used have high quality, they were even delivered from Riau. Nevertheless, Ridwan admitted that his organization shall discuss further with the residents concerning the houses that they were reluctant to live in.

While the spokesperson of BRR, Mirza Keumala said that BRR shall perfect every house aid that has been imperfectly built.

“BRR wanted standardized housing aid. BRR shall perfect every imperfection, but it is not currently our priority,” said Mirza shortly.

## **CEUREUMEN 34 - Page 3**

### **FOCUS**

#### **Dealing with Pilkada, do not forget the tsunami victims!**

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Suharyo is standing weakly in front of his shack. The life of the father of three children from West Java is under threat of suffering. His rights as a tsunami victim are almost never received. Why is this? “We built this house on our own, with no help from the government,” explained the man called Yoyok.

The truth is, for every tsunami victim who has a certificated plot of land, the government is supposed to construct a type-35 house for them. Beside being built by the Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Body of Aceh-Nias (BRR), Non Government Organizations are doing the same.

When thousands of other tsunami victims in some cities and regencies in Aceh are occupying new houses, the people living in the area of Tuan Bllik Ayie Punge Blang Cut District,

Jaya Baru Sub-district, Banda Aceh city, face the contrary. They did not receive anything, including Yoyok.

Here in Yoyok's village is where a giant barge ship landed after being attacked by a tsunami wave on December 26, two years ago. The locals realize that there was nothing to prevent all that, especially the massive disaster at the end of that year. Including the appearance of the barge which functioned as a diesel powered electric generator (PLTD). This ship belongs to the National Electricity Company (PLN). The victims there call it the floating ship or the Floating PLTD.

The giant ship which weighed 2,600 tons used to sail in Ulee Lheue, approximately 2.5 kilometers from Punge Blang Cut. "We are now getting more isolated, the government no longer cares about us," said Jafaruddin, another citizen.

In another month, the tsunami will already be two years since its occurrence. However, Jafar admits to being constantly ignored. Especially since the government is busy dealing with Pilkada (The election of the Regional Heads). "Nyoe gara-gara Pilkada, naseb-naseb kamoe hana jeulas – this is because of the Pilkada, our destiny is unclear," he added.

That is why he is being apathetic towards the approaching voting day. However, he realizes that Pilkada is also an important matter. But in between that, he hopes that the issue of the tsunami victims will not be forgotten.

Jafaruddin admits to not want to point out whose fault this is. But one thing for sure is, until now, he, who is clearly a victim of tsunami is still of uncertain fate. "I see that until now there has never been any effort to settle our problem, everyone is busy with Pilkada," he complained.

The same is also felt by Aminah and Salihati, the tsunami victims in Lampaseh Kota and Lampulo. Both are still hoping that the housing aid shall arrive. Instead, the success team of the governor and mayor candidates are coming for support. "Pane ek tapike keu Pilkada, jatah rumoh mantong tan mupat sapat – when do we have the time to think about the Pilkada, while our housing allotment is nowhere in sight," she said.

Yoyok also feels the same. The Pilkada is much less putting aside and forgetting about their fate. "It is true indeed that they are both important. However it seems that the government is more focused on Pilkada," he said.

He knows that the Pilkada issue will not be for long. "But if it stays like this, our fate will become even more unclear. Both of them should run together properly," hopes Yoyok. Aminah and Salihati also do not want Pilkada to interrupt government concentration on finalizing the construction responsibility.

**(Picture)** A child from the yellow refugee barrack is eating candy cane in front of his house terrace. Until now there are still many of the tsunami victims living in barracks spread out in several regions in Aceh (above). Some kids from the yellow barrack occupants, Cot Kilat is playing soccer around the temporary homes for the tsunami victims (below).

Saifuddin Bantasyam SH MA – Social Politic Observer.

The People are sick of so many excuses.

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Many people are concerned that the Pilkada activities will overlook them for a while. Whereas, their conditions are very vulnerable, especially concerning their health

The Pilkada will not be extended. So if there are some who forget, this will only be for a while. But I hope no one forgets. With a disaster so huge, how could they forget? It is a sin if the mandate holder is putting on hold the housing construction just because of the Pilkada. Pilkada is a political matter while housing construction is humanity, the government responsibility towards their people. The people have the rights for a place to live in, rights for health, and rights for education. It will be difficult for anyone to obtain those rights if the rights for housing is considered secondary. It all starts from a house or a place to live.

The survey shows that many people living in barracks are not listed as voters for the upcoming December 11 Pilkada. How important actually is Pilkada for their future?

Of course the Pilkada is important for everyone, for example, if we choose the right leader then the leader will bring prosperity for the people, increase the education level, provide good healthcare, and so on. Victims are also citizens. So it is actually very important for them to give their votes in Pilkada so the changes they want could be obtained. However, since to vote is a privilege, it is up to the privilege holder to use or not to use it.

What is your suggestion in order that the housing is build faster so that the refugees do not have to live any longer in the temporary shelters?

To be realistic, to speed up the housing construction is actually not easy, though I recommended some things previously. I think, the regulation has to be foreseen, directed towards faster bureaucracy. Direct appointment for the housing construction is already being done, this has to be restrained with strict observation, do not let the greed of a contractor lower the quality of the housing construction. The regional office of BRR has to be pushed forward to "handle" the housing construction for the victims, no more disagreements such as that going on between Bapel deputies, regional office heads, and the regional government. The regional government also has to give a more concrete response, such as improving the coordination in supplying funds and housing locations. The regional government should not just act passively, they should be more active instead, such as conducting activities to raise funds.

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#### **CEUREUMEN 34 - Page 4**

##### **Cover Story**

##### **Your Comments**

Two years after the tsunami in Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam and Nias, there are still many refugees who have not yet obtained housing and the BRR is disappointing all people whereas such is a mandate which must be followed.

Yuni

Neusu. Banda Aceh (058261951486)

After almost two years of reconstruction and rehabilitation in Aceh, why is there a lack of results from the BRR? Look at the foreign institute's programs! They have succeeded at almost 90%, can the BRR be like them and act more instead of criticizing the editorial staff. I salute the Budha suci Amda program from Japan, they all go straight to action, instead of researching.

Amir Tuahma

Aceh Selatan (0819617516)

My comment is I do not like the progress and quality of the reconstruction since in our village there are still many houses that are still have unfinished construction and have been abandoned by the contractor and is also built in a poor way.

M. Yasir

Peulangahan Banda Aceh (081377181968)

My comment is that I do not like to see the quality of the reconstruction in Aceh because it is developing slowly and there are some houses of the tsunami victims which are built in a poor way. I hope my comment is read by the BRR so they can fix the reconstruction quality in Aceh and Nias, because a good reconstruction quality is a plus value for the reconstruction in Aceh and Nias.

Subhan Karama Putra

Beurawe (085260654143)

The reconstruction is depending more on the employment opportunities and the profit for the businessmen, while the victims only get bad quality houses. There are some not even built yet. Look at the examples in Alue Deah Tengoh.

Rafidah

Banda Aceh (081534062268)

**(Picture)** A house built by the BRR abandoned in the Pelangahan village by the contractor.

For those of you want to convey the Small People Voices in ideas, suggestion and criticism on reconstruction can be send by mail to

Tabloid CEUREUMEN

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Email: ceureumen@gmail.com

The Ceureumen tabloid is opening an article of "Your Comments". This article is to invite reader's participation to give comments concerning the topic which we will discuss per edition.

"Your Comments" will come every two editions or every even edition of Ceureumen. You can send your comments to 081360044730 by writing your comments, and your address. Your comments can also be sent through email: ceureumen@gmail.com or through mails to PO Box 061 Banda Aceh 23001.

(Picture) A technician from the Green Peace organization installing electricity through solar energy in Peukan Bada, Aceh Besar. This electricity installation for the tsunami victims is free of charge.

### **Waiting for Electricity in the aid Houses.**

Dina Damayanti

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Iwan (35) one of the villagers from Mulia Banda Aceh is feeling lucky. He obtained an electricity installment facility far easier than his other neighbors.

"I did apply directly to PLN and as soon as the house was ready it was installed immediately," he said to Ceureumen with a wide smile.

The electricity installer in his house came and installed the meter. All is done free of charge.

"I even got a message not to give even a penny to the installer," added Iwan.

According to Iwan the meter for his house is the last meter of the supplies. That is why he feels so fortunate to be able to enjoy electricity in the aid house from the Habitat in Humanity.

### **Has to pay**

This fortunate incident did not happen to his neighbor. According to Iwan, his neighbor had to pay to get electricity for his house.

The amount of money is rather low according to Iwan rather than having to wait too long. "Who wants to wait too long to have electricity in their house?" said Iwan.

Though the tsunami victims know that the electricity installment is supposedly free of charge, they do not think about it comprehensively.

"The money is given to the contractors since they are the ones keeping the meters," said Iwan.

The amount of money which has to be paid vary. Starting from Rp.50,000 to Rp.300,000. Most of the tsunami victims also do not ask too many questions about the payment. This is because the need for electricity is superior.

### **Coffee Money**

The payment case with varying prices also occurs in the area of Peulanggahan Banda Aceh. However in this area it is more known as "coffee money".

### **The amount?**

"In the range 50 thousand Rupiah, I have never heard anything above Rp.200,000," said Alfian, a villager from Peulanggahan to Ceureumen.

Similar to Iwan's place, the people of Peulanggahan also see "coffee money" as a normal occurrence.

"The installer is surely tired. The price is proper," said Alfian.

The term "coffee money" is similar to giving snacks and coffee to the worker. The habit is mostly done by house owners whose houses are being reconstructed when they do not have those two items.

### **Threatened**

In some places the requests for payment are much more vicious. Muhammad (not a real name) is forced to pay because if he does not, the house will never be installed with electricity.

"We are the victims of the tsunami, the installment should be free of charge," said Muhammad angrily.

The ones asking for payment are PLN's personnel. Because of the concern that his house will never get electricity, Muhammad finally gave up.

"What can I do, in this condition there are still people taking advantages," he said.

### **Told to report**

Many of these cases are predicted by the PLN. That is why they ask the tsunami victims to report to the authorities when someone is asking for money.

"They said if there are people asking for money, they have to sign the receipt with the name and the amount of money asked," said Iwan.

Unfortunately only few people do this. And it seems like the needs for electricity is causing the victims to keep their silence.

## **COVER STORY**

### **BRR SHALL ONLY HAVE TO INSTALL ELECTRICITY**

Dina Yanti  
Banda Aceh  
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Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency (BRR) Aceh Nias is targeting for electricity installation for 120,000 aid houses, by the end of next 2007.

"BRR will help electric installation for all the aid houses for free," says Iman the BRR's staff from the energy resources section.

Post the Tsunami disaster, BRR is helping the PLN Aceh by giving support in the form of the electric installation fee.

It needs to be noted, the electric installation shall mean cover the meter, electric cable and electric pole.

"Internal matters such as lamp installation and others are contractor's and house owner's responsibilities," says Iman

### **Number of Houses**

Besides taking care the electric installation at their aid houses, BRR is also helping Non Government Organization (LSM) which by chance has not as yet installed electricity in their aid houses.

"The problem for us is budget. Usually they – the LSM, red - shall only come after the budget has been arranged. It is then need to be rearranged," says Iman

According to BRR's data, when tsunami inflicted Aceh, at least 90,000 electrical circuits were destroyed. And his side is planning to add extra 40,000 electrical circuits for aid house.

### **Free Electricity Installation**

Dina Yanti

Banda Aceh

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Electricity installation is free, if one should pay for such that shall mean that that is a an act of PLN's officer or the contractor," says Syarifuddin Ibrahim the General Manager of PLN Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam.

His side gets relatively plenty reports considering the payment collected by the PLN's officer and also the contractor.

"I myself have warned the PLN's officer. That I can not do anything if they shall be rought to police station for their conduct," says Syarifuddin distinctly.

### **Less capacity**

PLN commits to insall all the electricity installation for the aid houses. As explained by BRR (Read: BRR shall only need to install electricity), PLN is only helping for electrical poles, cable and electricity meter.

There are hundreds of thousands of houses that will be installed. However he can not guarantee that all the houses will always be bright.

"Our current electrical capacity condition is in deficit. We are being helped by North Sumatera which currently is also facing the electric capacity deficiency," he says grinning bitterly.

In that according to Syarifuddin, all the customers either new or existing will still face the electric shut-downs in turns.

These numerous cases have already been predicted by PLN. So they asked the Tsunami victims to report to authority should there be anyone asking for money.

### **Do you know:**

- The house that already has electricity installation according to PLN standard which shall be installed.
- Electricity installation shall only for houses that will be occupied.

- Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Agency (BRR) shall only have the budget for free installation until the year 2007. In 2008 all the electricity installation will be in accordance with the normal installation price.

The target for electricity installation at BRR aid houses

Year	House
2005	19,177
2006	41,510

In the year 2007 the target installation is for 120,000 houses

(Picture) PLN shall be responsible for:

1. Electric meter
2. Circuit installation
3. Electric pole

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#### Cooking is easy

In a rush to cook but want something special? Why not try this stir fry vegetable? It is guaranteed that besides being healthy, the taste shall be comparable to that of a restaurant's.

Stir fry vegetable

##### **Ingredients:**

- 2 ounces or carrot
- 1 ounce or string-bean
- ¼ ounce of Cabbage
- 1 ounce of sweet corn
- . Leek to your liking
- . Scallion to your liking
- . 2 ounces of diced tempe
- . 1 ounce of shrimp

##### **Spices:**

- 10 grains of pepper
- 5 cloves of red onion
- 3 cloves of garlic
- Ginger to your liking
- 2 table spoons of oil
- Salt to your liking
- Seasoning to your liking

##### **How to:**

- . Heat the oil, put in the pounded spices
- . After it smells good, put in the shrimp, tempe, corn, leave for a minute
- . Put in carrot, string bean, cabbage, sweet corn. Leave for a few seconds.
- . Lastly put in leek and scallion, salt and seasoning to your liking. Stir it until it is even and its ready to serve.

## TIPS

Why fiber food?

Natural fiber food is needed by human's body. Natural fiber food is food by chemical structure do not change or sustain until reaching the large intestine.

Although the natural fiber food does not contain nutrition, however its existence is direly needed in the digestion process in human's body. Natural fiber food could be found in fruits and vegetables consumed every day.

Fiber food function:

1. Helps preventing constipation (difficulty in defecating).
2. Prevents the illnesses relating to the large intestine, including cancer.
3. Helps lowering the amount of cholesterol in blood.
4. Controls the amount of sugar in blood.
5. Prevents the hemorrhoids and decrease the body weight.

The necessity for fibre food for human's body is 25 until 35 gram each day.

Currently, there have been in circulation some brands of product that offer fiber drink. However it will be best if the fiber food is consumed directly from fruits and vegetables each day.

## Question and Answer

The requirement of capable to read Quran for the candidate

**Question:** We heard that the requirement of being capable to read Alquran for the candidates for Governor/Regent/Mayor and their deputies is the first requirement which applied in Aceh as well as the last. If so, it is very regretful. It gives an impression that implementation of Syariat Islam is meaningless. Is it true? Then, is it true that for election of camat and keuchik will also require the capability to read Alquran?

Dinaiaati Sulaiman  
Darussalam, Banda Aceh

**Answer:** The inclusion of requirement for capability read Alquran for the candidates is based on Qanun's contain no.7 year 2006 about the Second Amendment to Qanun No.2 year 2004 on the election of Governor/Governor's deputy, Regent/Regent's deputy and Mayor/Mayor's deputy at Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam province.

Now, if the requirement is erased or changed, first it must revise the qanun. And the one with authority to revise qanun is member of DPRD NAD. To date there is no rule that requires that a candidate for keuchik or camat must be capable to read Alquran.

PNS to become a member of Monitoring

**Question:** Even if someone is a PNS member, a while ago my friend encouraged himself to register as Election Monitoring member at the subdistrict. And now he became a member of Election Monitoring at Mutiara Subdistrict, Pidie.

While I was not brave, afraid of being fired and breaking the rule. Even though I am very interested in doing so. Now I regret it, why had I not enrolled then. Can a member of PNS actually become a member of Election Monitoring?

Musa Ahmad  
Beureunuen, Pidie

**Answer:** Based on qanun, Subdistrict Monitoring Committee (PKK) is a part of the district/city supervisor committee which shall implement the monitoring of the election process at subdistrict area.

According to the Head of Panwaslih NAD Iskandar Muda Province, based on the circular letter of the Minister of State Apparatus Empowerment, a PNS is allowed become a member of Election Monitoring as long as having obtained the permission from their superior.

So, one of the requirements to becoming a member of the Election Monitoring for a PNS shall be to obtaining a permission from the superior.

#### **Crossword Ceureumen no.34**

Across:

1. Provincial head
4. Strong influence that causing an effect
7. Like
8. Lever
9. Name of bird
11. Tool
13. The effort to influence and gather the mass for political support

Downwards:

1. Hammer
2. Write "ESP"
3. Interest
5. Trust or behavior of certain community which righteousness is uncertain.
6. Level of position in Hindu's society.
9. Not bad
10. Moon civet
12. Happy

The answers to Ceureumen Crossword no.33

Across:

1. Diabetic
5. Play
6. Are
7. Gas
8. Ripples
9. And
10. Hope
12. Epic
14. Transport

Downwards:

1. Data
2. Boa
3. Agile
4. Sauce
5. Independent
9. Profess
11. Root
13. Ounce

The winners of crossword edition no.29

. Ummu Khalishah  
Kelas V A SDU IQRA

Blang Paseh, Sigli

. Ruswanda  
Jl. Iskandar Muda No:65/Toko  
Kartini  
Langsa

. T.Anwar  
Jl.SM.Yamin 6A  
Peunayong Impala  
Banda Aceh

. Fitria SE  
Jl. Darussalam Lr.Pase  
Gg.Mangga no:86  
Hagu Selatan  
Lhokseumawe

. Hartatika  
Jl.T.Nyak Arief 110  
Komp.Balai POM  
Lampriek, Banda Aceh

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#### FIGURE

##### **The Spirits of Aisyah**

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(Photo caption) – Ibu Aisyah

Aisyah (47) in general is a typical Acehnese woman. Strong, tough and no retreat. She has been through ordeals and calamities numerous times. Nevertheless, she still stands up on her own feet. Her first ordeal started when Aisyah lost her husband, Teuku Muhiddin. A loss that cuts like a knife since Muhiddin was hit by a bullet when he was entrapped in the middle of an arms contact between the Indonesian National Army (TNI) and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM). "He tried to escape. However, he was chased and in the end he was shot," said Aisyah, who at that time had a 5 month baby boy. The death of Muhiddin for sure shattered Aisyah's heart, since she was used to being pampered and all her requirements were fulfilled by her husband. She moved from Lhokseumawe to her mother's home in Seunebok Seumawe village, Jeunib regency which is located 10 meters from the beach.

##### Selling Fried Noodles

"At that moment, all my requirements were covered by my mother who is only a widow, while the money to buy milk for my son is from my husband's inheritance," said Aisyah, reminiscing.

As the inheritance from her husband started to decrease, Aisyah was aware that it is not possible to only sit and wait. She should try to do something, and encouraged by her conscious she started to sell fried noodles with 100 thousand Rupiah as her capital.

It turned out that her wares sold well. From selling fried noodles, Aisyah could obtain a small outlet and a place for shelter.

"At that time in my village we could hear the firing of weapons and it weakened my heart. However, I accepted all that since I did not know where else to go," she said with a sour smile.

### **Then Came the Tsunami**

Just at the time when she could already support herself and fulfill her needs, the tsunami disaster swept Aceh, including Seunebok Seumawe village. "When the water receded, I went home with the intention to clean the house, but I was startled, I looked at my outlet area and it was cleared, there was nothing left," said Aisyah.

In the end Aisyah and her son Teuku Rafli resided at a meunasah (a small praying quarter, located only in villages) together with the other villagers. And the life as refugees then started. Although she was under heavy pressure, it did not purge Aisyah's determination to rise again.

### **Returning to the Village**

Having provisions which were collected gradually, Aisyah returned to her village and built a small hut with one room which could also be made as a vending place.

"If I live in a barrack, I felt that I could not expand since the business competition there is tight," said Aisyah.

Slowly but sure Aisyah started to rise, and now she has paid all her debts. "I would like to rise up again so I can accomplish a happy family just like other families who are headed by men," she said smilingly.

And Aisyah in general is a typical Acehese woman. Who is strong, tough and with no retreat.

### **CANDIDATE**

#### **Iskandar Hoesin – Candidate for Governor of Aceh:**

The People Want Changes

Muhammad Azami – Banda Aceh

Muhammad2004@yahoo.com

**(Photo caption)** – Ir. H. Iskandar Hoesin, MH

The figure of Iskandar Husain used to move forward as a governor candidate in the year of 2000, but he failed then. The return of this man to run as governor is triggered by the election which this time is carried by the people, not by the local Parliament (DPRD). Following is an interview by Ceureumen.

So, you believe the people's votes compared to the DPRD?

That is not the issue. If we are directly elected by the people, for sure it is more legitimate.

Why do you choose Saleh Manaf as your Deputy Governor?

Because he is a native from West Aceh, he is representing the Southern West area. Through all this time, there has never been someone who emerges as an original native from Meulaboh. So, he could represent as a candidate from that region. He succeeded as a district head in Bekasi (West Java) for a period of time, why wouldn't he be elected in his place of origin.

You have changed the Deputy candidates for several times and only with Saleh Manaf you look fit together?

I am supported by a coalition of eight political parties; therefore, the process of maturing from the parties themselves needed more time. During that long journey, certainly there have been evaluations.

In general what has become the factor for someone to fail in partnering with you, is it for the reason that you did not reach an agreement concerning the funds or because of other things?

Just ordinary matters, it is due to the evaluations from the parties.

Is your family supporting your candidacy as the governor?

They are very supportive. Sometimes they accompany me to visit the people in several places. They also reminded me to stay in the path and as a leader we should implement the people's mandate.

You are mentioned to be the first candidate who is set and prepared as a candidate for the governor of Aceh?

Yes, right. Since formerly, the plan for the Regional Head Election (Pilkada) was to be in June 2005. And later it was postponed, it was postponed until twice. Therefore, the consequences are that we need to go through a long journey. Since this is a direct Pilkada, the period of two years is

not too long, compared to the elections carried out by the DPRD. This is because we should visit all the hearts and centers of the people which are scattered throughout 21 regions all over Aceh. Therefore, it is time consuming for that purpose.

Then, from what you know, what is it that the people of Aceh actually want?

The people want changes, lead by a person who is capable to perform the changes for the better. And I believe, with my experiences in various areas, I am convinced if Allah permits that I am capable to make those changes. Added by my deputy who was a former pamong (executive office of village administration) and lastly as a former district head of Bekasi.

If chosen accordingly, what would you do?

First the internal matters, how to optimize all the resources that are in the government, so we could work effectively and efficiently.

While my vision is, "Aceh should move onward, the people will be intelligent, the religion is strong and in a peaceful and prosperous situation."

Name: Ir. H. Iskandar Hoesin, MH

Occupation: Head of Research and Development Bureau, Ministry of Law and Human Rights Republic of Indonesia

Place and Date of birth: Trieng Gadeng, Pidie/ May 11 1949.

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#### **PEACE**

##### **They raise questions, BRA answers**

Mohammad Avicena – Banda Aceh

sjechsyoh@yahoo.com

##### **(Photo caption)**

Former members of Free Aceh Movement (GAM) gathered at Nanggroe Heart Institution, which deals with the victims of conflict, especially former members of GAM.

Last August 16, the Aceh Peace Reintegrated Organization (BRA) launched the economic empowerment program called Reintegrated Aid Community-Based for Conflict Victims. This program changes the distribution approach, which initially was proposal-based to community-based.

By applying the mechanism of Regional Development Program (PPK), which is spread all over the villages in 17 regions of Aceh and which receives the people's trust, BRA expects that the people, victims of conflict would receive the relief as fair as possible.

So far, many questioned the fund distribution mechanism for the victims of conflict. Through this Ceureumen tabloid, every month a team from BRA will answer the people's questions that are received by sms. Following are the questions and answers for this month.

**Question:** Prior to the conflict, I had a business of producing bricks, but I had to leave behind that business for the sake of my family's safety. In order to start over the business I am having difficulties with the capital funds, I beg for an explanation. (From 08526050xxxx)

**Answer:** One of the objectives of the Reintegrated Aid Community-Based for conflict victims is to increase the productivities of the economic efforts or activities to increase the people's standard of living by providing capital for businesses and providing the economic means and infrastructure, education, health and others according to the people's requirements.

Based on this purpose, you have the chance to receive aid from this program. However, please be aware, that based on the mechanism of the implementation of this program, the village deliberation will determine who will be entitled to receive this aid program and for what purpose the aid shall be.

The initial step that you should do now is to make sure beforehand whether the village where you reside is listed in the aid program or not. For more information, you could ask the local PPK officer.

**Question:** I am a victim of the conflict; I lost my home and my livelihood, until now I am still an evacuee. How do I get help from BRA? (From 08527061xxxx)

**Answer:** To obtain a housing aid you could request directly to the BRA officer at the region where you reside. While, to obtain help due to the loss of livelihood, BRA already has a Reintegrated Aid Community-Based program for conflict victims.

This program was officially launched last August 16 and the implementation has started in 67 regions, which are the targets of this program.

As until now you are still an evacuee, therefore, to obtain such program, you should return to your village of origin prior to the evacuation.

However, make sure beforehand that the village where you reside is listed in the phase one (2006) of the target program. If it is not included, such village shall then receive the aid program in the second phase (2007).

**Question:** In the villages there are no records of conflict victims, how is the implementation of this program? (From 08526072xxxx)

**Answer:** Please be informed that in the Reintegrated Aid Community-Based for Conflict Victims, the listing or the mapping of the conflict victims will be carried out following the execution of the deliberation within the villages (MAD). The result from the mapping of the conflict victims will be reviewed during the Village Deliberation One (MD1) to ensure those who are listed are really the victims of conflict who will then have the chance to obtain the relief funds.

Funding for the Operational Activities and the Mechanism of the BLM Distribution

The funds for the Reintegrated Aid Community-Based for Conflict Victims are distributed directly to a collective account of the "BRA Funding Program". Such account will be immediately opened soon after the socialization of deliberation within the villages (MAD), and the specimen of signatures from all of the local associates (PL), one of the official members of UPK and from one of the community's representative who is elected through deliberation.

The distribution of Reintegrated Aid Community-Based for Conflict Victims will be carried out to a collective account of BRA Funding Program in three stages, namely at 6%, 50% and 44%.

The provision for each stage is as follow:

- Stage one (6%) will be disbursed following the BRA Province and the Province Social Agency receiving the letter of BLM fund request and letter of notification of the account number/photo-copy of the collective account of BRA Funding Program from the Operational Activities Manager (PjOK).
- Stage two (50%) will be disbursed following the issuance of the first SPC and submitted together with the other requirements by the PjOK to BRA Province which will be delivered to the Provincial Social Agency.
- Stage three (44%) will be disbursed following the stage two disbursement which has already absorbed at least 90%, or the latest on December 1, 2006.

Further explanation regarding the distribution of funds to the collective account of BRA Funding Program refers to the disbursement mechanism and the application of the BLM fund policy.

Similar to the PPK, the distribution of funds from the collective account of BRA Funding Program is based on the requirements of the village which is written in the Fund Utilization Plan (RPD) and submitted by the village/TPK to UPK.

**(Photo caption)**

Office of the Nanggroe Heart Institution

List of Regions that have submitted the Operational Activities Fund

Aceh Barat

Samatiga

Aceh Barat Daya	Babahrot
	Tangan-Tangan
Aceh Besar	Mesjid Raya
	Krueng Karona Jaya
	Darussalam
	Suka Makmur
Aceh Selatan	Kluet Timur
	Tapaktuan
	Samadua
	Kluet Selatan
Aceh Singkil	Longkip
	Sultan Daulat
Aceh Tamiang	Manyak Payed
Aceh Tengah	Kebayakan
	Laut Tawar
Aceh Tenggara	Lawe Alas
Aceh Timur	Banda Alam
	Julok
	Rantau Selamat
	Peureulak Barat
	Peureulak
	Pane Bidari
	Indra Makmu
	Simpang Ulim
	Peudawa
	Idi Tunong
	Madat
	Rantau Peureulak
	Nurussalam
	Darul Aman
Aceh Utara	Langkahan
	Sawang
	Nisam
	Simpang Keuramat
	Seunodon
	Syamtalira Bayu
	Kuta Makmur
	Matangkuli
	Paya Bakong
	Baktiya Barat
Bener Meriah	Pinto Rame Gayo
	Timang Gajah
	Syiah Utama
Bireuen	Peudada
	Peusangan Siblih Krueng
	Peusangan Selatan
	Gandapura
	Samalanga
	Makmur
	Jeumpa
	Jeunieb
	Juli
	Jangka
Gayo Lues	Terangon
	Pining
Nagan Raya	Seunagan Timur

Pidie

Mila

Beutong

Geulumpang Baro

Mane

Bandar Dua

Sakti

Geumpang

Titeu/Keumala

Teupah Selatan

Simeulue