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Keynote address at the Kelapa Dua Human Development Project Seminar

By: Mrs. H.N. Achy Malik
Kelapa Village, Kelapa Dua
Tangerang
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Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a great honor to welcome you all to our remote and quiet village of Kelapa Dua.

Honored guests, and especially the ICA staff, whom I regard as the subsealers of humanitarianism, you might be interested to know that 3 years ago I opened this village for educational projects, the care for orphans and blind children, the handicapped and the old aged, and other social welfare activities. With the assistance of the Governor of West Java, the Bupati of Tangerang, and the Governor of Jakarta Raya, and the BPKS, which is a coordinating body for social welfare activities, in Jakarta and the participation of generous donors, our work has gradually grown into an enormous task. We hope that in carrying out this tremendous responsibility we actually are actualizing the principles of the Pancasila, which is the philosophy and way of life of the Indonesian people, especially the Humanitarianism. Honored Seminar! The theme of this Seminar is "The Realization of the principle of Humanitarianism" and its aim is to publish a handbook of the Kelapa Dua Human Development Project, which is the first of its kind ever held in this village.

I have outlined the course of the Seminar, but first of all I would like to draw your attention to the restrictions which I consider to be very important. In this Seminar all discussions that relate to politics and religion should be avoided. We will only focus on human development concerns. As I mentioned earlier, it is planned to produce a Kelapa Dua Human Development Project document, which gives concrete guidelines for implementing the projects programs, which in-dress health, education, and skills, community services, home industry, and agriculture. These topics are considered as a totality of the human needs. Approaching these concerns only with compassion will not be helpful. A practical and comprehensive approach which will produce concrete results for the people has meaning for the development of a nation.

In the national building of Indonesia all development needs to be people oriented. The next step is to look for a bonafide and responsible sponsor. The evaluation of the project thus should not be based on a gain-loss criteria, but on humanitarian criteria. This means that in its results we are not looking for how much one has gained materially, although it is an important factor, but what kind of mentality and style has the person developed in himself is more crucial.

I also believe that producing the handbook is not the ultimate goal of this seminar and is useless. The KDHDP document will only be of value if it will be implemented. I would like to call on the assistance of the consultants and the ICA staff who will implement the programs with the people. I am grateful that the village is being chosen as a pilot project for the KDHDP Seminar because I believe that development needs to begin from the grass roots level. It needs to start where the people need assistance in developing health, home industry, education, agriculture, etc. A socio-economic development which is simultaneously done will strengthen the village.

I hope that this seminar will be held in cooperation with the local people so that they will find a way in expressing their hopes and dreams, which every human being has. Because I am convinced that finally this seminar is out to serve mankind.

To the ICI who is organizing and financing this seminar, I would like to express my gratitude and sincerely thank them. And also to all participants, sponsors, and especially to the people of Kelapa Dua and the Islamic Village Staff.

Finally, I wish you a good seminar and I am looking forward to the concrete results of it.

Thank you

Mrs. H.H. Adam Malik