

THE POTENTIAL OF WOMEN AS PEACEKEEPERS OF RELIGIOUS MODERATION (CASE STUDY OF THE WAHID FOUNDATION PEACE VILLAGE PROGRAM IN SIDOMULYO VILLAGE, BATU CITY)

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ABSTRACT

Based on the research that has been conducted, the Wahid Foundation's peace village programme in exploring the role of women as peacekeepers of religious moderation in Desa Dam Desa Sidomulyo Kota Batu targets three important aspects, namely strengthening women's social inclusion through economic independence, social mechanisms of peace and women's empowerment. These three aspects are the basic foundation for strengthening the role of women as peacekeepers of religious moderation in the grassroots community as the motto of the Wahid Foundation's peace village, "Empowered Women, Peaceful Communities".

KEYWORDS

Wahid Foundation, Religious Moderation, Peace Village



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INTRODUCTION

The Greater Malang area has three social sub-cultures, namely on the slopes of Mount Kawi, the Middle Javanese sub-culture, on the slopes of Mount Arjuna, the Madurese sub-culture and on the slopes of Mount Bromo-Semeru, the Tengger sub-culture. Religious diversity in Malang consists of Islam, Catholic Christianity, Protestant Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Confucianism. The largest Christian population in East Java is in Malang City, although Islam is the majority religion. The wealth of ethnicity in Malang is dominated by Javanese, Madurese, Arab and Chinese ethnicities. The social heterogeneity, culture and religious traditions in Malang Raya are a challenge in realizing harmony and peace, especially in the era of digital technology. Where all information and propaganda

How to cite:

E-ISSN:

Published by:

Zeid B. Smeer et al. (2024). The Potential Of Women As Peacekeepers Of Religious Moderation

(Case Study Of The Wahid Foundation Peace Village Program In Sidomulyo Village, Batu City). *Journal Eduvest*. 4(9): 8202-8213

2775-3727

<https://greenpublisher.id/>

of radicalism that leads to acts of extremism and terrorism are connected to all parts of the world quickly through *smartphones* in each hand.

Wahid Foundation in a 2017 survey stated that the number of Indonesians who are willing to become radicals is 7.8% or around 11 million of Indonesia's population. In addition, the intolerant attitude of Indonesian society continues to creep up, even reaching 57% in 2017. (beritasatu.com, 2019). In addition, in 2020 the Alvara Research survey published by the head of BNPT showed that nearly 30 million Indonesians or around 12.2% were potentially exposed to radicalism. (Margianto, 2021). Preventive efforts by the government and civil society to suppress the spread of radicalism and socio-religious intolerance need to be supported and should be appreciated. Based on the basic thoughts above, in 2017 the Wahid Foundation initiated the *Peace Village* program. This program is a form of effort to realize *Women Participation for Inclusive Society-WISE* (Women Empowered Peace Community Program). The main objective is to build peace and tolerance through strengthening and promoting the capacity of grassroots communities. (Wahid Foundation Writing Team, 2019).

The involvement of women actors in strengthening social inclusion, active participation in decision-making and building peace narratives at the community level in the *Peace Village* program aims to strengthen harmonization and harmony in a multicultural society Wahid Foundation in 2019 *launched Peace Village* in collaboration with UN Women with the theme of the village women's movement to build peace through economic strengthening and people's resilience (NUSANTARA). (Rahmah, 2019):

In this context, there are four main elements of maternal emotions from women related to building a culture of peace from the perspective of psychologists, namely: *first*, altruism is a trait that tends to prioritize the interests of others and has feelings of love for others. *Second*, gentleness, *third*, love and *fourth*, activity. These four components form the nature of motherhood and a strong mental climate. This unique maternal instinct is related to the existence of her child in a psychological unity, which encourages women not to be selfish and put their own interests first and to always be ready to preserve their environment even at the expense of everything, in this context, their child. (W.L, 2020). In addition, Janet Zullenger Grele stated that a woman has a tendency to prefer to create an atmosphere of peace rather than creating conflict and tends to like to cooperate rather than dominate. (Grele, 1979).

One of UN Women's goals is for women's participation in *peacekeeping* to be sustained and enhanced. The Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) is based on *Security Council Resolution 1325* (2000) which was the first UNSC Resolution to address the impact of armed conflict on women. The resolution emphasized the importance of "*women's equal and full participation*" as active agents in conflict prevention and resolution, *peacebuilding* and *peacekeeping*. (Nations, 2009).

In the *Peace Village* program in Malang Raya, women are actively involved as one of the main actors in strengthening social inclusion and empowering women with three main pillars, namely Human Rights, Gender Equality and the Nine Values of Gus Dur's religious moderation. Gus Dur's idea seeks to fight for the

realization of justice and world peace based on a tolerant and moderate view of Islam. It can be seen that religious moderation is one of the serious concerns in the *Peace Village* initiative. This paper will explain what the Wahid Foundation's Peace Village program is to explore the role of women as *peacekeepers* of religious moderation in Sidomulyo Village, Batu City).

The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative and also includes *field* research. Qualitative research is understood as a set of procedures to obtain the main objectives of research, data interpretation, natural setting approaches, and the possibility of applying approaches through relevant new theories (Creswell, 1998). (Creswell, 1998). The locus of this research is Sidomulyo Village, Batu City, which has declared itself participating in the *Wahid Foudation's* Desa Damai program. Data sources include primary sources and secondary sources. Primary data is generated from primary sources that are extracted from data collection techniques through observation, interviews, or special instruments designed according to the research focus. Meanwhile, secondary data comes from indirect sources such as official archives and other documentary data. To obtain the final findings, theoretical data analysis techniques from Miles, Huberman, and Saldana (2014) were used, namely analyzing with two steps, namely: *data condensation*, presenting data (*data display*), and drawing conclusions or verification (*conclusion drawing and verification*). (Miles, M.B. Huberman, A.M. and Saldana, 2014).

RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses a descriptive qualitative method with a field study approach to analyze the role of women as peacekeepers through the Desa Damai program initiated by the Wahid Foundation in Sidomulyo Village, Batu City. This approach aims to explore and understand how women's involvement in maintaining religious moderation and strengthening social inclusion at the community level. Data were collected from primary sources in the form of interviews and direct observation in the field, as well as from secondary sources such as official documents and archives relevant to the research focus. The research location focused on Sidomulyo Village, which is part of the Desa Damai program.

The data analysis process followed the stages proposed by Miles and Huberman, namely data condensation, data presentation, and conclusion drawing or verification. In the initial stage, data obtained from the field was filtered and summarized to identify important information related to the role of women in maintaining peace. Next, the data were presented in the form of descriptive narratives describing the phenomenon under study, and finally conclusions were drawn based on thematic analysis linking the role of women, religious moderation, and social inclusion in Sidomulyo Village.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Brief Overview of Wahid Foudation's *Peace Village* Program

Wahid Foundation initiated Desa Damai because of the high level of intolerance and socio-religious radicalism in Indonesia. So through Desa Damai, these efforts need to be strengthened with initiatives that are more positively

oriented. Not just suppressing certain symptoms (negative), but growing new symptoms (positive). In addition, efforts are needed that not only stem intolerant attitudes, but more than that require efforts that promote tolerance. (Wahid Foundation Writing Team, 2019). The importance of establishing a peaceful village is inseparable from a survey conducted by the *Wahid Foundation* (WF), in 2016. WF found the potential for intolerance and radicalism in Indonesian society. As many as 49 percent of neutral Indonesians tend to be intolerant, while others are more prone to tolerance. What is meant by *Desa/Kelurahan Damai* is a unitary government fund area that has the structure and equipment to carry out early prevention of the possibility of conflicts, as well as the development of attitudes of intolerance, violent extremism and radicalism. (Wahid Foundation, 2018a). By empowering village communities, through fostering harmony, community resilience, and promoting social equality and respect for differences, it is expected to be able to overcome the threat of radicalism and realize peace.

Each Village/Kelurahan that has declared as *Desa/Kelurahan Damai* is then asked to develop a *Desa/Kelurahan Damai* Action Plan that contains several program and policy ideas that are proposed and discussed with the participation of all elements of the community, in this RADES must ensure the participation of women's groups and efforts to promote peace with an approach to empowering and protecting women. The establishment of *Desa/Kelurahan Damai* is part of the *Women Participation for Inclusive Society* (WISE) program which has a big goal on involving women in efforts to build a peaceful and independent society. By involving women actors from the grassroots, Wahid Foundation strives to realize the *Women Empowered Peaceful Communities Program* (*Women Participation for Inclusive Society-WISE*). The goal is to strengthen and promote the capacity of grassroots communities in building peace and tolerance. The program involves working with nine villages/families in West Java, Central Java and East Java. The nine villages have committed to initiate the birth of *Desa/Kelurahan Damai*, a commitment to realize a common social order based on respect for differences and equality between citizens.

A program that aims to instill tolerance and prevent the strengthening of intolerance and radicalism has received appreciation from the United Nations through *UN Women* (Marzuki, 2019). On February 8, 2019, Co-Founder of Wahid Foundation, Yenny Wahid launched nine indicators of *Desa Damai*, namely commitment zones, promotion and education, ethics of care, local wisdom values, early detection and vigilance systems, response systems, women's participation, accountable structures and facilities and infrastructure. (Author, 2019). The *Desa/Kelurahan Damai* indicator was developed on the basis of three main pillars, namely Human Rights, Gender Equality and the Nine Core Values of KH Abdurrahman Wahid (Gus Dur). Gus Dur's nine core values are a model of religious moderation that contains universal values, is in line with the principles of human rights and does not conflict with the teachings of religions in Indonesia, especially Islam. These nine core values include: divinity, humanity, justice, equality, liberation, simplicity, brotherhood, local wisdom and chivalry. (Grele, 1979).

The distribution of *Desa/Kelurahan Damai* until 2022 includes: (a) 3 areas in West Java (Duren Seribu Village, Depok City, Pengasinan Village, Depok City and

Tajuhalang Village, Bogor Regency. (b) 7 areas in Central Java, (Tipes village, Surakarta city, Telukan village, Sukoharjo district, Glinggi village, Klaten district, Jetis village, Klaten district, Gemlengan village, Klaten district, Jabung village, Klaten district, and Tingkir Lor village, Salatiga city). Salatiga). (1) 1 region in Yogyakarta (Sinduharjo village, Sleman district). 8 villages in East Java (Gunungrejo village, Malang district, Candirenggo village, Malang district, Sidomulyo village, Batu city, Gunungsari village, Batu city, Mojorejo village, Batu city, Deasa Prancak village, Sumenep district, Guluk-Guluk village, Sumenep district, Payudandudang village, Sumenep district). 1 area in South Kalimantan (Handi Birayang bawah village, Tanah laut district). (Wahid Foundation, 2023b). The demographics or impact of this program until 2022 has targeted 317,371 people, 89,297 households, 14 One Village One Product, 173,739 men and 176,745 women, 20 declared Peace villages, 455 local women facilitators, 14,281 women who have been trained, 216 men and 233 Peace village working group teams, *one shop/one cookie/one laundry* group business activities, total savings of Rp. 1,036,433,500 with Rp. 3,404,200,000 total revolving funds. (Wahid Foundation, 2023a).

Brief Profile of Peace Village, Sidomulyo Village, Batu City

Sidomulyo Village is located at the foot of the mountain south of Mount Arjuna with an altitude of 800 - 850 meters above sea level, with an air temperature of 17o-25o C and fertile soil conditions with a village area of 270.821 ha. Sidomulyo Village is famous for its flower agro-tourism and is currently known as the Flower Village, and consists of 3 hamlets including Tinjumoyo, Tonggolari and Sukorembug. The population of Sidomulyo Village is 7,586 people, and is balanced between the number of female and male residents, the number of women is 3,885 people and the male population is 3,701 people. the majority of the villagers are farmers or farm laborers and as many as 2,749 people are active students. There are three religions practiced by the residents of Sidomulyo Village, namely Islam, Catholicism and Pentecostalism. Sidomulyo Village, Sidomulyo Sub-district, Batu City, was declared a peaceful village. Sidomulyo is one of 7 (seven) villages targeted by Wahid Foundation in the Greater Malang area. Sidomulyo is the second village to declare itself in the Greater Malang area. Sidomulyo Peace Village declaration activity, Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at Sidomulyo Village Hall, Bumiaji District, Batu City.

Exploring Women's Potential as *Peacekeepers of Religious Moderation Through Wahid Foundation's Peace Village Program*

Wahid Foundation's *Peace Village* took the initiative to put the strategic vision of preventing violent extremism into real action by making women the main actors to spread the values of peace and religious moderation. This action uses a well-designed approach that combines three important components in building resilience in the community through economic improvement, social mechanisms of peace building and women's empowerment.

Strengthening women's social inclusion through economic independence

According to the Wahid Foundation survey, there is a correlation between poverty and tension in society. Intolerance and discrimination usually occur in areas where community members have limited access to education, economy and information. In turn, people who have limited access are easily provoked. Therefore, efforts to minimize acts of intolerance in society, according to Wahid Foundation, are not only limited to advocacy and mediation. Economic empowerment that leads to grassroots communities needs to be done. After all, instilling the value of peace will be more effective accompanied by empowerment that leads to a better economy than preventing or reconciling conflicts that have occurred. (Wahid Foundation, 2018b) This reality is the background of Wahid Foundation to strengthen the quality of women through increasing the capacity of financial literacy and community entrepreneurship in order to have the ability to be economically independent and actively participate in decision-making at the community level as well as building a peaceful narrative. Among the forms of strengthening women's social inclusion through economic independence in Sidomulyo Village, Batu City are as follows

Community financial literacy and entrepreneurship capacity building training.

For Wahid Foundation (WF), one of the main requirements in building social cohesion is strengthening in the economic field, as well as strengthening understanding related to tolerance and peace. Primarily by involving women who have a big role in society. Therefore, in collaboration with UN Women, *Wahid Foundation* (WF) collaborates with women to become agents of peace who will be trained and guided to be strong both ideologically and economically. Among the forms of strengthening women's social inclusion through economic independence is training to increase the capacity of financial literacy and community entrepreneurship. The main material of this training refers to the peacebuilding module of financial management and business models created and developed by the Wahid Foundation specifically to provide an introduction to family management, business, savings, making a business model canvas and calculating the cost of production. This service is aimed at achieving the goal of involving women as agents of peace through women's economic empowerment. (Wahid Foundation, 2017).

The training was held at Oasis Amir Hotel, Jalan Senen Raya, Jakarta, 6 - 9 November 2018 and has been piloted by training 107 women facilitators spread across the implementation areas of the WISE program. A series of trainings on Introduction to Family Management, Business, Savings, Business Model Canvas Creation, and Calculation of Cost of Goods Manufactured. This combination is aimed at achieving the goal of involving women as agents of peace through women's economic empowerment. These women facilitators are also equipped with modules to be retrained to other women in the joint entrepreneurial group. Of course, the hope is that the seeds of peace will be deeply rooted in the community through the active role of women as development actors in their respective environments.

Establishment of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Group

The WISE (*Women Participation For Inclusive Society*) program encourages women to be involved as agents of peace to strengthen the sense of brotherhood in the community. Women's economic independence is one of the pillars of accelerating financial inclusion for women. In addition, favoritism towards women can increase added value to economic performance. Wahid Foundation has several layers of programs, including strengthening the community economy through women actors, which specifically empower women in the decision-making process at the local level. namely through education, literacy, training and the formation of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs). Wahid Foundation conducts trainings for women who are assisted by the program based on the potential of the region and individuals. One of the assisted areas is Sidomulyo Village, Batu City. This village is the target of Wahid Foundation's peaceful village program. Starting in 2017, the community can slowly recognize and develop local potential and involve more roles of women. Women's economic empowerment is in the form of forming entrepreneurial groups, or to develop previously owned businesses. Sidomulyo Village, which is known as one of the flower-producing areas in Batu City, received Wahid Foundation's attention in the form of an injection of funds through the Cinta Peace Cooperative in developing women's businesses, especially marketing for flower farmers and other small businesses.

Social Mechanisms of Peacebuilding

Training on Women, Islam and Peace

For *Wahid Foundation* (WF), one of the main requirements in building social cohesion is strengthening understanding related to tolerance and peace. Primarily by involving women who have a big role in society,. Therefore, in collaboration with UN Women, *Wahid Foundation* (WF) collaborates with women of peace who will be trained and guided to be ideologically strong to suppress symptoms of intolerance and radicalism. The basic training on women, Islam and peace is the main foothold for building empowered women of peace community was held at Oasis Amir Hotel, Jalan Senen Raya, Jakarta, November 6-9, 2018 and attended by 107 women facilitators spread across the implementation areas of the WISE program. The main objective of this training is that women are invited to open the mindset that Islam and other religions in the world all have the same orientation to coexist peacefully. In addition, it opens women's awareness that equality and good cooperation between men and women are work values that are considered equal before Allah SWT. Meanwhile, women are also invited to understand forms of gender injustice and steps to strengthen their potential in social inclusion in society. As well as educating women about a good understanding of the meaning of conflict and peace. the subject matter, root causes and consequences of a problem. conflict management and its resolution strategies.

Training on Legal Literacy of Pokja Desa/Kelurahan Damai in East Java.

The Potential Of Women As Peacekeepers Of Religious Moderation

(Case Study Of The Wahid Foundation Peace Village Program In Sidomulyo Village, Batu City)

Wahid Foundationmer equips knowledge, insights on law and women's human rights in terms of strengthening formal and non-formal legal perspectives in efforts to handle cases of extreme violence and gender-based violence to the Peaceful Village Working Group. Wahid Foundation trained 35 Working Group (Pokja) representatives from 5 Desa/Kelurahan Damai in East Java, namely Guluk-Guluk, Prancak and Payudan Dundang Villages in Sumenep Regency, Sidomulyo Village in Batu City, and Candirenggo Village in Malang Regency in the Training Legal Literacy of Pokja Desa/Kelurahan Damai in East Java "Strengthening the capacity of Pokja on Women's Rights, Protection and Legal Services for Victims of Gender-Based Violence and Building Community-Based Protection Mechanisms" on February 26-28, 2021 at the Mercure Mirama Hotel, Surabaya. (Purnomo, 2021). In this case, Wahid Foundation Executive Director Mujtaba explained that these efforts must be strengthened by formal and informal justice mechanisms. For this reason, Pokja Desa/Kelurahan Damai is also encouraged to use legal and non-litigation approaches in overcoming issues of discrimination and violence at the local level, including efforts to protect and resolve violence experienced by women and children. According to Mujtaba, the event was part of the realization of the nine Indicators of a Peaceful Village and accommodated all elements of society, including women's groups, government and village officials, youth, community leaders and religious leaders from several religions.

Training on Women's Access to Justice

Wahid Foundation held a training on "Women's Access to Justice for the East Java Regional Working Group" at Novotel Surabaya-Hotel and Suites Hotel on Friday-Sunday, April 2-4, 2021. (Muhammad, 2021). Mujtaba Hamdi stated that the training that was held was a continuation of the previous training that had been held, namely the "Prevention of Violent Extremism and Legal Literacy for Peaceful Village Working Groups" training which was held on February 27-29 in Surabaya. According to her, this training aims not only to strengthen the capacity of the Pokja, but also to provide deeper insights into how to build and access more concrete justice schemes at the village level, namely through the national legal framework related to the protection of women's rights. She stated:

Strengthening Policy Makers at the Regional Level in the Implementation of Peaceful and Equal Village Actions

Wahid Foundation together with the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (KPPA) held a Training on Strengthening Policy Stakeholders at the Regional Level in the Implementation of Peaceful and Equitable Village Actions with the theme "Realizing Gender Justice, Preventing Violent Extremism, and Responding to the Pandemic Crisis in a Human Security Approach", the activity was held on Friday - Saturday, December 18-19, 2020 at Hotel De Baghrif Sumenep and Monday - Tuesday, December 21-22, 2020 at Samara Hotel Batu, East Java involving 50 Participants representing district, sub-district and village level government. This training is part of a series of Peaceful and Equitable Village

Action Plans in the Peaceful Villages of Guluk - Guluk and Prancak involving women's groups, Peaceful Village working groups as the main actors to strengthen peace values as part of efforts to prevent social conflict, intolerance and violent extremism.

Voice of Peace Village series

This Online Discussion is a routine discussion activity involving 10 Desa Damai as a forum for joint consolidation of efforts that can be carried out by the Village by involving women in strengthening social cohesion in the community. This activity also aims to expand the dissemination of good practices of Peaceful Village Action in developing community-based mechanisms for preventing gender-based violence and violent extremism. In this program, present in this discussion are several important figures who have acted as resource persons such as Hasrul Edyar Director of Handling Post-Conflict Areas of the Ministry of Villages PDPT RI, Bintang Pusoayoga Minister of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection RI and so on.

Female Initiator Class

Wahid Foundation held a Women's Initiator Class (KIP) on February 20, 2021 through online networking. The purpose of the activity was to strengthen the youth of Desa Damai in East Java, whose participants were representatives from Candirenggo Village, Sidomulyo Village, Prancak Village, and Guluk-Guluk Village. The activities were held to strengthen the capacity of young women and build their initiatives to be more vocal through effective and creative campaigns in the media on issues of equality, gender justice, and tolerance that specifically counter gender discriminatory narratives, and generally counter hate speech and health hoaxes during the Pandemic. (Saeroji, 2021).

This women's initiator class activity was carried out from early March to April 22, 2021, involving young people from 4 Desa Damai by campaigning through their respective social media to voice gender equality and anti-discrimination. They have created and disseminated various contents on women's issues and discrimination in the name of gender through social media.

Women's Empowerment

Women's empowerment through Desa Damai assisted by Wahid Foundation in Sidomulyo Village, Batu City began in 2017, which was led by Mrs. Siti Zulaikah. Among the forms of women's empowerment through Desa Damai assisted by Wahid Foundation in Sidomulyo Village, Batu City are as follows:

Karya Bunda Community

Is an association of women who are independent, which is a group assisted by Wahid Foundation in Sidomulyo Village, Batu City, which is engaged in women's community business. The business developed consists of a variety of products produced by the women's community to be traded such as home products in the form of organic fruit juices, sayurbag, organic vegetables packaged in beautiful pots so that they can be made ornamental plants as well as can be

harvested at home, organic fruits and vegetables. Bunda community's work helps the women's community to be more eager to cultivate their abilities in making small foods, crafts and how to market them. Moreover, the exhibitions that Wahid regularly organizes are very supportive of their creativity to produce better quality products.

Waste Bank

The waste bank is one of the efforts of the women's community in Sidomulyo Village, Batu City, assisted by Wahid Foundation. In practice in the field, the management of this waste bank still requires men to help launch this program so that it runs smoothly and successfully. However, the operational management of this waste bank is still dominated by women assisted by Wahid Foundation up to 90%. What is meant by a waste bank is one way of managing household-scale waste, which focuses on community empowerment in managing household waste. Among the training and assistance of waste banks with Wahid Foundation are (1) Waste selection, (2) First collection from home to the TPS, (3) Waste handling at the TPS, (4) Composting / composting, (5) Recycling non-organic waste and (6) Recycling creations (hasta karya).

Female Village School

This program aims to provide additional education to women related to basic knowledge needed in everyday life such as childcare, beauty and reproductive health, cooking and so on. The village women's school is a non-formal education program that collaborates with various universities to provide education to women for free for six months with the duration of learning hours 2 times face-to-face a week. Learning runs for one to three hours at a time and consists of three main focuses, namely: Practical knowledge, strategic knowledge and skill knowledge. Practical knowledge is a learning process that is presented by explaining some of the main material, usually in the form of material exposure through presentations and discussions. At this stage, women are invited to learn the theory directly from the literature in the form of physical books or powerpoints that are distributed free of charge. Meanwhile, strategic knowledge is a learning process in the form of material that is deliberately chosen according to what knowledge women want to learn at that time. For example, the majority of women want to learn about taxes, so taxation material will be their main material at that time. Meanwhile, skill knowledge is a learning process that focuses on practical skills such as how to plant bonsai, make trinkets, knitting bags, cooking and so on.

Takjil Business Together

One form of business for women in Sidomulyo Village assisted by *Wahid Foundation* during the month of Ramadan is the takjil business. As a predominantly Muslim country, the month of Ramadan is highly anticipated. Especially culinary tourism that is increasingly mushrooming with various sellers offering breakfasting menus both food, drinks and various snacks. The takjil business pioneered by this woman from Sidomulyo Village, Batu City, has started since 2017. The takjil selling menu for breaking the fast includes fruit ice, fried foods, banana compote, fruit

pudding, green banana ice, various ready-to-eat dishes, vegetables and side dishes. Through this takjil business, women can further hone their skills in the business world while increasing family income.

Wahid Foundation pioneered a series of excellent programs to explore the role of women as *peacekeepers* of religious moderation in the midst of a multicultural society in order to strengthen the resilience and support the leadership of female actors in the process of building peace in Desa/Kelurahan Damai. In addition to the economic empowerment component, these women peace agents receive regular training on conflict resolution and how to prevent, detect and respond to early signs of violence locally. The Desa Damai program has been running since 2013 and was inaugurated in 2015. There is one main vision that the program focuses on in creating peace efforts at the grassroots level, especially in rural areas and villages. This role is carried out by women as agents and facilitators.

The training provided by Wahid Foundation to women actors from the grassroots of Sidomulyo Village as agents of peace to strengthen the sense of brotherhood in this community has a great impact on realizing an inclusive society that works hand in hand to create a peaceful narrative. In this context, the Japanese Ambassador to Indonesia, Kanasugi Kenji said (MediaIndonesia, 2022):

"We really appreciate this collaboration that produces extraordinary benefits. Desa Damai is a Wahid Foundation program led by Mrs. Yenny Wahid to strengthen women as agents of peace through economic strengthening, leadership training and strengthening understanding of tolerance and diversity."

The involvement of women in the Desa/Kelurahan Damai program aims to make them the driving actors in their respective environments by encouraging policies at the local level that support efforts to prevent conflict, intolerance and violent extremism through a humanist and gender-equitable security approach.

Yenny Wahid states (Wahid Foundation, 2022):

"When women are empowered, the impact will not only be felt on women, but will also be felt on the nation and state. why are we focusing on women? Because women still need to be facilitated all over the world, because there are still so many obstacles facing women, both from the external and internal sides of women themselves."

A series of programs to empower women through the Desa/Kelurah Damai Wahid Foundation program emphasizes the importance of building the quality of human life and society, and emphasizes that every effort to improve welfare, prosperity, productivity must not create widening inequality so that it can damage the balance of development. Through this program, the understanding, education, and insight development given to women are expected to be important assets to realize the mission of peace on earth in Indonesia, as the Wahid Foundation's jargon "*empowered women, peaceful communities*".

CONCLUSION

Based on the research that has been conducted, the *Wahid Foundation's peace village* program in exploring the role of women as *peacekeepers* of religious moderation in Desa Dam Desa Sidomulyo Kota Batu targets three important

aspects, namely strengthening women's social inclusion through economic independence, social mechanisms of peace and women's empowerment. These three aspects are the basic foundation for strengthening the role of women as *peacekeepers of religious moderation* in the grassroots community as the motto of the *Wahid Foundation's peace village, "Empowered Women, Peaceful Communities"*.

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