

Faculty of Philosophy UGM Celebrates 50th Anniversary

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Faculty of Philosophy UGM celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. Established on 18 August 1967, the Faculty continues to progressively contribute to Indonesia.

“In its 50th anniversary, we hope there are many things to contribute in philosophy education and to enhance the Faculty in giving contributions to the country,” said Dean of Faculty of Philosophy, Dr. Arqom Kuswanjono, in the Dean’s report during the celebration on Friday 18/8).

Arqom further announced research, education, and community service programme that had run at the Faculty in the 2016-2017 academic year, also a number of achievements made by students and lecturers at national and international levels.

There was also a remarks delivered by Dr. Rr. Siti Murtiningsih with the theme *Interpreting Bhinneka Tunggal Ika: the Role of Philosophy in Multiculturalism Education*.

“Education in Indonesia cannot be bargained for, it requires multiculturalism education. Pancasila can be the basis for recognition in the multicultural society so that each individual, group, belief,

and faith can manifest themselves authentically without harming others," she said.

Siti cited data from Setara Institute that states in year 2016 there were 208 cases of intolerance with 270 forms of actions being perpetrated by various actors. Intolerance that is based on religion, she said, cannot always be seen as an internal believers problem only.

"Whenever they are in the stream that questions the state ideology, Pancasila, it certainly becomes a problem that involves bigger interests," she added.

In her opinion, the personal identity of citizens that resources from the multicultural Indonesia needs to be developed through civic education and all its forms. Development of civic virtue of citizens for common interests become the grounds for civil participation which is the end goal of this education.

"With multiculturalism education, respect and appreciation are expected to arise towards the dignity of human beings wherever they come from," said Siti.

The celebration of the anniversary has actually started since May with academic events, such as national and international seminars, followed by book review and shadow puppet performance.

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