



Art and religion

By Pidi Baiq, independent artist (Indonesia)

I do not understand other religions. But as a Muslim, to me religion is a system of faith and devotion to God. Religion becomes the rules and procedures of followers in the attitudes and actions related to humans and the environment. Every action must be based on God's command. It makes every action has a value of worship, including when making art.

For people who are religious when doing something, he will consider the impact of what he would do. A work of art on the theme of religion, does not mean he has faith, if it has a bad impact on themselves and their environment. Even a terrorist act, if called art, and in the name of God, can not be presumed that they have faith in god and defend his religion, for endangering other people and damage the environment.

And art is an expression of a person to express their thoughts and feelings. A person has the right to freely express anything. But for those who have faith, they will do so with reference to the rules of their religion. There are people who do not refer to religious rules, but on the values of humanitarian norms. But for those who believe, will do so in the name of God, as written in the holy book of their religion in order to have a value of worship. In Islam, my religion, every thing is done in the name of the Lord will produce a feeling of sincerity, selfless, because it was not on his behalf, not on behalf of his lust, but rather as a form of devotion to god

Religion is the basis for his followers to what he would do. He will get the value of worship for doing good for himself or others and the environment. He would be a sin to do bad things for themselves and others. And art is the act of a person to express their will and pleasure, it's up to whether the person is religious or not. Religious themes in art is not a guarantee that one has faith. But every theme in art if it is done according to the rules of religion then it is the expression of a person in the name of his faith in God, it would be good for themselves and the environment, because God is Most Gracious, Most Merciful. God is good, and will be ordered His servants to love and good deeds. Religion is nonsense if the teachings are not revealed in the attitudes and actions. Art is art, as one of human actions.