

ANNUAL

REPORT

2024



**umah
ramah**

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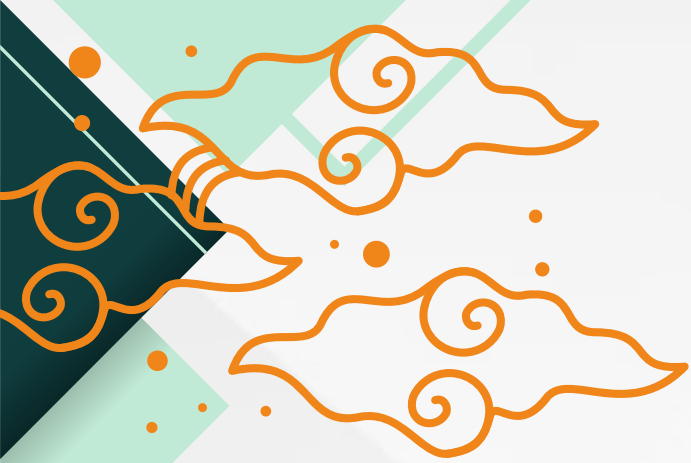


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DIRECTOR'S REMARKS

LEGALLY and formally, Umah Ramah was founded in 2020 with the support of the National Organization of Asians and Pacific Islanders Ending Sexual Violence (NAPIESV). We have since carried out research, trainings, discussions, supports, and grassroots efforts related to reproductive health and rights, sexuality, and ending sexual violence.

While working in the field, we encounter a wide range of intricate issues and difficulties. Nonetheless, there are two primary issues in the efforts to eliminate sexual violence in Indonesia. First, people still misinterpret what sexual violence means. Their misconceptions stem in part from the belief that sexual violence solely refers to rape and that other forms of violence, like verbal abuse and sexual harassment, are not sexual violence.

Furthermore, people in Indonesia, who are predominantly Muslim, still believe that healthy sexual relations should only take place in marriage. This viewpoint makes the aspects of willingness and consent in sexual relations not a main concern.

Among the impacts are marital rape and other forms of sexual violence in marriage that are hard to identify as such. The fact that many still find it hard to recognize the unequal power dynamics between victims and offenders also contributes to misunderstandings.

The second significant issue is that sexual violence is getting harder to unravel because the entry point for talking about it has become taboo. Most people in Indonesia still believe that discussing sexuality is taboo. In fact, this taboo is not totally accurate because people discuss sexuality openly in some settings. It is possible that the taboo was created to further oppress and discriminate against women who encounter sexual violence.

These challenges strengthen our commitment to working at the grassroots level to create a life that is free from violence, just, and upholds human values. In 2024, along with the same initiatives as the year before, we are more serious and focused on organizing Sekolah Sudhamala (Sudhamala School). One could say that this is the year we found the form of how this program should be carried out.

Finally, this is the report that we can submit as an accountability to the public. Hopefully it can be a shared learning experience and synergy in the movement to eliminate sexual violence. []

TURISIH WIDIYOWATI
Executive Director of Umah Ramah



ACTIVISTS / STAFF

TURISIH WIDIYOWATI



The Founder and Executive Director of Umah Ramah. Alumni of the an-Nidhom Nurul Huda Islamic boarding school, Gamprit, Brebes. Since 2006, this woman, known as Asih, has been active in giving trainings on reproductive health and sexuality to *santri* (students of Islamic boarding schools) and college-student communities in Cirebon. In 2018, she established the Umah Ramah community to rally the movement for sexuality education, reproductive health and sexual violence prevention. Together with Umah Ramah, Asih supports young people and students who have encountered sexual violence. Currently also works as a lecturer at the Fahmina Institute of Islamic Studies (ISIF). Asih can be reached at asih@umahramah.org.

ABDUL ROSYIDI

He has educational experience in *pesantren* (Islamic boarding school) for 7 years. Since 2011, he worked as a journalist in a print newspaper until he left in 2016. After then, he worked a writer and editor in several online media on issues of culture, interfaith and gender equality until 2019. During that time, in addition to writing and editing, he conducted study on these three topics. Since 2020, he has worked at Umah Ramah as a researcher, writer, and editor. Can be contacted at rosyid@umahramah.org.



MAHIROTUS SHOFA

Born on May 18, 1997, in Subang. Her daily activities are not distant from our bookshop, 'umahramah_store', and include reading, developing book contents, and holding book discussions with friends, both offline and online. You can contact her via email: shofa@umahramah.org.





NAPOL RIEL

Writer and translator for Umah Ramah. From 2016 to 2019, he learned and worked as an editor and article writer in a media outlet focused on gender equality and Islam. In 2019, he joined a youth community to learn about sexuality. He is interested in fiction and poetry. He also likes cats. Napol can be reached on Instagram: [@napolriel](#) or email: napol@umahramah.org.

AHMAD HADID

In 2011, he attended a *pesantren* (Islamic boarding school) in Babakan Ciwaringin, Cirebon. From 2012 to 2015, he was involved in the Kroya-Karanganyar Santri Association's activities, which included youth discussions from prayer room to prayer room. He began active as an interfaith youth activist in Cirebon in 2014 and continued until 2017. During the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019-2020, he worked to develop the creative economy of local young people by training them to be digitally literate and running online shops. He has worked at Umah Ramah since 2020 until now as a news writer and supports young people in resolving their personal and social issues. Hadid can be contacted via email: hadid@umahramah.org.



PRASETYO ADITYA

Born on August 9, 1994, in Cirebon. He enjoys the arts, particularly music, visual arts, and writing. In addition to teaching at training institutions and schools, he currently also works as a content creator at Umah Ramah while still learning about sexuality and sexual violence in this small community. Adit can be contacted via email: adit@umahramah.org.





VISION

To set out a vision of societies that are free from violence, just, and uphold human values.

MISSION

Our mission is to end sexual violence through: (1) research; (2) dissemination and training; and (3) publications and campaigns in online media.

1. JUSTICE

2. HUMANITY

3. COMPASSION



THREE BASIC PRINCIPLES

In carrying out missions or works to achieve the vision, we uphold three basic principles: Justice; Humanity; and *Rahmatan lil 'Alamin* (Compassion for All).



Sekolah Sudhamala

SEKOLAH Sudhamala (Sudhamala School) in 2024 was attended by 10 participants, consisting of 8 women and 2 men. This school is held every Saturday and has 8 meetings. Held from September 14 to November 3, 2024.

This school's curriculum covers sexuality, sexual violence, intersectionality, trauma, and unraveling experiences with the river of life.

Sekolah Sudhamala is designed to help participants comprehend sexual violence and sexuality as an experience that is inextricably linked to daily life, rather than just as a theoretical concept. Thus, the goal of this school is to truly raise awareness.



RETRET SUDHAMALA

RETRET Sudhamala (Sudhamala Retreat) is a continuation program of Sekolah Sudhamala. In this activity, participants learn in person with Nina Jusuf (Co-Founder of NAPIESV) at Padepokan Tompak Watu (Tompok Watu Learning Space), Girimulyo, Gunungkidul, Yogyakarta. The activity was held on December 13-16, 2024.

Participants conducted *Udar Rasa* by sharing how they had changed while enrolled in Sekolah Sudhamala. They next learned about the process of unraveling and self-discovery. Additionally, participants learned how to use holding techniques to calibrate both themselves and others.

CONFESSIONS OF

Sekolah Sudhamala PARTICIPANTS

Putri Awaliyah:

"When my parents asked about Sudhamala, I said Sekolah Sudhamala is a school about life."

Ayuning Dharma Malik:

"My sincere gratitude to Umah Ramah for developing a program that can offer profound comprehension. Attending Sekolah Sudhamala is actually learning about being human."

Ahmad Khasan Basri:

"In seeing sexual violence, Sekolah Sudhamala attempts to respond well. Several other trainings that I have seen and participated in focus more on how to react."



KLUYURAN

KUYURAN is a part of the program activity that aims to disseminate knowledge about sexuality and prevention of sexual violence at the grassroots level. In 2024, Umah Ramah has carried out this activity 30 times by visiting community networks.

Communities visited included Islamic boarding schools, student organizations, campuses, and other local communities. Overall, approximately 1,490 participants gained knowledge from Umah Ramah through this activity.



WRITING WORKSHOP

UMAH Ramah held a writing workshop on June 25–26, 2024, for 16 participants, including novice writers, sexuality activists, and Umah Ramah's networks in the movement to prevent sexual violence.

Ester Pandiangan, the author of the essay collections on sexuality *“Akibat Menabukan Seks”* (The Consequences of Tabooing Sex), *“Sebab Kita Semua Gila Seks”* (Because We Are All Crazy About Sex), *“Maaf, Orgasme Bukan Hanya Urusan Kelamin”* (Sorry, Orgasm Is Not Just a Matter of Sex), and *“Seks Kita Memang Perlu Dibantu”* (Our Sex Does Need Help), instructed the workshop.

The program covered topics such as the fundamentals of writing, how to get started, how to write about sexual violence and traumatic events, and how to use writing as a mental health therapy.



BOOK DISCUSSION

UMAH Ramah discussed published works, such as *"Memahami Kekerasan Seksual Lebih Dalam"* (Understanding Sexual Violence More Deeply) and *"Pesantren, Seksualitas dan Kekerasan Seksual"* (Islamic Boarding Schools, Sexuality and Sexual Violence) with various student communities on various campuses.

A book discussion was also held for a book published by others, Ester Pandiangan's *"Seks Kita Memang Perlu Dibantu"* (Our Sex Does Need Help) on Friday, June 28, 2024.

Several communities, student organizations, and *santri* (Islamic boarding school students) who discussed the books included santri from Pesantren Aisyah Kempek, Kopi Satu Visi, Literasi Senja, Komunitas Cendekia Indramayu, Kopri PMII UNU Cirebon, Kopri PMII UIN Cirebon, Ikatan Keluarga Mahasiswa Indramayu (IKMI), and others.



MASCULINITY DISCUSSION

DISCUSSIONS on sexuality and sexual violence are conducted by involving not only women, but also men.

Umah Ramah holds discussions about masculinity and how men are constructed as perpetrators of violence.

This discussion is called "Keprapag Maskulinitas" which refers to the attachment of destructive masculine traits. This is held once a month to discuss masculinity from diverse perspectives.



SPEAKING AT VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS

ADDITIONALLY, Umah Ramah activists speak at a variety of events hosted by other organizations, including government agencies, campuses, student organizations, and communities.

Typically, Umah Ramah is invited to discuss topics including gender and sexuality, reproductive health, sexual violence prevention, bullying, violence against children, etc.



SERMON ON SEXUALITY IN PESANTREN

THE general public's understanding of sexuality is derived from Islamic teachings. Considering that Muslims make up the majority of the population in Indonesia, it is actually home to the greatest number of Muslims worldwide.

Every Thursday, Umah Ramah activists regularly learn about sexuality in Islamic teachings and Islamic boarding schools with K.H. Husein Muhammad, an Indonesian Muslim feminist.

The two texts that were examined are *"Ta'liq 'ala 'Uqudul Lujain"* dan *"Al-Mar'ah baina Asy-Syari'ah wa Al-Hayah"*.

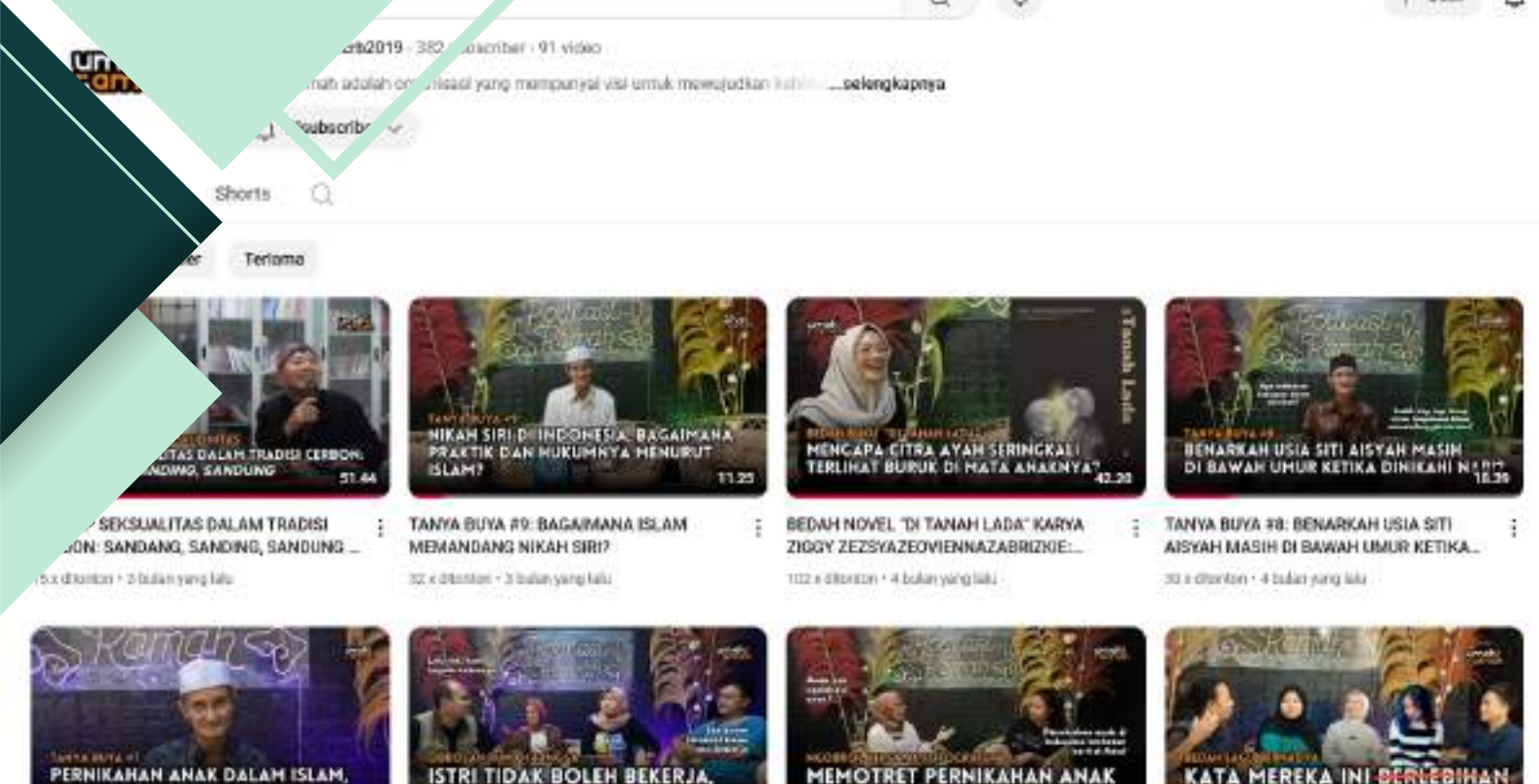


SYNERGY WITH STAKEHOLDERS

UMAH Ramah, as a movement, continues to work with a variety of institutions to address sexual violence.

In 2024, we signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Population Control, Family Planning, Women's Empowerment, and Child Protection Service (DPPKBP3A; Dinas Pengendalian Penduduk, Keluarga Berencana, Pemberdayaan Perempuan, dan Perlindungan Anak) on the Prevention of Child Marriage.

We also collaborate with other related institutions.



PUBLICATION

UMAH Ramah's understanding of sexuality and sexual violence has a distinct perspective and traits. These concepts must be introduced repeatedly in order to evolve into a large-scale movement.

We use all media channels, both conventional and online, to ensure that these ideas reach and greet more people.

Conventionally, publication is accomplished by publishing books. Umah Ramah's ideas are shared digitally via a variety of mediums, including websites and social media.

In 2024, we are focusing on developing "Podcast Ramah" on YouTube and Spotify.

THANK-YOU NOTE

We sincerely thank all of the individuals, organizations, and communities that are still supporting the Umah Ramah movement. Here are some of our partner organizations in 2024:

- National Organization of Asians and Pacific Islanders Ending Sexual Violence (NAPIESV)
- Padepokan Tompak Watu
- Moving Rasa
- DROUPADI
- FAMM Indonesia
- DPPKBP3A Kab. Cirebon
- Dinas Sosial Kab. Cirebon
- Dinas Pendidikan Kab. Cirebon
- Pusat Studi Gender dan Anak (PSGA) Universitas Islam Siber Syekh Nurjati Indonesia (UISSI) Cirebon
- Institut Studi Islam Fahmina (ISIF)
- Pusat Studi Gus Dur dan Transformasi Sosial ISIF
- Perempuan Tagar Tegar
- WCC Balqis
- Koalisi Perempuan Indonesia (KPI) Kab. Cirebon
- Pesantren Aisyah Kempek, Cirebon
- Pesantren Assalafiyah Bodelor, Cirebon
- Pesantren At-Taqwa, Bekasi
- Ma'had Aly Pesantren Kebon Jambu, Cirebon
- Pesantren Lemah Duwur, Cirebon
- Pesantren KHAS Kempek, Cirebon
- Dewan Mahasiswa Santri Kempek
- Women March Cirebon
- Abstraksi
- Gerak Puan
- Ikhbar.com
- Barisan Aksi Solidaritas Mahasiswa untuk Demokrasi (BASIS)
- Gusdurian Cirebon
- BEM Fakultas Hukum Universitas Swadaya Gunungjati (UGJ)
- Sekolah Cinta Perdamaian (Sekodi) Bandung
- Jaringan Cirebon untuk Kemanusiaan
- Kopri PMII Rayon Tarbiyah UISSI Cirebon
- Kopri PMII Komisariat UNU Cirebon
- Perkumpulan Penyandang Disabilitas Indonesia (PPDI) Kab. Cirebon
- Oemah Cirebon Inklusi (OCI)
- Oemah Setitik Cahaya
- SLB Negeri Cakrabuana, Cirebon
- Rumah Rengganis
- Kafe Satu Visi
- Kafe Terserah
- Sanggar Seni Ikhtiar
- LKP Primatari, Cirebon
- Sanggar Pringgading, Cirebon
- Lembaga Basa Cerbon (LBC)
- Komunitas Lentera Baca, Cirebon
- Komunitas Iqomah
- Komunitas Bajaka, Garut
- Lembar Grafika Group
- Ikatan Keluarga Mahasiswa Indramayu (IKMI) Cirebon
- Komunitas Cendekia Indramayu
- Etc.

Justice
Humanity
Compassion



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