

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **CHEAP KINDERGARTEN SCHOOL FOR TELUK NAGA STUDENTS**

Tangerang (13 / 7) - Around 65 children aged three to six years gathered at RW 01 Desa Teluk Naga, Tangerang pavilion. The learning activities in the pavilion had begun at seven in the morning.

"This is the first day the children attend school," said Rohaya (22), one of the parents who watched her children learn in PAUD - Al Alam kindergarten, while teacher is teaching vowels reading followed by his disciple children.

The existence of early childhood kindergarten in the village of Teluk Naga RW 01 got a positive response from the community around. With the cost of 150 thousand Rupiahs for administration plus two sets of uniforms, Rohaya can educate their children in kindergarten. "I'm so happy that I can send my children to school because the school fee is only 15 thousand, and it also close to our home," explained Rohaya.

Coinciding first day of school, Monday (13/07), in the same place was established PAUD - Al Alam Kindergarten by the Dean of UPH Faculty of Liberal Arts, Clara Evi C. Ph.D., witnessed by local community leaders and several representatives of UPH. On that occasion also submitted a set of props and kindergarten reading books.

PAUD - Al Alam Kindergarten is applying Early Childhood Education Program (Pendidikan Anak Usia Dini – PAUD) with tailored curriculum with government standards and give priority to low tuition fees for students. This is the first non-formal school in that location, in addition to 5 existing kindergarten and scattered in various hamlets in the vicinity.

This program is in addition to increasing the potential of children at an early age in local villages, as well as to empower people, especially the mother to an active role in educating the children.

"Before the program starts, we held a training for mothers and from 15 participants, 5 who are elected are ready to be tutors, to help teachers educate and train students," said Chief Executive of PAUD, Julita M. E., who is also one of the Faculty of Education (Fakultas Ilmu Pendidikan – FIP) lecturer at UPH.

"We do training for teachers and tutors intensively one or two times every week, for almost two months. Training provided include teaching ability, creativity, knowledge, and leadership to the teachers and tutors in order to educate students maximum," he added.

The tutors are housewives who also work, and they volunteered to help the teacher in charge. "We can manage the time, while helping the school, we also sell our things, there are shift. The important thing is to help children learn every day," said Arya, one of the tutors who graduate from the FIP-UPH training.

This school has a teaching-learning process consists of three shifts, from seven in the morning until three in the afternoon. There are three teachers who are ready to take turns teaching in three sessions.

Three teachers who taught in PAUD - Al Alam Kindergarten serve the children without expecting a big reward from the school. The teachers pleaded not expect a big reward, "It depends on the number of pupils, if there are a lot of pupils then it is quite good. The average is about 600 thousand per month," he said. Mariani is now an-end-of-the-semester student majoring in English at the National Islamic University (Universitas Islam Nasional - UIN).

This activity is part of the social care programs organized by the Institute for Research and Service to the Community from UPH (Lembaga Penelitian dan Pengabdian kepada Masyarakat - LPPM). UPH LPPM since late 2008 has made various kinds of development in this area by involving various faculties at UPH.

PAUD - Al Alam Kindergarten is using the Versatility Marquee (Pendopo Multifungsi) donated by UPH to the citizens of Teluk Naga and inaugurated on May 28, 2009. In addition to learning and teaching, Pendopo Multifungsi is used as a public library and a place for many activities such as integrated service post (*posyandu*) for citizens, counseling, worshipping for Moslems, until wedding.

Head of the Teluk Naga Village residents, Ahmad Sodiki, expressed appreciation for the hard work and hope that UPH marquee can be used in accordance with the purpose of the development. "This place is open to any activities during the useful to the public interest. What is important is the increase of knowledge for debriefing citizens," said Sodiki at the marquee inauguration last May.

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