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From respected hermits to ordinary citizens: The conversion of the Baduy, ethnicity, and politics of religion in Indonesia (1977 - 2019)
Suryani, A.J.

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From Respected Hermits to Ordinary Citizens

**The Conversion of the Baduy, Ethnicity,
and Politics of Religion in Indonesia (1977 - 2019)**

Proefschrift

ter verkrijging van
de graad van Doctor aan de Universiteit Leiden,
op gezag van Rector Magnificus prof.mr. C.J.J.M. Stolker,
volgens besluit van het College voor Promoties
te verdedigen op 28 januari 2021
klokke 10.00 uur.

door
Ade Jaya Suryani
Geboren te Pandeglang
1981

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To my wife Desty and our children Maryam, Umar, and Brillian.
With them my life is joyful.

Contents

A note on the transliteration system	x
List of tables and figures	xi
Glossary	xv
Acknowledgements	xix
Maps	xxi

CHAPTER 1

Introduction	1
A. Background	1
B. Previous Studies: From an Archaic Image to Development and Conversion	10
C. Focus, Questions, Methods, and Contribution of This Study	15
D. Understanding the Baduy's Conversion	18
1. <i>Theories of Conversion</i>	18
2. <i>From Hermits to Citizens: the Baduy's Conversion as the Process of Becoming Citizens</i>	22
E. Some Fundamental Issues in Categorising of the People	24
F. Structure of the Dissertation	25

CHAPTER 2

The Encounter Between the Baduy and Muslims and its Influence on Sunda Wiwitan	29
A. Introducing the Baduy: Asceticism as Identity	29
1. <i>Name</i>	29
2. <i>Origin: A New Consideration</i>	31
3. <i>Social Groups and Their Villages</i>	36
a. <i>Inner Baduy</i>	36
b. <i>Outer Baduy</i>	38
c. <i>Dangka Baduy: the Baduy outside the Desa of Kanekes</i>	38

4. <i>Social-Political Structures</i>	40
5. <i>Calendar and Activities in the Life of the Baduy</i>	42
6. <i>Religion of Sunda Wiwitan</i>	43
7. <i>Venerating (Muja) the Sanctuaries</i>	48
B. The Coming of Islam to Banten and its Influence on Sunda Wiwitan	52
1. <i>Cicakal Girang: a Muslim Village in the Adat Land</i>	54
2. <i>Shahāda</i>	56
3. <i>Adam and Muhammad: Prophets of the People</i>	60
4. <i>Circumcision/Incision</i>	61
5. <i>Marriage and Fiqh on Purification (ṭahāra)</i>	62
6. <i>Islamic-Arabic Vocabularies</i>	63
C. Conclusion	64

CHAPTER 3

Resettlement Programme of the Baduy: Development, Religious Missions, and Negotiation between <i>Adat</i> and Modernity	64
A. Resettlement Programme, Religious Agenda behind It, and the Issue of Identity	64
1. <i>National Resettlement Programme</i>	64
2. <i>Religious Agenda behind the Resettlement Programme</i>	69
3. <i>The Baduy's Reasons for Joining the Resettlement Programme: the Limited Adat Land and the Population Growth</i>	71
4. <i>Resettlement Programme of the Baduy</i>	75
5. <i>The Issue of Identity</i>	80
B. The Emergence of Islamic <i>Da'wa</i> and Christian Missionary Activities in the Resettlement Villages	86
1. <i>Islamic Da'wa</i>	86
2. <i>Christian Mission</i>	91
C. Negotiating <i>Adat</i> and Adopting Modernity	94
1. <i>Tourism</i>	94
2. <i>Electronics and Fashion</i>	96
3. <i>Modern Medication</i>	100
4. <i>"Polite" Sundanese</i>	100
D. Conclusion	102

CHAPTER 4

Islamic <i>Da'wa</i> Activities among the Baduy: Muslim Organisations, Local Narrative, and International Interests	103
A. Muslim Organisations and <i>Da'wa</i> Movements among the Baduy	103

1. The <i>Lembaga Dakwah Khusus</i> (LDK) of Muhammadiyah	104
a. <i>Palopat: Zainuddin Amir, His Wife Namay Rahmawati and Pesantren Sultan Hasanuddin</i>	106
b. <i>Ciboleger: Engkos Yusroni and Madrasah Al Hijra</i>	109
c. <i>Kompol: Kasja and Madrasah Ibtidaiyah Hizbul Wathon</i>	110
d. <i>Cicakal Girang: Ahmad Hidayat and Madrasah Alam Wiwitan</i>	111
e. <i>Nagara: Ujeng Suheli and Madrasah Darul Muhsinin</i>	114
2. Al Washliyah of Medan and Madrasah Al Washliyah	117
3. Jamaah Tabligh of Leuwidamar	121
4. Dewan Dakwah Islamiyah Indonesia (DDII): Nurkib Ibnu Djais	126
5. An Organisation with a Nahdlatul Ulama Background: Pesantren Al-Amin of Ciboleger	127
B. Fragmentation Within the Muslim Society	131
C. Cicakal Girang: the Agreement Village and the Countering of Christianization	133
D. The Baduy and International Interests	137
E. Conclusion	139

CHAPTER 5

Christian Missionary Activities among the Baduy: Religious Violence, Politics of Religion in Indonesia, and Purchases of Land

A. Christian Missionary Activities and Religious Violence in Wanasalam and Leuwidamar	141
1. <i>An Attack to Christians and a Church in Wanasalam</i>	143
2. <i>Pressures on Christian Baduy Families in Gunung Tunggal</i>	150
3. <i>Striking Towards Windu Nurgojali in Gunung Tunggal</i>	154
4. <i>Threats to the Christian Missionaries in Gerendeng</i>	158
5. <i>Accusation of Doing Christian Mission in Cihandam: Ully Sigar Rusady and a Korean Woman</i>	159
6. <i>Becoming the Target of Christianisation: Cikapek</i>	160
B. Politics of Religion in Indonesia: the Contestation between Muslims and Christians, the Exclusion of Local Religions, and Permit of the Foundation of Worship Houses	160
1. <i>Contestation between Muslims and Christians</i>	160
2. <i>The Exclusion of Local Religion from the State's Definition of Religion</i>	162
3. <i>Deploying Regulations on the Foundation of Worship Houses to Counter the Christians</i>	165
C. Competition for Buying Land for the (Future) Converts	168
D. Conclusion	175

CHAPTER 6

Conversion of the Baduy: Patterns, Consequences and Identities	177
A. Patterns and Narratives of the Baduy's Conversion	177
1. <i>Conversion from Sunda Wiwitan to Islam</i>	178
a. <i>The Conversion of the Most Successful Baduy Businessman</i> <i>Haji Kasmin</i>	179
b. <i>The Conversion of the Future Jaro Pamarentah Haji Sarmedi</i>	182
2. <i>Conversion from Sunda Wiwitan to Christianity</i>	187
3. <i>Conversion from Sunda Wiwitan to Christianity to Islam</i>	193
4. <i>Conversion from Sunda Wiwitan to Islam and then to Christianity</i>	195
5. <i>Conversion from Sunda Wiwitan to Islam and Reverted</i> <i>to Sunda Wiwitan</i>	196
6. <i>Conversion from Sunda Wiwitan to Islam to Sunda Wiwitan</i> <i>and Back to Islam</i>	198
B. Rituals of Conversion to Islam or Christianity and Reversion to Sunda Wiwitan	200
C. Consequences of Conversion: Obtaining Freedom and Moving from the <i>Adat</i> Land	202
D. The Identities of the Baduy Converts to Islam and Christianity	208
E. Conclusion	210

CHAPTER 7

The Baduy's Efforts to Obtain the State's Recognition for Land and Religion	211
A. From Hermits to Citizens: The Changing Views of the Baduy towards Politics 1971-2019	211
B. The Baduy's Effort to Obtain the State's Recognition and Protection	218
1. <i>Requests Conveyed by the Adat Leaders to the Government</i>	218
2. <i>In the Name of the Baduy: Haji Kasmin as the Representative</i> <i>of the Baduy in the People's Consultative Assembly (MPR)</i>	223
3. <i>Haji Sarmedi's Participation in Politics: a Wish to Fight</i> <i>for the Interest of the Baduy</i>	226
C. Ethnicity and Money Politics in the Elections	228
1. <i>Amir Hamzah-Haji Kasmin: Ethnicity and Corruption</i>	229
2. <i>Sarmedi and Muslim Baduy Communities: Ethnicity and Elections</i>	233
D. AMAN and the <i>Adat</i> Communities in Indonesia	237
1. <i>The Shrinking Land and Religious Discrimination:</i> <i>the Background of AMAN</i>	237

2. <i>AMAN and the Political Empowerment of the Adat Communities</i>	240
E. The 2017 Constitutional Court's Decision on Local Religions:	
The Latest Development of Politics of Religion in Indonesia	243
1. <i>The Lawsuit against Laws on the Administration of Population</i>	245
2. <i>The Baduy's Response to the Decision of the MK</i>	249
3. <i>The Support of the Council of Churches in Indonesia in the Decision of the MK</i>	250
4. <i>The Objection of Muslim Groups to the Decision of the MK</i>	251
F. Conclusion	253
 CHAPTER 8	
Conclusion	255
A. No Single Approach of Conversion Is Enough, but Not All Are Needed	256
B. The Baduy's Conversion: Ethnicity, the Politics of Religion and Development, and Religious Missions	258
1. <i>Ethnicity: Asceticism, the Limited Land, and the Increase of the Population</i>	259
2. <i>The Politics of Religion in Indonesia and Development</i>	260
a. <i>Religions and Belief Systems in Indonesian Politics</i>	260
b. <i>Development Policies: Developing Adat Communities and Making Them Religious</i>	262
3. <i>Islamic and Christian Missions: Tension, Contestation and Violence</i>	263
C. The Baduy's Response to the Politics of Religion, Religious Missions, and Internal Problems	267
D. The Future of the Baduy and Other Adat Communities in Indonesia	269
E. My Personal Impression of Doing This Research	271
References	273
Samenvatting	297
Summary	303
Ringkasan	307
Curriculum Vitae	313

Note on the Transliteration

Indonesian and Sundanese words are written as they are used in the languages. The writing of Islamic terms follows *Encyclopaedia of Islam New Edition* / EI-2 which was published by E. J. Brill in 1986, otherwise follows “Brill’s simple Arabic transliteration system” as the table below. Non-English words are written in italic. All non-English nouns are written in singular, like *kiyai* (Indonesian/Sundanese) not *kiyais* and *madrassa* (Arabic) not *madrassas* neither *madāris*. When the non-English words function as a pronoun, like “Kiyai Ahmad”, they are written normal.

Arabic	sAts	Arabic	sAts	Arabic	sAts
ا	a, ā	ط	ṭ	ى	ā
ب	b	ظ	ẓ	ي	ī
ت	t	ع	‘	و	ū
ث	ṭ	غ	ġ	َ	a
ج	ġ	ف	f	ِ	i
ح	ḥ	ق	q	ُ	u
خ	ḥ	ك	k	يَّ	ai
د	d	ل	l	وَّ	au
ذ	ḏ	م	m	يَّ	īy
ر	r	ن	n	وَّ	ūw
ز	z	ه	h	ة	a, ah, āh, at, āt
س	s	و	w, ū		
ش	š	ي	y, ī		
ص	ṣ	ء	’		
ض	ḏ				

List of tables, figures, maps, and photographs/sketches

Tables

Table 2.1	Calendar and Activities of the Baduy Community
Table 3.1	The Population Growth of the Baduy Which Affects their Access to the Farming Area
Table 3.2	The Baduy Resettlement Programme 1977 – 1999

Figures

Figure 6.1	Muslim and Christian converts of the Baduy and their families.
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Maps

Map 1	Indonesia
Map 2	Banten Province
Map 3	Lebak Regency
Map 4	Sub-district (<i>kecamatan</i>) of Leuwidamar
Map 5	<i>Desa</i> of Kanekes

Photographs/ drawings

Drawing 2.1	“ <i>Boeren oft landtluyden</i> ” van achter Bantam (<i>Badoeij’s?</i>) or “farmers or people of back Banten (the Baduy?)”. Source: Willem Lodewyckz., <i>De Eerste Schipvaart der Nederlanders naar Oost-Indië onder Cornelis de Houtman Vol. 1</i> , (’s-Gravenhage: Martinus Nijhoff, 1915), pp. xx and 128(2).
Photograph 2.1	“Elderly people from Cikeusik (left) and from Cibeo (right) in a discussion with probably Achmad Djajadiningrat, the regent of Serang”. Source: http://hdl.handle.net/1887.1/item:805421 . Achmad Djajadiningrat became a regent of Serang from 1901-1924.
Drawing 2.2	Arca Domas Kosala. B. van Tricht, <i>Levende Antiquiteiten In West-Java</i> , (Batavia – Soerabaja: G. Kolff & Co., 1929). This sketch is on an un-numbered page between pages 44-45.

Drawing 2.3	A lodong made of bamboo. Look at the upper side which is called <i>soplak</i> in the form letter 'U'. Drawing by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 3.1	Jaro Samin. Photograph was taken in 1984 by Jet Bakels. Printed with permission.
Photograph 3.2	A gathering between Baduy and officials in the resettlement village of Gunung Tunggal. Photograph was taken in 1985 by Gerard Persoon. Printed with permission.
Photograph 3.3	A house of a Baduy in the resettlement village. Photograph was taken in 1985 by Gerard Persoon. Printed with permission.
Photograph 3.4	A house of a Baduy in the resettlement village. Photograph was taken in 1985 by Gerard Persoon. Printed with permission.
Photograph 3.5	A house of a Baduy in the resettlement village. Photograph was taken in 1985 by Gerard Persoon. Printed with permission.
Photograph 3.6	A oil palm plantation in Gunung Tunggal. A man stands on the location of the ex-building of the elementary school for Baduy children in the resettlement village. Photograph was taken in 2018 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 3.7	Bricks of the ex-building of the elementary school which eroded. Photograph was taken in 2018 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 3.8	Abah Sarmin. Photograph was taken in 2017 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 3.9	Abah Ewong. Photograph was taken in 2017 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 3.10	A statue of a Baduy family welcoming visitors was erected in 1990. Photograph was taken in 2017 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 3.11	Tourists are welcomed by the Baduy in Ciboleger. Photograph was taken in 2017 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 3.12	A family takes a picture in the border of the Baduy land in Ciboleger. Photograph was taken in 2018 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 3.13	A man looks at a board made by students of Atma Jaya University to remind the tourists to keep the Baduy land

	clean from garbage. Photograph was taken in 2018 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 4.1	Pesantren Sultan Hasanuddin Banten which was founded by Kiyai Zainuddin Amir. Some Muslim Baduy youths study at this pesantren. Photograph was taken in 2017 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 4.2	Kasja was one of Baduy children in the resettlement village who converted to Islam and followed formal education. He is now an activist of Muhammadiyah. Photograph was taken in 2017 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 4.3	Madrasah Islam Swasta (MIS) Masyarikul Huda in Cicakal Girang. Photograph was taken in 2017 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 4.4	Pupils of MIS Masyarikul Huda in Cicakal Girang. Photograph was taken in 2017 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 4.5	Ustad Ujeng Suheli in Nagara. Photograph was taken in 2017 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 4.6	The followers of Jamaah Tabligh are listening to a religious speech at Masjid Jami (the Mosque of Jami) in West Jakarta. The mosque is one of the centres of Jamaah Tabligh in Indonesia. Photograph was taken in 2018 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 4.7	A building of Pesantren Al-Amin in Ciboleger. Photograph was taken in 2017 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 4.8	A conversation with the santri of Pesantren Al-Amin, accompanied by Haji Sarmedi. Photograph was taken in 2017 by Junaedi.
Photograph 5.1	Kharel Budiman Silitonga. Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPdLfb7CQqA&t=305s
Photograph 5.2	Tatang's house in Cipangembar which was accused of being a church. Photograph was taken in 2018 by Ade Jaya Suryani from Universitas Advent Indonesia.
Photograph 5.3	Tatang's house was bought by a follower Jamaah Tablig. In this village he built a pesantren. Photograph was taken in 2018 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 5.4	A community of Christian Baduy in Cipangembar/ Gunung Tunggal. Photograph was taken in 2018 by Ade Jaya Suryani.

Photograph 5.5	The pastor Windu Nurgojali gives a service. He is a grandchild of Jaro Samin who obtained his bachelor and master diplomas.
Photograph 6.1	A Conversion certificate from Sunda Wiwitan to Islam.
Photograph 6.2	Haji Sarmedi in an interview session. The photograph was taken in 2017 by Junaedi.
Photograph 7.1	A Baduy man passes a banner of the 2019 General Election in the border of the adat land in Ciboleger. Photograph was taken in 2019 by Ade Jaya Suryani.
Photograph 7.2	The Baduy followed the independence day celebration on 17 August 1985. Photograph by Gerard Persoon. Printed with permission.
Photograph 7.3	The jaro pamarentah Nakiwin meets President Soeharto asking for protection.
Photograph 7.4	Concrete poles to mark the border of the adat land. Photograph was taken in 1985 by Gerard Persoon. Printed with permission.
Photograph 7.5	A campaign sticker of H. Amir Hamzah and H. Kasmin. Photograph was taken in 2017 by Ade Jaya Suryani.

Glossary

<i>Adat</i>	Arabic: <i>ʿāda(ʾ)</i> , custom.
<i>Āmil</i>	An agent, tax-collector, administrator, government official, and finance officer. In Cicakal Girang a man is called <i>ʿāmil</i> to who the Outer Baduy declare the <i>shahāda</i> .
<i>Ādān</i>	The Islamic call for prayer.
AMAN	<i>Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara</i> / the Indigenous Peoples' Alliance of the Archipelago.
Bapeda	<i>Badan Perencanaan Daerah</i> / the Body of Regional Planning.
BKKI	<i>Badan Koordinasi Kebatinan Indonesia</i> / the Coordinating Body of Indonesian Spirituality.
BPUPKI	<i>Badan Penyelidik Usaha-Usaha Persiapan Kemerdekaan Indonesia</i> (The Investigating Committee for Preparatory Work for Independence).
BUMN	<i>Badan Usaha Milik Negara</i> / State-Owned Company.
Danramil	<i>Komandan Rayon Militer</i> , Commander of <i>Koramil</i> .
DDII	Dewan Dakwah Islamiyah Indonesia / Indonesian Islamic Da'wa Council.
<i>Debus</i>	Performance art and capability of being invulnerable to weapons.
Depag	<i>Departemen Agama</i> (Department of Religious Affairs). In 2010 the name <i>Departemen Agama</i> was changed into <i>Kementerian Agama</i> (Ministry of Religious Affairs/ MORA).
Depsos	<i>Departemen Sosial</i> (Department of Social Affairs).
GPDI	<i>Gereja Pantekosta di Indonesia</i> / Pentecostal Church in Indonesia.
<i>Haj</i>	The pilgrimage to Mecca, one of the five pillars of Islam.
IAIN	<i>Institut Agama Islam Negeri</i> / State Institute for Islamic Studies.
<i>Jaro pamarentah</i>	The governmental head of <i>desa</i> . In the <i>adat</i> community of Baduy there are many <i>jaro</i> , one of the <i>jaro</i> is <i>jaro pamarentah</i> who is similar to <i>kepala desa</i> (<i>desa</i> leader) in other <i>desa</i> . <i>Jaro pamarentah</i> of the Baduy, however, is appointed by the <i>adat</i> leader and legalised by the government.
Kemenag	<i>Kementerian Agama</i> (Ministry of Religious Affairs/ MORA).

<i>Kiyai</i>	A title attributed to a higher level of <i>ustad</i> .
<i>Koramil</i>	<i>Komando Rayon Militer</i> , Command of Indonesian Army at the regency level.
KUA	<i>Kantor Urusan Agama</i> / Office of Religious Affairs.
<i>Leuit</i>	(Sundanese) barn.
<i>Madrasah</i>	(Arabic) <i>madrasa</i> , school. In the Indonesian context, <i>madrasah</i> means Islamic school. In Indonesia education is managed by two ministries: the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Ministry of Religious Affairs. The latter manages, from the lowest the highest levels, <i>Madrasah Diniyah</i> (religious school), <i>Madrasah Ibtidaiyah</i> (Islamic Elementary School), <i>Madrasah Tsanawiyah</i> (Islamic Middle School), <i>Madrasah Aliyah</i> (Islamic High School) and Higher Education in various names such as <i>Sekolah Tinggi Agama Islam</i> (Islamic College), <i>Institute Agama Islam</i> (Institute of Islamic Studies), and <i>Universitas Islam</i> (Islamic University), both private and public. In addition, the Ministry of Religious Affairs has also higher education for non-Islamic religions such as <i>Sekolah Tinggi Agama Hindu</i> (Hindu College) and <i>Sekolah Tinggi Agama Buddha</i> (Buddhist College).
MK	<i>Mahkamah Konstitusi</i> / Constitutional Court.
MUI	<i>Majelis Ulama Indonesia</i> (the Council of Indonesian Ulama).
Pakem	<i>Pengawasan Aliran Kepercayaan dan Aliran Keagamaan dalam Masyarakat</i> / Surveillance of Belief and Religious Streams in Society.
<i>Penghulu</i>	Marriage officiant. Working in an Office of Religious Affairs (KUA), a <i>penghulu</i> gets marry a Muslim couple, when her father or guardian cannot, and records their marriage.
Persis	Persatuan Islam. This Islamic organisation was founded in 1923 in Bandung.
Pesantren	<i>Pe-santri-an</i> , <i>santri</i> -place. Islamic boarding school where students (<i>santri</i>) learn classical Islamic subjects. In terms of the teaching methods, <i>pesantren</i> are divided into three: traditional (<i>salafiyya</i>), modern (<i>khalaftiya</i>) and mixed.
PGI	Founded in 1950, <i>Persekutuan Gereja-gereja di Indonesia</i> (the Council of Churches in Indonesia Council) is the new

	name of <i>Dewan Gereja-gereja di Indonesia</i> (DGI).
PPMT	<i>Program Pembinaan Masyarakat Terasing</i> / the Programme of the Development of Isolated societies.
Puskesmas	<i>Pusat Kesehatan Masyarakat</i> / Community Health Centre which commonly exists in a district.
<i>Qunut</i>	(Arabic) <i>qunūt</i> . According to Vicon Arabic – English Dictionary, <i>qunūt</i> means “obedience, humility, devoutness, piety”. The <i>qunut</i> is practiced by the doer by reading a certain prayer before he prostrates in the last <i>rakaat</i> (prostration). The practice of <i>qunut</i> in the down prayer often becomes a marker of the Nahdlatul Ulama culture
<i>Santri</i>	Students who study Islam in a <i>pesantren</i> .
<i>Shahāda</i>	(Arabic) testimony. The first of the five pillars of Islam testifying that Allah is his/her God and Muhammad is His messenger.
SPG	<i>Sekolah Pendidikan Guru</i> / School for Teacher Education
<i>Tablilan</i>	<i>Tablilan</i> is from <i>tahlil</i> (Arabic: التَّهْلِيل) which refers to the declaration of the uniqueness of Allah ‘لا إله إلا الله’ ‘there is no god but God’. In traditional Muslim communities in Indonesia, which is often associated with Nahdlatul Ulama, when a Muslim dies the other Muslims will gather mostly in the first week evenings either in the house of the dead or in the mosque to do a ceremony called <i>tablilan</i> . During the gathering they read Qur’an verses, recite the <i>tahlil</i> sentence for a certain number and pray for the dead. The host family, like in many ceremonies in Indonesia, commonly provides food for the participants. Muhammadiyah who brings the idea of the purification of Islam rarely practices the <i>tablilan</i> ceremony and is considered by many Muslims from the this community, especially in rural areas, strange.
UIN	<i>Universitas Islam Negeri</i> / the State Islamic University.
<i>Ulama</i>	(Arabic) The plural form of <i>‘alim</i> , scholar. It is a general term covering the terms <i>ustad</i> and <i>kiyai</i> . In a specific usage, <i>ulama</i> refers to higher levels of <i>ustad</i> and <i>kiyai</i> . <i>Ulama</i> can simply mean an influential <i>kiyai</i> .
<i>Ustad</i>	(Arabic) teacher. Specifically <i>ustad</i> refers to Islamic religious teacher.
<i>Yasinan</i>	<i>Yasinan</i> means to read the <i>sūrah</i> (chapter) <i>Yā-Sīn</i> (36) from the Qur’an, which is generally performed in the Friday

night. The participants read the *sūrah* and may be added with other *sūrah*. After reading the *sūrah* or *sūrah* they pray for the wellness, prosperity, forgiveness of them and the Muslims in general. Eating and drinking as exist in other ceremonies include in this event. *Yasinan* is also performed by traditional Muslims in the first seven days day of a death.

YWAM

Youth With A Mission, an international interdenominational Christian mission organisation based in the US.

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Serang, 8 June 2020

Ade Jaya Suryani

Maps

Map 1: Indonesia



Source: <http://bit.ly/2QvgD6R>

Map 2: Banten Province



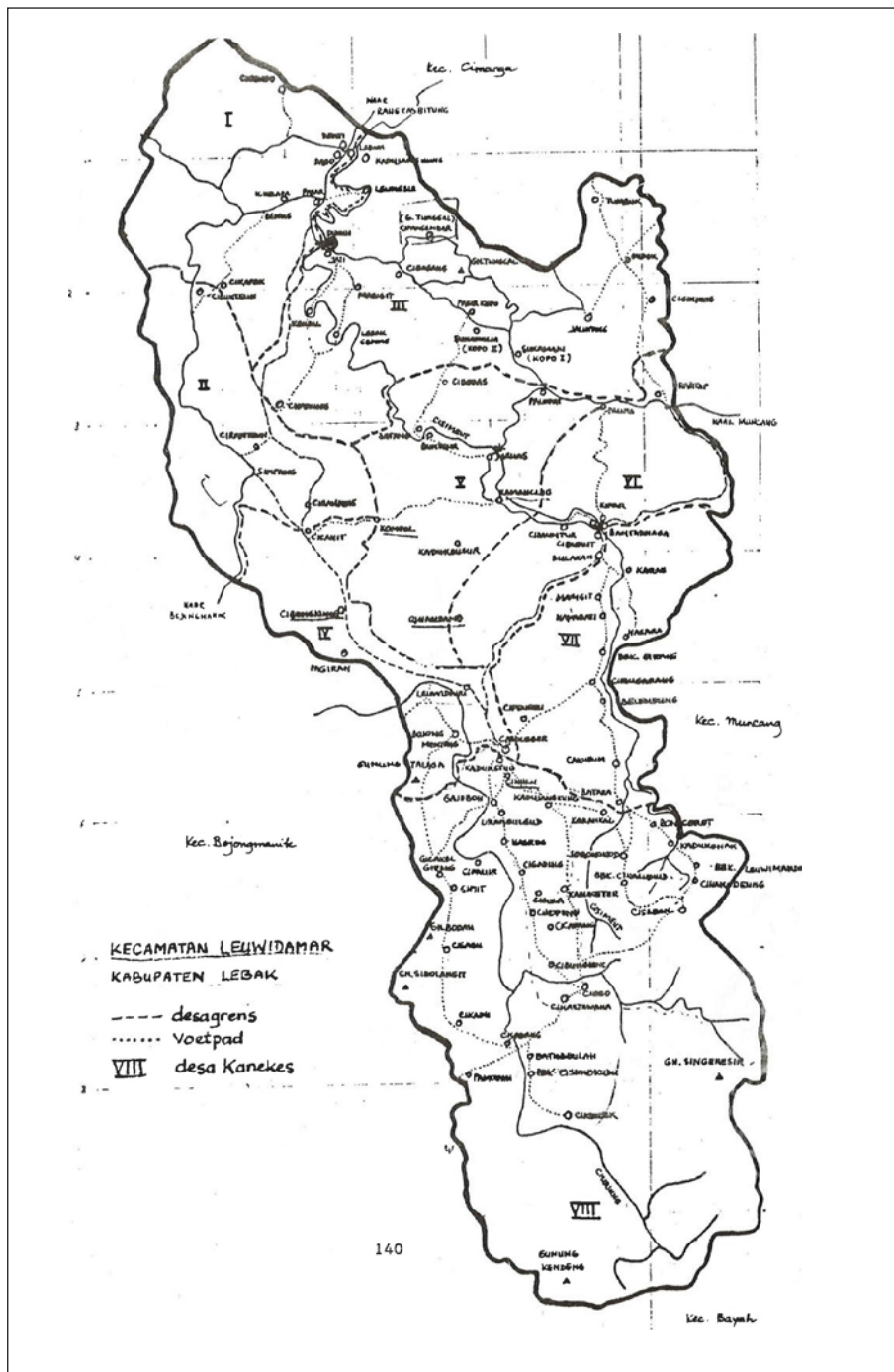
Source: <http://bit.ly/2Szo3C>

Map 3: Lebak Regency



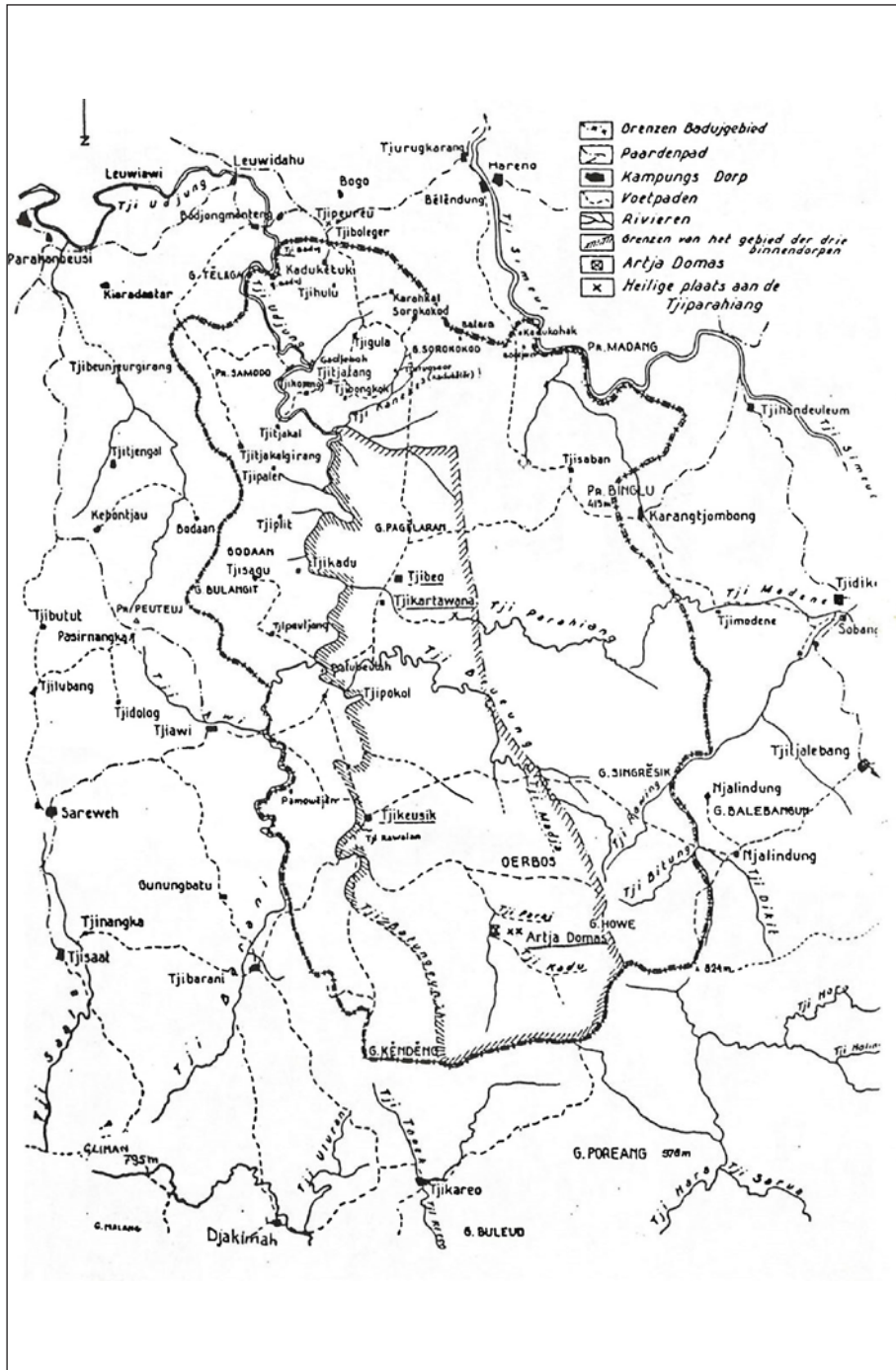
Source: <http://bit.ly/37igTNn>

Map 4: Sub-district (kecamatan) of Lewwidamar



Source: Jet Bakels and Wim Boevink, *De Baduy van West Java*, Amsterdam: CASA, 1988, p. 140.

Map 5: Desa of Kanekes



Source: Jet Bakels and Wim Boevink, *De Baduy van West-Java*, Amsterdam: CASA, 1988, p. 141.