

Faculty of Geography Responding to NII Polemics in Discussion

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Responding to the recent issues of NII, the Muslim group of Faculty of Geography UGM in cooperation with Indonesia Madani Foundation held a discussion aiming to prevent NII's influence on students. This event presented speakers from many parties, namely Sleman Regency Chief of Police, AKBP Drs. Irwan Ramaini, S.H., Dr. Muhammad Wildan from Sunan Kalijaga Islamic State University, observer of NII movement, and Drs. Syarif Hidayatulloh, M.Ag., M.A., from Directorate of Student Affairs, UGM.

AKBP Drs. Irwan Ramaini S.H on the occasion explained many NII's modes of deception. The Chief also appealed to students to be more aware and critical to all activities which obviously violate the law.

Dr. Muhammad Wildan delivered details related to NII movement and its links with other radical organizations and movements. Meanwhile, Drs. Syarif Hidayatullah, M.Ag., M.A., invited students to improve awareness and coordinate with their Faculty and university if they find matters related to NII.

In the event, a witness from UGM and also a victim of NII movement was present. In his testimonial, the witness explained that actually many students have already joined NII movement. However, many of them do not want to confess. In running its action, NII members often break the law and religion such as lying to parents to get money and other crimes.

Modes of recruitment are varied starting from meeting intentionally in book store, café, and mall or even on campus. The witness appealed to the students and community to not stay away from people who have left or not from NII. If these people are alienated, they will be more comfortable staying in the wrong group and therefore they are misled farther from the truth. They should be assisted and guided in order to be able to identify their mistakes.

In the discussion, the Muslim group of Geography also launched a publication, Anti-NII Propaganda Media. The media is expected to reduce the influence of NII among students. The event was closed

with the signing of a white cloth by all participants as symbol of anti-NII.

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