

## **A Dream for A Safe Haven for Tourism**

### **Abang Naufal Rafif Siahaan – Nomor 27**

“To respect for bodily integrity, to decide to be sexually active or not, to access, sexual and reproductive health care services, to choose their own partner, are one of the sexual rights that must be respected in order to exercise the human rights responsibly.” – WHO, 2006

Sexual rights embrace certain human rights that are already recognized in international and regional human rights documents and other consensus documents and in national laws<sup>1</sup>. Aside from the feminist communities who is in fact often times stood side by side with LGBTQI+ communities fighting for not just emancipation but also sexual rights, the LGBTQI+ communities all over the world are striving and thriving for their well-being. In Indonesia however, the simple rights for safety and convenience for the LGBTQI+ communities are still being debated. Indonesia, as a country who upholds a high standard for religious values often time clashes with minority groups especially the LGBTQI+ communities, whereas the religious communities often times retorts the LGBTQI+ rights with the arguments that if the LGBTQI+ rights are being promoted then it would ignite the idea of LGBTQI+ to spread easily, especially to the young generations. Thus the religious communities often times resort to violence, be it verbal, physical, and psychological pressure.

One of the recent developments was that there was a transgender being burned to death in North Jakarta. A trans-woman named Mira (42) was burned alive after being accused of theft by a group of men who had done a beating to the trans-woman while rummaging to find the stolen goods, in which they actually could not find any evidence leading to the theft. This leads to the society believing that the group of men was just trying to find excuses to harm a transgender individual. However, regardless of the truth behind the alleged theft, this event caused an uproar to the LGBTQI+ communities all over the world, thus sparking fear to those of LGBTQI+ communities, giving them the question of whether or not Jakarta is safe to visit for those of minority communities.

Thus this give us a call to action. As Abang None, regardless of our personal view towards the LGBTQI+ communities, we ought to ensure the society that Jakarta is safe for any kind of tourist to visit, regardless of their ethnicity, religion, race, and sexual orientations. We should and could draw the attention through tourism and human rights campaign in order to ensure Sapta Pesona Pariwisata exists in DKI Jakarta.

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<sup>1</sup> WHO. *Gender and Human Rights*, [https://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/topics/gender\\_rights/sexual\\_health/en/](https://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/topics/gender_rights/sexual_health/en/)

## **Indonesia's Capital Relocation: A Polemic**

### **Abang Naufal Rafif Siahaan – Nomor 27**

*“Jakarta is love, one that cannot be erased by rain and is impervious to heat.*

– Sapardi Djoko Damono.

A nation's capital is indeed the most important area of a country. It serves as the center for government, often times business as well, information, education, technology, development, and employments. A capital needs to be strategic; for politics, economy, and also state's security. Therefore a careful planning in its development is of paramount importance in order for a capital to succeed, and eventually for a nation to succeed. Jakarta has been the capital of Indonesia decades, yet the story of its importance dates back to centuries far before 1964 when Jakarta was constitutionally being appointed as Indonesia's capital. The recent development of its story however, tells that Indonesia will be moving its capital to East Kalimantan, in the Penajam Paser Utara and Kutai Kartanegara regency to be exact. This decision was made after a thorough considerations and studies in order to make Indonesia a more decentralized country and solve its overpopulation and environment issues.

Despite the background and reasoning however, this decision sparks a round of controversy. Kalimantan is known for its rich natural resources in which throughout the decades has been degenerating due to excessive extraction of the resources. Even without the capital being moved to Kalimantan, the environment issues orbiting Kalimantan are already overwhelming, moreover those issues are yet to be solved<sup>2</sup>, as covered by a documentary made by WatchdoC Documentary titled *Sexy Killers* (2019). With such polemic at hand, thus the question arising to us now is; what can we do?

In Abang None's perspective, I believe the biggest challenge that we will have is to defend Jakarta's integrity and identity. Although the environment threat may be lessening in Jakarta when the day finally comes, yet the threats that Jakarta may face is the reduce of interests in investment, tourism, and also arts and culture. Eyes could shift its gaze from Jakarta to Kalimantan, which may still have a lot of unexplored and unexposed tourism, arts, and culture, which will tempt investors, medias, and tourists all over the world. Therefore, we as Abang None Jakarta needs to plan our strategy carefully, step-by-step, layer-to-layer, and also creatively, starting from today. One of the recommendations that I would propose is to Betawi-tize Jakarta by strengthening our promotions of Betawi arts, fashion, and culinary to all layers of society in Jakarta. I aim for that idea so that Jakarta will not be forgotten, and I myself refuse to leave my love for Jakarta, Jakarta shall never be forgotten.

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<sup>2</sup> Wicaksono, D.H. (Producer), & Laksono, D.D., & Suparta, U. (Directors). (2019). *Sexy Killers* [Documentary]. Indonesia: WatchdoC.

## **One Thousand and One Nights of Jakarta**

### **Abang Naufal Rafif Siahaan – Nomor 27**

The night is dark and full of terrors, yet the night is beautiful and full of stars. Although the stars might not be quite visible in the sky of Jakarta, yet Jakarta has its own stars that could magnetize the young and old, the students and businessmen, the locals and expats alike. The nightlife of Jakarta, the high-end restaurants, the lounges, bars, clubs, are the stars that illuminate the nighttime in Jakarta. The fast pace of life in Jakarta depletes the energy of the people living in it and lays out stress that needs relieving, and people living in this heartbeat of Indonesia loves to rejuvenate themselves in the nightlife of Jakarta. Stress-relieving however, always have something that is inseparable from this activity that has become one of the primary needs of people living in Jakarta. The terrors of the night always follow those who dare to go out after dusk and seek pleasure in the night of Jakarta. Drugs, violence, robbery, rape, and other criminal activities shadows and threatens the pleasure-seekers. Yet somehow this idea of the dark side of Jakarta doesn't stop the pleasure-seekers in fulfilling themselves. In fact, there are some of these people who actually go out seeking the dark side, and they tend to stay in one place and make it their safe haven, in this case, a nightclub.

Colosseum Club 1001, a superclub in West Jakarta that was established in 2013<sup>3</sup>, despite its international acknowledgement for being one of the best clubs in Asia, it is also infamous for its notoriety in overlooking drugs abuse under its roof. Despite the infamy and the routine "visit" by the police, this club always manage to go on with themselves and never gets deserted from its loyal visitors. The infelicity however, doesn't stop just there, it reached its peak when the acting head of Jakarta's Tourism and Culture Department gave the Adikarya Wisata Award to Colosseum Club in December 2019, just roughly two months after receiving a warning from Indonesia's Provincial Anti-Narcotics Agency for cases of drugs abuse. This sparked the outrage of the Governor himself, causing him to correct the issue himself.

In the writer's point of view, the relieve-action taken by Governor Anies Baswedan was indeed a correct decision. Jakarta cannot have an award-receiving nightclub who has been constantly receiving warnings on drugs abuse, especially when the award is state-issued, as it will give unsavory feedbacks to the government of Jakarta, whereas it could lead to the society perceiving the local government overlooking, and even sponsoring such notorious nightclub. However, there is indeed an error inside the local government itself, despite such error is rather odd to occur in a state's capital government. Yet, it doesn't change anything that we as a part of society should always be on the qui vive in reminding and correcting the government. After all, we are all the energy for achieving a Good Governance.

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<sup>3</sup> Colosseum Club. (2013). *Colosseum Jakarta*. <https://colosseum.id/>