

Building a Tolerance-Based Society: How Socio-Cultural Modality Affects Post-Conflict Harmony in the Moluccas

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ABSTRACT

This paper analyzes how people in Ambon City and the Tual City of Moluccas Province build harmony in the differences after the conflict struck these two cities. This study builds on the results of the 2017 field research in the two regions using qualitative methods to see how local people build relationships between groups and build post-conflict harmony. Because this study data is qualitative, qualitative analysis is carried out and presents it descriptively. To help develop the concept, the study discussion uses the perspective of social construction theory and social capital. This study found that the people both of the cities had experiences of differences in community groups that were used as an excuse to conflict almost two decades ago, but community groups in both cities in Eastern Indonesia also have their own mechanisms to get out of conflict. build peace and foster harmony, which in this study I call building community-based harmony. In this case there are ways that the people in Ambon City and Tual City can be categorized as social capital or cultural capital, which is used to build harmony and manage diversity in the differences that each group has. In this regard, it was found that there were a number of communities in the both cities, with their own initiative to conduct activities that strengthen social capital to build harmony or social harmony, and have the potential to better manage diversity, and contribute to sustainable peace building. Community groups that are not institutionalized and formal but have a positive contribution to building post-conflict harmony in Ambon City and Tual City as intended by the authors are categorized as follows: economic groups in traditional markets, interest groups or hobbies and friendships.

Keywords: harmony, post-conflict, Ambon, Tual, Maluku, Indonesia