

ZAKAT; SOLUTION TO DECREASE THE GAP BETWEEN A RICH PEOPLE & A POOR PEOPLE

By Maman Fathurrohman¹

Indonesia is one of the developing countries that tends to be a poor country. However, the facts show that there are still many rich people in Indonesia. They live happily with a great wealth they have that can be contributed to their children. Meanwhile, the other can still be found in this country, that is the poor people that can easily be found in almost part of the country. They find it difficult to fulfill their daily need including food and drinking water. There is another group of people which stay in between, the group then called medium-level group. They can fulfill their daily need especially their basic need including food and drinking water. This kind of condition can actually be found in almost every country in the world. This a natural thing, that in this life, there will be three main groups of people: higher, lower and medieval level.

Due to the decree of the countries united in UNO (United nation organization) on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) especially on the effort of decreasing the number of poverty and hunger, these three groups of people must be taken into account. This is should instantly be done because in almost countries in the world, the criminal cases are mostly caused by the demand of economy, that is the inability to fulfill the daily need for most of them. This kind of situation where the criminal is increasing in the society will of course cause the chaos in the society is getting worst and worst. Besides, the poverty cannot be easily solved if only the government who ask for responsible, but the role of the higher and medieval group of people need also to be taken into account in trying to solve this problem.

Economically, the rich will getting richer and richer due to the fact that they have a wider chances than those the poor. However, it is different with that the rich, the poor people will get poorer and poorer. This is supported by the fact that the poor do not have something so called Capital, say, money. Besides, this kind of condition happens since the poor are relatively less of being productive. They can do things productively since they can put a part of their income for their first capital to begin to have a new job, say, business.

Based on the discussion above, it is clear that the challenge faced by Indonesia in trying to solve the poverty problem is not only the government. There must be a feeling of care to the poor, which is expressed by the rich. The effort which is done by the rich people must continuously be done. However, believed or not, this sometimes become a very big burden for the rich people since the thing they do to help to solve the poverty problem must be sincerely done continuously.

¹ Student of Faculty of Economics of Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta

Therefore, my own vision inline with the MDGs is that on the way to over come the poverty and hunger problem. And, to this, there must be a feeling of care shown by the rich people to really try to solve the problem willingly. By this, the gap between the rich and those the poor can be eradicated and the thing comes up is that the harmonious relationship between the rich and those the poor people.

One way of solving this problem is that a reinforcement through moral and religion. This can be done by implementing a system so called Zakat, that is things given by the rich people to the poor on the basis of the regulation of the wealth owned. Zakat it self must be given and distributed continuously, this partly because it is a must for the rich based on the regulation sticks on the religion of Islam. This will not burden the rich, since it is a form of moral reinforcement as the one who is given more wealth by the God. Besides, the number given is not as many as those given by the God to the rich people. Therefore, it is expected that zakat can be a solution for solving the problem so called poverty and hunger in Indonesia.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Name : **Maman Fathurrohman**

Age : 21 Years

Date of Birth : September 25th 1982

University : Gadjah Mada University

Phone Number : 08157966597

e-Mail : maman_clg@yahoo.com

Post Address : Karang Malang Blok D 10 B, Sleman Jogjakarta 55281
Ph. (0274) 549391

: Jl. Bojonegara, Gg Sawah Besar Rt 07/07 No:08
Pegantungan Cilegon Banten 42411
Ph. (0254) 397821