

**Indonesian transcript:**

Agus: Nama saya Agus Hernawan, saya lahir di Palembang ee... 16 Agustus 1975. Saya besar dalam artian pendidikan dasar, menengah dan atas di Palembang. Setelah itu, saya bekerja sebagai buruh di Tangerang kurang lebih setengah tahun, 6 bulan. Setelah itu saya ke Jogja, tinggal disitu hampir satu tahun. Dan tahun 95, 94/95 saya hijrah ke Padang dan menetap di Padang kurang lebih 10 tahun.

Pendidikan saya, saya selesai eee dari fakultas sastra Universitas Andalas-Padang, dengan studi Bahasa dan Sastra Indonesia dan juga Filsafat. Saya bekerja pernah sebagai jurnalis, terus hmmm.. sebagai tapi lebih banyak saya bekerja sebagai... sebagai aktifis NGO. Eee.. juga terlibat dalam beberapa kegiatan kesenian baik pada lingkup eee.. lokal pun nasional dan juga internasional. Saya menulis, saya lebih banyak menulis esay dan karya sastra.

Pengalaman kerja, Saya sebagai eee... jurnalis saya pernah bekerja di beberapa koran daerah dan nyaris bekerja di Kompas. Tapi tidak.. tidak.. tidak lanjut. Terus eee... sebagai penulis, penulis lepas, saya menulis di berbagai media, baik media lokal juga media nasional seperti kompas, republika, media Indonesia, tempo dan lain-lain.

Eee pengalaman saya sebagai aktifis, saya bekerja ee di lingkungan petani, buruh dan nelayan. Lebih banyak saya menghabiskan waktu saya bekerja di lingkungan ee nelayan, ee di lingkungan petani dan buruh. Baik yang ada khususnya di Sumatera, dan di Jakarta sampai ke.. ee.. berapa waktu saya pernah bekerja juga di Madura, terlibat dalam pembentukan serikat-serikat eee.. petani, serikat-serikat nelayan. Terakhir sebelum kesini saya bekerja eeee di Jakarta-Tangerang, di lingkungan buruh, daerah Tangerang, didaerah Cimone, Balairaja dan sekitarnya.

Pewawancara: Assalamu'alaikum Mas Agus, menarik sekali pengalamannya. Eee saya dengar di Padang selama 10 tahun, bisa bercerita apa yang dikerjakan di Padang selama 10 tahun itu?

Agus: Saya, pertama saya kuliah disana, terus eee.. saya terlibat dalam eee.. lingkungan, eee ya katakanlah lingkungan intelektual di Padang. Karena Padang punya tradisi intelektual yang bagus dalam sejarah intelektual Indonesia, Padang salah satu porosnya, saya terlibat disitu juga bekerja sebagai jurnalis di... dan penulis lepas di Koran daerah. Eee dari di Padang, ya... saya pikir tidak ada spesifik kerja tapi saya disamping studi, saya terlibat dalam kelompok diskusi pun dalam kerja-kerja eee.. mahasiswa, lebih pada kerja-kerja gerakan.. Ok, he eh.

### English translation:

Agus: My name is Agus Hernawan. I was born in Palembang<sup>1</sup> uh ... August 16, 1975. I grew up in terms of basic, middle and higher education in Palembang. After that, I worked as a laborer in Tangerang<sup>2</sup> for about a half year, six months. After that I went to Jogja<sup>3</sup> [and] stayed there for almost a year. And in the year of '95, '94-'95, I went to Padang<sup>4</sup> and stayed in Padang for about ten years.

My education ... I graduated from literature studies at the Andalas University,<sup>5</sup> majoring in Indonesian language and literature as well as philosophy. I was working as a journalist, and then ... hmmm, as a ... but mostly I was working as ... as an NGO activist. Uh ... I was also involved in some art activities, locally, nationally, and also on an international level. I did some writing, and mostly I wrote essays and some literary works.

In terms of work experiences ... As, uh ... a journalist, I was working in some local newspapers and I almost worked in *Kompas*.<sup>6</sup> But it didn't ... I didn't end up working there. And then, as a writer, a free-lance writer. I wrote in several media ... local media and also national media such as *Kompas*, *Republika*, *Media Indonesia*, *Tempo*, etc.

Uh ... my experience as an activist ... I worked in a farmer, worker and fisherman's environment. I spent most of my time working in ... a fisherman's environment, farmer's and worker's environments. Especially in Sumatra,<sup>7</sup> and in Jakarta<sup>8</sup> and in ... was working in Madura<sup>9</sup> for some time. I was involved in the formation of unions. Uh ... farmer's union, fisherman's union. Last time before I came here I worked ... in Jakarta-Tangerang, in a worker's environment, in *Tangerang*, *Cimone*, *Balairaja*<sup>10</sup> and around those areas.

Interviewer: *Assalamu 'alaikum*<sup>11</sup> Mas<sup>12</sup> Agus, You really have a lot of interesting experiences. I heard that you were in Padang for about ten years. Would you please tell me what did you do in Padang for ten years?

Agus: I ... first, I was studying there, then ... I was involved in ... an environment ... Well you can say that it was an intellectual environment in Padang. Because Padang famous with its great intellectual tradition within the Indonesian intellectual history.

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<sup>1</sup> Palembang is the capital city of South Sumatra.

<sup>2</sup> Tangerang is a city in Banten. It is located about 20 km west of Jakarta.

<sup>3</sup> Jogja is the capital of Special Region of Yogyakarta. It's located on the island of Java.

<sup>4</sup> Padang is the capital and largest city of West Sumatra.

<sup>5</sup> Andalas University is the oldest state university in Indonesia, outside of Java

<sup>6</sup> *Kompas* is the most widely read newspaper in Indonesia. It has a reputation in Indonesia for high-quality writing and investigative journalism.

<sup>7</sup> Sumatra is an island in western Indonesia.

<sup>8</sup> Jakarta is the capital of Indonesia.

<sup>9</sup> Madura is an island off the northeastern coast of Java.

<sup>10</sup> Cimone, Balairaja is the name of sub-districts in Tangerang city, Banten province.

<sup>11</sup> *Assalamu 'alaikum* is an Arabic spoken greeting used by Muslims. It means "Peace be upon you."

<sup>12</sup> *Mas* is Javanese for the word "brother."

Padang is one of the axes. I was involved in it and also worked as a journalist in . . . and I also did some free-lance writing in a local newspaper. Uh . . . in Padang, I think I did nothing specific in terms of work apart from my studies. I'm also involved in group discussions and in students unions. It was more towards students' movements. Okay . . .

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