The Collaboration of Waqf and Zakat upon Health Care Services in Indonesia

(A study at Dompet Dhuafa Hospitals)

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Abstract

Among several problematic issues that Indonesia as the biggest Moeslem country is currently facing, is the problem of Health care services. The government itself till this moment is not yet able to provide proper health care services for its people who are barely standing on the line of poverty, as if the luxury of being healthy is only given and destined for the rich. A case such as a penniless patient who has been rejected by a hospital has turned into an ordinary phenomenon. This helpless situation from the government has encouraged “Dompet Dhuafa”, one of the Indonesian Islamic Philanthropic Institutions to initiate and finally build a hospital which takes on Waqf and Zakat as its basis.

Up to this date, Dompet Dhuafa has successfully served and took care of patients who are in need located at 5 different hospitals that were all built on the land of waqf or using waqf cash, meanwhile the operating costs of the hospitals are all supported and covered by Zakat funds. The hospital “Rumah Sakit Terpadu”, by way of the first Dompet Dhuafa hospital has now served 5000 Dhuafa patients every month of the year. Dompet Dhuafa is targeting to have one hospital at every district, present Dompet Dhuafa is on the process of building its 6th hospital.

This article emphasizes that the collaboration of Waqf and Zakat can be the solution for health care services in Indonesia, particularly as how Dompet Dhuafa has proven through its hospitals that is now spread in Indonesia, this solution can also be applied in other countries with similar problematic issues. This study will use Dompet Dhuafa hospitals as the main sources of observation.

Keywords: wakaf, zakat, Islamic philanthropy, health care services