

The Role of the Indonesian Christian Student Movement on Political Life Medan City in 1965-1998

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Article history

Received : 2022-12-13

Accepted : 2023-02-23

Published : 2023-04-28

Keywords:

Role,
GMKI, Politics

Abstract: This study aims to explore the role of GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) in the political life of Medan City in 1965. This study describes the role of GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) and analyzes GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) in the political life of the Indonesian nation. The method used in this study is a qualitative method, with a descriptive approach. Data collection techniques were carried out using open observation guidelines, in-depth interviews, and documentation studies. The result of the research is that GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) is an important organization that has taken part in every activity of the Indonesian nation even before Indonesia proclaimed its independence. GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) has been established since 1927 and is still active, not only in the spiritual world, but also in the political world of Medan City.

Abstrak: Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menggali peranan GMKI (Gerakan Mahasiswa Kristen Indonesia) terhadap kehidupan politik Kota Medan tahun 1965. Penelitian ini mendeskripsikan peranan GMKI (Gerakan Mahasiswa Kristen Indonesia) dan menganalisis GMKI (Gerakan Mahasiswa Kristen Indonesia) dalam kehidupan politik Bangsa Indonesia. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif, dengan pendekatan deskriptif. Tehnik pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan menggunakan pedoman observasi terbuka, wawancara mendalam, serta studi dokumentasi. Hasil penelitian adalah GMKI (Gerakan Mahasiswa Kristen Indonesia) merupakan organisasi penting yang telah turut andil dalam setiap kegiatan Bangsa Indonesia bahkan sebelum Indonesia memproklamasikan kemerdekaannya. GMKI (Gerakan Mahasiswa Kristen Indonesia) telah berdiri sejak tahun 1927 dan sampai sekarang masih aktif, bukan hanya didunia kerohanian, tetapi juga didunia politik Kota Medan.



Available online at
<http://jurnal.unsyiah.ac.id/riwayat/>

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia as a country of law has regulated and established the freedom of the people in assembly and association. Freedom of assembly and association is regarded as a natural thing that cannot be released and handed over to anyone for any reason, unless an agreement has been entered into (MD 2000).

The evidence of protection and freedom is regulated in the Basic Law Article 28 E paragraph 3, with the words "Everyone has the right to freedom of association, assembly, and expression of opinion", and Law Number 39 of 1999, which reads "Human rights are a set of rights inherent in the nature and existence of man as a creature of God Almighty and are His grace that must be respected, upheld, and protected by the state, law, government, and everyone for the honor and protection of human dignity and dignity." (Radjab 2013)

Freedom of association in this case is to form parties, societal institutions, associations, ties, and community organizations, whose purpose is to be peaceful and take a role in the course of government, which is in accordance with the provisions of the Law (Muslim 2018). Organization is a form of freedom of association (Sari 2006). An organization is a gathering place for people who have the same goal. In the book *Organizational Theory*, quoting the thought of James D. Money, that an organization is a social entity that is consciously coordinated, orderly and identified to achieve the goals of a group of people (Fithriyyah 2021).

One of the organizations that is growing in Indonesia is a youth organization whose more than 50% membership is students. Youth organizations have an important role for Indonesian society as agents of change, agents of development and agents of modernization (P.S 2022). Youth organizations have taken an important role since the colonial period of Dutch East Indies colonialism, such as the GMKI organization (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) (Atimeta dan Jatningsih 2021).

The Indonesian Christian Student Movement is a "movement and ministry" organization that has contributed since 1932 under the name CSV Op Java. However, after the Japanese occupation of Indonesia began, CSV Op Java was disbanded and renamed the GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) organization which had been officially born under the name GMKI since February 9, 1950. The Indonesian Christian Student Movement is a student organization that operates for "movement and ministry". Although GMKI was originally known as a Bible study organization, the GMKI Organization has contributed to national activities.

The GMKI organization was also present in several events in Indonesia, such as in an effort to eradicate the September 30, 1965 Movement as a rightist student camp. The first organization in Indonesia to be established was Budi Utomo. In the book *National Movement Organization* written by Encep Supriatna in 2008, it is stated that the organization initiated by dr. Wahidin Sudirohusodo has been raising funds since 1906 and conducting propaganda around Java with the aim of expanding teaching.

The action carried out by STOVIA students was finally able to establish Budi Utomo in Jakarta in 1908. Budi Utomo's presence was able to orient in the general meeting on August 5-6, 1915, by issuing a motion on "militia for the Indonesian nation with the enactment of the Law by Parliament", the formation of the Volksraad, as well as in the formation of Indie Weebar in the face of World War II. The results of Ahmad Azhyemi Multizami's research in 2016 with the title "Perception of the Indonesian National Student Movement (GMNI) Semarang Branch towards Marhaenism as an Ideology of Struggle", explained that the ideology of Marhaenism is an ideology that wants the elimination of all forms of the capitalism system in Indonesia. This movement was dominated by students who adopted Soekarno's thoughts.

As a youth organization, GMNI takes an important role in several Indonesian lives, such

as increasing nationalism, especially for students who will become the glue of the Indonesian leadership baton. Hairul Anwar's research in 2022 with the title "History and Development of the Jambi Branch of the Islamic Student Association for the 1963-2020 Period" stated that the Islamic Student Association had taken an important role in Indonesian history, especially when the PKI rebellion was carried out the HMI Organization also helped arrest the mastermind of the September 30, 1965 Movement uprising with a position as the direction of the Right.

In addition, in 1996 the HMI Organization participated in bringing down the New Order Period by holding congresses in several places such as in Jambi City. Through this study, this research will describe the role of the GMKI Organization as a national student organization, especially in 1965-1998 (Tyas Untari 2018). Based on this, the focus of this research is to reveal the history of the Indonesian Christian Student Movement (GMKI) and the role of the Indonesian Christian Student Movement (GMKI) as a play organization

METHOD

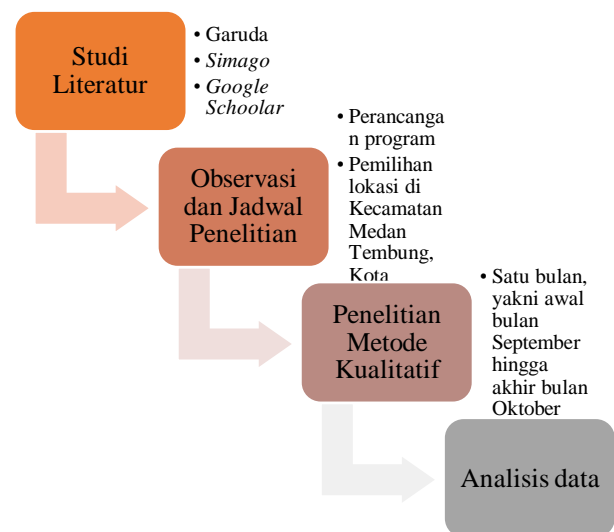
The method used in this study is qualitative. According to Auerbach and Silverstein, qualitative research methods are the process of finding the meaning of a phenomenon by analyzing and interpreting data and sources obtained through interview results (Sugiyono 2018). Qualitative research is a method used to understand the meaning of a number of social problems of humanity by exploring (Zebua, Anathasya, dan Puspitasari 2022)

Qualitative research studies the problem, as well as the role of organizations and parties of society over a certain period of time. One of the roles of community organizations is the Indonesian Christian Student Movement Organization which has contributed to the history of the Indonesian nation.

The location of the study was conducted in Medan Tembung District, Medan City, North Sumatra. The collection of data was carried out through several reference books that were in line with the research topic, and previous research that discussed the existence of GMKI as a student organization formed in Indonesia. In addition, writing resources can be obtained through the management and members of GMKI who are still active both in service actions and in movement actions.

Data collection is carried out with data triangulation techniques. The purpose of data triangulation is not only to collect truth about phenomena, but rather to increase researchers' understanding of later findings (Sugiyono 2018).

The stages of research carried out by the researcher are as follows:



Picture 1. The stages of research carried out by the researcher are as follows.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Historical Background of the Establishment of the GMKI Organization (Indonesian Christian Student Movement)

GMKI is an organization that was formed a long time ago. But even though it has been a long time, at that time the name of the

organization was not GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement), but CSV Op Java. The establishment of CSV Op Java could not be separated from the role of the Dutch colonial government, because at that time the Dutch East Indies Government was the holder of power over Indonesia through imperialism and colonialization expeditions. CSV Op Java was formed inseparable from the role of Ir. C. L. van Doorn. He is a Dutch forestry expert who is active in the social and economic world. The first step taken by Ir. C. L. van Doorn was to approach and introduce STOVIA students.

The reason for the formation of the CSV Op Java organization is because, according to the observations of the Dutch Government, scholars, STOVIA students have a fairly important role in government affairs, especially in the success of the 3G mission (gold, glory, gospel). The CSV Op Java that was formed also actually provided benefits in terms of the work of the Dutch colonial government, especially political affairs. In terms of politics, the CSV Op Java government reportedly observed the characteristics of the Batavian people, which aimed to understand the character of the Batavian people.

This is very much needed to know how the Dutch Government must formulate strategies in carrying out its policies in Indonesia. Seeing the results of CSV Op Java's hard work, finally several parts of the organization named Jong Indie were formed which functioned to carry out the function of CSV Op Java in terms of glory. The results of Ir. C. L. van Doorn's observations decided to hold a meeting in order to fix Jong Indie with his main activity being to study the Bible and have discussions about social life actively and in depth.

The meeting was held for the first time from 1927 to 1932. A long period of time finally paid off, namely his decision to hold a Christmas celebration as a form of first activity. This Christmas was held in Kaliurang with the chief

executive Dr J. Leimena. The successful celebration of Christmas finally opened up opportunities for Ir. C. L. van Doorn and his group to form a forum, whose potential is not only as a channel for Christmas celebrations, but also as an organization that can shelter the community, both in terms of religion, social, and economy.

CSV Op Java succeeded in realizing the mission of glory (religion) in Indonesia, but in 1942 the position of CSV Op Java weakened due to the Japanese victory over Russia. CSV Op Java was disbanded by the Japanese occupation which at that time managed to control Indonesia. CSV Op Java finally changed its name to a new CSV, PMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Union). The name change from CSV Op Java to PMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Union) was based on eliminating everything related to the Dutch government. Although CSV Op Java changed its name to PMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Union), the work system and the existence of PMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Union) as a political and religious forum for Indonesian students remained the same.

PMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Union) also only survived for approximately 7 years, after 1950 it was changed to GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement). In 1950 PMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Union) changed its name to GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement). This name change was based on internal conflicts between members and administrators of GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) which was still ethnocentric.

PMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Union) is considered to be still in the Dutch section and is required to carry out actions and activities at the behest of the Dutch. Since then PMKI officially became GMKI and continued its struggle, by forming programs that can build society socially and economically, as well as spiritually. Within 1 decade, it was agreed to form branches in several cities in Indonesia, one

of which was in Medan City in 1953. The purpose of forming this branch is to realize the vision and continue the mission of GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) as a student organization in the spiritual field.

GMKI Organization (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) in Creating a Reference Reflection Forum for 10 Years

Efforts to realize the main goal of the presence of the Indonesian Christian Student Movement (GMKI) in this country are not easy, dynamism and ups and downs become a package that will definitely be experienced by all organizations, especially the GMKI organization. As a leadership organization, GMKI creates learning plans for cadres and must integrate the learning model into the overall programs and activities of the organization. For nearly a hundred years, GMKI has undergone three curriculum changes, resulting in the time and demands of students joining this organization, confronting them with different needs partially and simultaneously.

The current GMKI learning system or curriculum is the 2006 GMKI Cadre Education System (PDSPK) Archetype, which has the flexibility to adjust to the uniqueness of the organization, the development map of cadre needs, and the speed of service industry training. Important aspects in organizational life are certainly considered in the preparation of PDSPK, which includes the vision and mission of GMKI, internal organizational problems and dynamics, trends in external conditions, values and principles, as well as theological aspects as the foundation of GMKI's vocation and service.

Various efforts are recorded and seen by the elder or founder. Literacy as knowledge and skills in a particular field or activity is a moral obligation embedded in the GMKI Department. KBBI education includes literacy, digital literacy, financial literacy, nutritional literacy, information literacy, internet literacy, online literacy, financial literacy, computer literacy, media literacy, numeracy, library literacy,

science literacy, cyber literacy, technological literacy, and visual literacy. This literacy is pursued and implemented through structured activities and tasks that are translated into work programs and other informal activities. GMKI in all parts of Indonesia urgently needs what was formed by its predecessors, one of the social burdens of students.

The results of the research conducted on the resource person Elvier Christanty (Sae, 2022), the vision and mission of the Minister of National Education of the Republic of Indonesia Nadiem Makarim for "liberation of learning", "independent teacher" is learning independence imbued with the principle of KI Hadjar Dewantara, must be with pedagogical factors. as qualified Equipped with local driving instructors and instructors who are considered driving instructors for other instructors as well as authorized or authorized for subsequent instructors to become driving instructors on a professional and similar level. Discussion of GMKI Kefamenanu at a young age to prepare cadres who will become teachers after graduation, and the proposed solution is to strengthen reading skills.

The Role of the GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) Organization towards the People of Medan City

The role of GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) is seen in the vision and mission of GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) in Medan as a Christian student organization in Indonesia.

The strongly held vision of GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) is "The realization of peace, welfare, justice, truth, integrity of creation and democracy in Indonesia based on love". The mission of GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) is to invite students and foster awareness as church citizens to prepare expert and responsible leaders and mobilizers by carrying out the call in the midst of the country, so as to realize

welfare, peace, justice, truth and love in the midst of humans (Sirait, 2020).

Through this vision and mission, it is clearly seen how GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) takes part in several stories of Indonesian history, especially in the city of Medan.

1. The Role of GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) in the Early Days of the New Order

The fall of the old order period and the change to the new order were filled with twists and turns. The transfer of power put Indonesia in a phase that was tossed to take. The PKI rebellion until the issuance of TriTura (Tri Tntutan Rakyat) put Indonesia in a chaotic situation. The inflation rate that is increasing to reach 600% makes the domestic turmoil even more heated. This domestic turmoil has made GMKI cautious. The formation of KAMI was carried out with GMKI as one of the pioneers of its establishment. The Indonesian Student Action Unit was formed as the right hand of the people who felt the pressure of life, especially from an economic point of view.

2. The Role of GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) in the 30 September 1965 Movement

The tragedy of the night of September 30, 1965 was a bittersweet incident in Indonesian history. The reason is, 6 Generals and 1 Indonesian Captain died in a crocodile pit. This tragedy caused polemics in the Indonesian government structure. GMKI fully supports solving the problem of who is the mastermind of the deaths of 6 Generals and 1 Captain, by becoming a stronghold of the right mahasiswa. Besides it. The formation of a three-person Youth Front team with the aim of forming opinions and raising the masses.

As a result of the tragedy of the September 30, 1965 Movement, in the 1970s there was a vacancy in the youth security forum.

On January 22, 1972, the formation of "Cipayung" was carried out by drawing the theme "Indonesia that we aspire to". In this case, GMKI also took part by fully supporting all work concepts and programs that had been planned. GMKI as a Christian student movement organization is also a pioneer in the formation of the state budget regulated in GBHN.

3. The Role of GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) in the May 1998 Riots

The May 1998 riots were the culmination of the fight against Suharto's rule during his 32 years as president. This riot was first pioneered in Medan City, with students as pioneers of action. students from various agencies conducted demonstrations, such as IKIP Medan (now known as Medan State University), UHN, and USU Students. Students who were resonated in external organizations such as GMKI took part in the May 1998 riots.

The Indonesian Christian Student Movement also helped carry out demonstration. The bloody tragedy against Trisakti students made GMKI take part in it. GMKI sheltered students who were hit by tear gas and air rifles fired at students during a demonstration at the dprd building in Medan City.

The Indonesian Christian Student Movement is also calling for a trip so that the government can hear the public's complaints about the fuel noise significantly. At that time, on Jalan Mandala by Pass, which is around Jalan Aksara, there was a mass concentration on shophouses that were under construction. This development was carried out by the Chinese, which made the people of Medan City even more oppressed, that the indigenous people no longer had the opportunity to become entrepreneurs and business people. In this case, GMKI with one of its visions as a driving force carried out actions by gathering students and carrying out attacks on ethnic Chinese. However, even

though the demonstration took place, the incident was denounced and had a bad impact, especially on the public facilities of Medan City.

CONCLUSION

The conclusions revealed that GMKI took an important role in the historical journey of the Indonesian nation. Some of GMKI's role in the life of the Indonesian nation can be seen in the participation of the fall of the old order to the new order that was successfully carried out, in stopping inflation. GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) helped find the mastermind of the September 30, 1965 Movement and the calling for the overthrow of the New Order. In addition, GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement) participated in the 1998 riots as a form of the government's failure to maintain the country's economic stability.

The role of the current GMKI (Indonesian Christian Student Movement)

The GMKI frame must have compound intelligence, not only in terms of politics, but also in terms of service and education. The form of educational services can be seen through the process of webinar activities held through the results of the meeting. The webinar aims to divide intelligence into seven intelligences: linguistic intelligence, mathematical intelligence, musical intelligence, kinesthetic intelligence, interpersonal intelligence, intrapersonal intelligence, naturalistic intelligence and spatial intelligence and existential intelligence useful in everyday life as the successor of the nation.



Picture 2. Webinar Process with Medan City Government Agency Source: Dok. pribadi

Given the era of digitalization, we are simply challenged to have as many human resources (HR) as possible to meet the needs of different regions, of course, with the specifications of campus world science and learning content. GMKI is cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills) and affective (attitudes).

SUGGESTION

A big thank you is conveyed to the Medan State University for facilitating students to be able to get an education, accompanying lecturers who accompany and provide direction in the process of conducting research, to, and also thank you to informants who have provided information related to the role of the Indonesian Christian student movement in the political life of Medan City in 1965-1998.

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