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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.

Citation

Suryani, A. J. (2021, January 28). *From respected hermits to ordinary citizens: The conversion of the Baduy, ethnicity, and politics of religion in Indonesia (1977 - 2019)*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3134744>

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Author: Suryani, A.J.

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

Issue Date: 2021-01-28

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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Cover and layout: Emiel Hoving

English editor: Anna Yeadell

Cover photo: <https://paseban.id/utusan-baduy-menghadap-presiden-soeharto/>

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

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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	يَا	ai
د	d	ل	l	وَا	au
ذ	d	م	m	يَا	īy
ر	r	ن	n	وَا	ūw
ز	z	ه	h	ة	a, ah, āh, at, āt
س	s	و	w, ū		
ش	š	ي	y, ī		
ص	š	ء	’		
ض	d				

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-
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Glossary

<i>Adat</i>	Arabic: <i>‘āda(ʔ)</i> , custom.
<i>Āmil</i>	An agent, tax-collector, administrator, government official, and finance officer. In Cicakal Girang a man is called <i>‘āmil</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>madrassa</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>khalafiyya</i>) and mixed.
PGI	Founded in 1950, <i>Persekutuan Gereja-gereja di Indonesia</i> (the Council of Churches in Indonesia Council) is the new

PPMT	name of <i>Dewan Gereja-gereja di Indonesia</i> (DGI). <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> .
<u><i>Shahāda</i></u>	(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: التهليل) 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> (<i>chapter</i>) <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.

Acknowledgements

This dissertation is actually a work of many people: me, my informants, my supervisors, librarians, my sponsor, etc. Unfortunately, only my name is printed on it and I am the only one who is responsible for the errors. Without their roles, this dissertation would have never come into its existence. Therefore, I would like to thank them. First of all, I thank my sponsor the Indonesian Endowment Fund for Education (*Lembaga Pengelola Dana Pendidikan / LPDP*) that has funded my study and research. Realising the importance of this institution and meeting with its awardees make me always feel confidence with the future of Indonesia. Second, I must thank my informants who have shared with me their memories and knowledge about the Baduy, the resettlement programme, Islamic *da'wa* and Christian missionary activities and their conversion experience either to Islam or Christianity. Without their assistance this work would never have materialized. I wish I could mention all of my informants, but the following names cannot be ignored: Kiyai Zainuddin Amir, Haji Sarmedi, Ustad Kasja, Ustad Suparta, Haji Kasmin, Eman, Syahroni, Ace Sumirsa Ali, Abah Ewong, Abah Sarmin, Ustad Ujeng, Pastor Windu Nurgojali, Tatang, Sapei, and Narja. I owe my debt to Haji Sarmedi, Eman and their families who have invited me to sleep in their houses during my research. They also connected me with other key informants.

I also thank my MA supervisor Prof. Kees van Dijk who supported me to continue my study. I really appreciate his support in the form of a recommendation letter to the Faculty of Humanities of Leiden University. Thanks also go to Prof. Leon Buskens who was my first PhD supervisor. Because of being busy to act as the director of NIMAR (*Nederlands Instituut Marokko*) he could not supervise me and decided to deliver the supervision to my second, who

later became my first, supervisor Prof. Nico Kaptein. I first learnt anthropology from Prof. Buskens when I was studying for my Master at Leiden University. I fell in love with this subject and thought that anthropology of religion would be my expertise. Gratitude must also be conveyed to my supervisors Prof. Nico Kaptein and Prof. Gerard Persoon. This dissertation took its final form because of their supervision. In addition, I thank Wim van Zanten who has read this manuscript and corrected some inaccuracies and provided me a reading material which was not available in the library of Leiden University. I thank the following people for their roles during my study in Leiden: Margreet van Till, Erik Bähre, Meira Setiawati, Sisilia Astuti, Jolanda Hazelmans, Fatiha Boukhalfa, Marjolein Kraan, Zoulikha Aqarial, Randy Bax, Brian Stott, and Ariel C. Lopez.

Colleagues and friends played an important role in the process of my study. With them I shared stories of being students at Leiden University. Among them are Al Farabi, Noor Ismah, Muhammad Latif Fauzi, Aminudin TH Siregar, Julia, *Nurenzia* Yannuar *Sidharta*, Ajeng Arianikasih, Syahril Siddik, Arfiansyah, Katriani Puspita Ayu, Koko Sudarmoko, Nazarudin, Taufik Hanafi, Wijayanto, Muhammad Asad, Dian Armada, Grace Leksana, Ayu Swaningrum, Fachrizal Afandi, Aditya Budiarsa, Yance Arizona, and other Indonesians especially who live on Boerhaavelaan, Mariënpoolstraat and Van Swietenstraat whose names cannot be mentioned one by one.

People in Indonesia to whom I have to thank include Prof. Tihami who always supported me, rector of UIN Banten Prof. Fauzul Iman who has permitted me to leave the campus for four years, colleagues in Bantenologi Mufti Ali, Helmy Faizi Bahrul Ulumi, Ayatullah Humaeni, Yanwar Pribadi, Rohman, *et cetera*; my research assistants Junaedi, Uha Azka Nasabi, and Rukoyah, my creative writing teachers Gol A Gong and Toto ST Radik, my parents-in-law Imam Pribadi and Uus Ustriawaty, Nani Anisah, my sister Sukmi, and my brothers Nuryani, Tarja and Junaedi. Gratitude finally and mostly goes to my late parents Sadik (d.2002) and Marinah (d.2018) who are always alive in my memory, and to my wife Desty and our children who accompanied me for almost four years in Leiden. To all the people, including the unmentioned, I owe a debt of gratefulness.

Serang, 8 June 2020
Ade Jaya Suryani

Maps

Map 1: Indonesia



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

Map 2: Banten Province



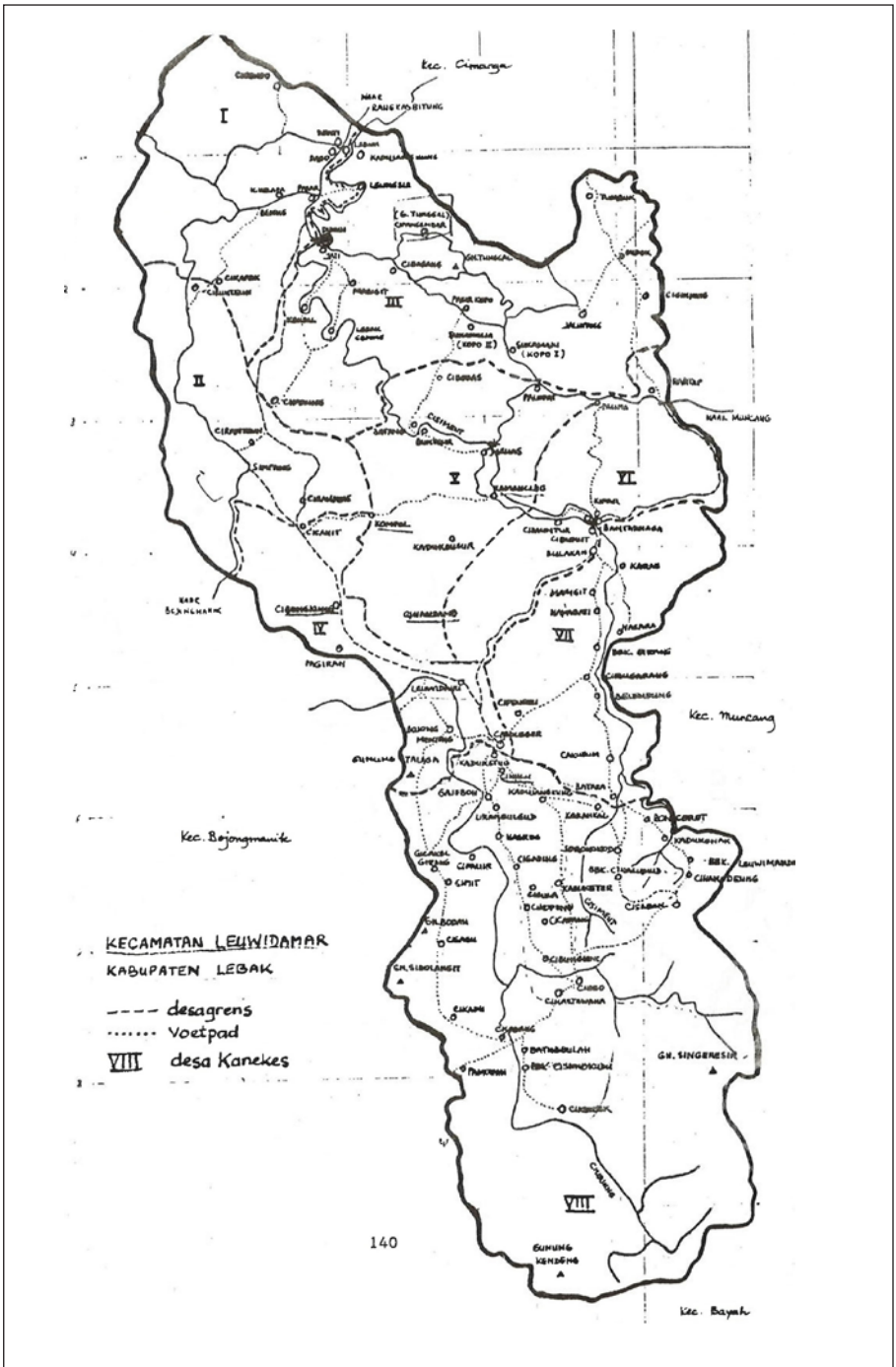
Source: <http://bit.ly/2Szo3C>

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.

