

CultureTalk Indonesia Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>  
**Opinions on the Tsunami**

**Indonesian transcript:**

Pewawancara: Kalau setelah tsunami terjadi mungkin ada cerita-cerita masyarakat atau misalnya cerita baik yang masuk akal ataupun yang tidak mengapa tsunami terjadi?

Ika: Oooo.. (berfikir).. kaya sebab dibalik itu?

Pewawancara: Iya

Ika: Hmm kebanyakan mereka melihat dari sisi agamis ya.. karena 99%... 90% uh.. kebanyakan muslim jadi mereka... kebanyakan menganggap terjadinya tsunami itu ya akibat kita ga bener – bener mengaplikasikan syariah Islam karena sebelum tsunami, uh.. dua tahun sebelum tsunami kita udah.. Aceh itu udah.. apa itu istilahnya secara resmi menggunakan syariah Islam untuk menjalankan 90% roda masyarakat dan roda pemerintahan tapi masih banyak yang dilanggar seperti kalau main judi ditangkap dan sebagainya, atau dihukum dan dirajam dan sebagainya. Tetapi untuk orang – orang rakyat kecil seperti yang tidak punya kuasa hukum itu dihukum tapi yang punya kenalan atau gimana, yang punya power di pemerintahan ngga sampai dihukum jadi mungkin karena itu jadi ada timpang, ketimpangan disitu. Mereka menganggapnya dari pihak, dari yang sebelah ini. Uh... dan mungkin juga karena sebenarnya dari segi sumber daya alam punya banyak tapi tidak ada yang suka mengelola gitu. Jadi setelah tsunami itu kaya yang sadar gitu oh... ternyata kita seperti ini.. kita dimanja gitu karena terlalu kaya jadi kebanyakan orang Aceh itu manja gitu. Ga suka diperintah.. nah itu.. itu kaya watak gitu.. tidak suka diperintah orang Aceh jadi biarpun habis tsunami masih aja ada yang keras kepala. Jadi mungkin semacam pembelajaran gitu ya dari masyarakat Aceh sendiri.

**English translation:**

Interviewer: After the tsunami, were there any stories, believable stories or nonsense stories that were told in order to explain why the tsunami happened?

Ika: Oooo ... you mean the reason why the tsunami happened? Hmmmmm ... most of the Acehnese people saw it from a religious point of view. Well because 99% ... 90% of the Acehnese people are Muslim, they think that the tsunami happened because we are not conducting the Syariah Islamic Law<sup>1</sup> in a correct manner. Before the tsunami, uh ... two years before the tsunami we've already ... actually Aceh has formally used the Syariah law to rule over 90% of the way people were living as well as government activities, but those rules were not obeyed by the citizens. For example, if someone

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<sup>1</sup> Syariah Islam is Islamic religious law.

gambles, they [government or someone who has authority] will arrest and punish them using *rajam*<sup>1</sup> etc., but the bad thing is that it [the law] is only applied to poor people who have no power, because citizens or people who have power or who know someone who has power, they are free from those punishments. That's why there's social injustice. The rules are lame and only support citizens who are on one end and not the other. Another thing, we actually have a lot of natural resources, but no one is able to manage and organize them. So, after the tsunami we all realized that we Acehnese are spoiled. We feel spoiled because we are too rich. Most of the Acehnese people are spoiled. They don't like to take orders from other people. That is the characteristic of Acehnese people, even after the tsunami happened some Acehnese people are still stubborn. It's sort of like a lesson learned for the Acehnese people.

**About CultureTalk:** CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use everyday. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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<sup>1</sup> *Rajam* is a physical punishment for the person who violates Muslim law.