

Remarks of The Speaker of Indonesian House of Representatives in the Site Visit to Puja Mandala complex, Nusa Dua Bali

The Parliamentary Event on Interfaith Dialogue

theme:

The Parliamentary Role in Promoting Interfaith and Intercultural Cooperation

by:

DR. H. Marzuki Alie

The Speaker of Indonesian House of Representatives / President of PUIC

Puja Mandala complex - Nusa Dua Bali, 23 November 2012 Assalamu'alaikum warohmatullahi wabarokaatuh.

"Peace be upon all of you and may Allah bestow His Mercy and Blessings".

Honourable,

- Participants of the parliamentary delegation at the
 The Parliamentary Event on Interfaith Dialogue,
- Invitees, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a meaningful moment for me to be together with all of you here, visiting the Puja Mandala complex, located in Nusa Dua Bali. This place is a symbol of togetherness and miniature of harmony among followers from different faiths in Indonesia; a symbol that humankind can live in harmony despite of their having different faiths. As we understand, differences in faiths are one of the unavoidable things in life.

Looking back to the history of establishment of Puja Mandala complex, it was started from an initiative of Muslim community in Bali to have a mosque in Nusa Dua Bali. The initiative was accommodated by the then Indonesian Minister of Tourism Joop Ave, by providing five kinds of places of worship from five different faiths in one complex, dedicated to be the symbol of harmony among followers of different faiths. The complex included the requested mosque from the Muslim community in Bali.

In its progress of establishment, the complex of Puja Mandala has included the Catholic Church of Bunda Maria Segala Bangsa (1997), Protestant Church of Bukit Doa (1997), Ibnu Batutah mosque (1997), Budhina Guna temple (2003), Jagat Natha temple (2005). This complex has functioned not only as the places of worship for followers of five different faiths, but also as one of the main tourist destinations in Bali. From the past to now, the harmony among followers of different faiths in Bali is outstanding, as reflected in this Puja Mandala complex. I do also believe what inspires and translates into the substantial meaning in the complex of Puja Mandala, that

is about the harmony and togetherness among followers of different faiths, is also available in other parts of the world.

The richness of local wisdom showed that people of different faiths can live in harmony, translating the tenets of a religion into universal and human values, which bring goodness to all parties. The faith and obedience to God the Creator, as stipulated in the tenets of a religion, is a basic human right for all humankind.

The portrait of religious and moral message is fully reflected in the Puja Mandala complex, that is about a grand meaning of harmony and togetherness among followers of different faiths. We hope that our visit to the Puja Mandala complex would strengthen our inspiration and spirit much further for the establishment of harmony and togetherness among followers of different faiths in our respective countries. *Insya Allah*.

Thank you.

Wassalamu'alaikum warohmatullahi wabarokaatuh.

"Peace be upon all of you and may Allah bestow His Mercy and Blessings".

Nusa Dua Bali, 23 November 2012

President of the Parliamentary Union of OIC Member Countries / the Speaker of The Indonesian House of Representatives

Dr. H. Marzuki Alie