

Indonesian transcript:

Pewawancara: Tadi dikatakan bahwa pertama kali Mas ke pesantren itu Kang Dedi sebagai relawan? Hmm bisa cerita sedikit konsep relawan di pesantren itu seperti apa?

Dedi: Yang dimaksud dengan relawan bagi kami adalah karena ketika kami mengajar di pondok, kami itu tidak digaji sepenuhnya sehingga kalau dilihat dari angka nilai nominal uang yang kami terima itu tidak cukup untuk kehidupan kami sendiri apalagi dengan keluarga, maka kami sebut relawan. Tetapi dari sisi lain, masyarakat di sekitarnya itu mendukung dengan penyediaan, umpamanya dengan penyediaan makanan-makanan yang tidak harus membeli umpamanya sayuran, umpamanya beras atau makanan-makanan yang lainnya sehingga tidak semua kebutuhan hidup kami harus dibeli karena sudah disediakan oleh masyarakat. Kami diberi lahan untuk digarap dan dari hasilnya kami ambil untuk mendukung hmm.. keluarga kami sendiri.

Pewawancara: Apakah itu umum dalam konsep pendidikan pesantren di Lampung?

Dedi: Asal muasalnya pendidikan pesantren umumnya seperti itu. Guru-guru adalah relawan. Mereka sepenuhnya membaktikan hidupnya untuk eee.. mendidik di pondok pesantren tersebut, dan kehidupannya ditanggung, dijamin oleh eee... orang tua murid dengan tidak menentukan seperti gaji dalam sistim konvensional.

Pewawancara: Apakah selama ini banyak relawan di Lampung?

Dedi: Hmm di pondok pesantren kami sendiri, kami memiliki 1000 siswa dengan guru 110 guru dan tenaga administrasi. Itu semuanya relawan, dalam arti mereka mendapat gaji tetapi tidak penuh, tidak layak dibandingkan dengan upah minimum daerah tersebut. Saat ini, upah minimum tahun 2005 itu Rp. 700.000,- sedangkan gaji kami rata-rata hanya Rp. 300.000,- perbulan, per guru. Jadi masih jauh dibawah eee.. UMR, Upah Minimum Regional di wilayah Lampung.

Pewawancara: Apakah pemerintah ikut perhatian juga dalam masalah relawan ini?

Dedi: Iya, pemerintah memberikan dukungan dalam bentuk guru kontrak, kemudian juga memberikan dukungan dalam bentuk misalnya ada yang disebut dengan bantuan khusus guru, BKG, Bantuan Khusus Guru dan semua yang tercantum guru disitu mendapatkan jatah setahun sekali eee dicairkan setahun dua kali. Dan itu tidak permanen gitu, hanya sewaktu-waktu. Sampai tahun ini masih berlaku itu dan juga pemerintah akhirnya sekarang mengadakan program baru yang disebut dengan eee... guru kontrak dimana guru-guru dari pesantren yang memenuhi kelayakan itu diangkat menjadi guru kontrak, dia dari pesantren itu, tetapi ngajar di pesantren itu juga, gajinya dari pemerintah. Itulah kesejahteraan tambahan yang selama ini kami dapatkan.

Pewawancara: Apakah kesejahteraan itu cukup untuk biaya hidup keluarga, untuk biaya berekreasi, dan biaya pendidikan keluarga?

Dedi: Kalau dihitung secara matematis, sebenarnya tidak mencukupi gitu, tetapi karena itu dana yang dari pemerintah itu turun setahun dua kali, hmm.. jadi seperti tabungan gitu. Mereka gunakan yaa.. untuk rekreasi atau untuk kebutuhan yang lain. Kalau mau dihitung rata-rata, itu tidak akan cukup. Tetapi kalau dihitung insidental, ya.. secara spontanitas ya dari mereka banyak yang gunakan untuk kebutuhan-kebutuhan lain seperti rekreasi atau untuk membeli apa gitu.

Pewawancara: Apakah prospek pendidikan dengan merekrut banyaknya relawan di masa depan akan bagus atau mutunya akan menurun?

Dedi: Saya tidak tahu ya kalau dibandingkan dengan sekolah umum, tetapi kami sudah meyakini ini sebuah kebaikan dan kami optimis, terbukti eee perkembangan pondok pesantren kami bukan hanya di Lampung. Kami memiliki lima belas cabang dan mereka kebanyakan adalah sukarelawan, membaktikan hidupnya untuk pendidikan. Dan mereka didukung oleh pemerintah daerah, sesuai dengan peningkatan mutu pendidikannya itu sendiri gitu. Seperti sekarang ini pondok kami sudah eee... mendapatkan dukungan dari pemerintah selain dari dukungan untuk guru, misalnya pembangunan gedung, karena siswanya ternyata berkualitas jauh lebih bagus daripada mereka yang sekolah di sekolah-sekolah yang dikatakan sekolah favorit, sekolah bagus, fasilitas bagus, guru bagus.

English translation:

Interviewer: You had mentioned earlier than you started out as a volunteer in the *pondok pesantren*. Would you mind sharing with us the definition of a volunteer for your school, what it entails?

Dedi: A volunteer is basically everyone who teaches in our *pondok*. We do not have a formal salary, and if we see it from a nominal point of view, we don't have enough to cover for our daily expenses, not to mention that of our families. However, on the other hand, the community around the *pesantren* has been supporting us by providing for example food items so that we no longer need to buy them such as vegetables, rice or any other types of food so we do not have to buy all of our needs since they're already provided for us by the community. We are provided with fields to work on and we can harvest whatever we grow there to support hmmm...our own family.

Interviewer: Is this a common practice among the *pesantren* schools in Lampung?

Dedi: Yes, generally that's the source of *pesantren* education. Teachers are volunteers. They fully devote their life for uh.. to teach in that *pondok pesantren*, and their livelihoods are taken care of ... guaranteed by our students' parents, but we do not determine our salaries in a conventional way.

Interviewer: Has there been a lot of volunteers in Lampung so far?

Dedi: Hmm... In our own *pondok pesantren*, we have 1000 students with 110 teachers and administrators. All of them are volunteers, in a sense that they do not receive a formal salary. It does not meet the regional minimum wage in this area. Now, the regional minimum wage in 2005 is Rp. 700.000, meanwhile our salary is only Rp. 300.000 per month for each teacher. It is way under uh.... the UMR¹, the Regional Minimum Wage in the Lampung area.

Interviewer: Has the government shown any concern for the issues faced by these volunteers?

Dedi: Yes, the government also supports us through the provision of contracted teachers then they also support us through a program called special resources for teachers, BKG². All teachers who are enrolled in this program will receive an annual allotment. Uh.. It's usually cashed twice a year. It is not permanent, just once in awhile. The program is still running up until this year, and the government finally started a new program called ... contracted teachers, where qualified *pesantren* teachers are appointed as contract teachers...they're from the *pesantren*. They teach in the same *pesantren*, but they are contracted through the government. That's an example of an additional welfare that we've received so far.

Interviewer: Does the welfare cover your family's daily expenses, for their recreational and educational purposes?

Dedi: If you count it mathematically, it's definitely not enough. However, since the government provides us with the funds twice a year, hmmm we treat it as savings. They use it for recreation and for other needs. If we average it out, it's not enough. If we consider it as incidental funds, well spontaneously most of them would use that money for other needs like recreation and buying other things.

Interviewer: Will the educational prospect of recruiting a lot of volunteers in the future be good or would that actually decrease the quality [of the volunteers]?

Dedi: I don't know if we're compared to public schools, but we believe that it's a good thing, and we are optimistic about it. It's proven through uh... the development of our *pesantren*, not just in Lampung. We have fifteen branches, and most of them are volunteer-based. They dedicate their lives for the sake of education. And they are supported by the regional or districts governments, based on the increase of the educational quality of that particular area itself. Like now, in our *pondok*, we've already received government support aside from teachers' support, such as building construction. Because our students actually have a much better quality than those who are currently studying in schools are considered to be favorite schools, good schools, good facilities, and good teachers.

¹ UMR: *Upah* Minimum Regional or Regional Minimum Wages.

² BKG: *Bantuan Khusus Guru* or Teachers special resource.

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