



NEWSLETTER

PIKULAN FOUNDATION

Inspired by and in obedience to the Bible, in close cooperation with the people involved, Pikulan Foundation aims to help the continuation and expansion of about nine adoption and sponsored projects in Indonesia.

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Adoption money:

NL 43 INGB 0006 2734 00 in the name
of Stichting Pikulan, Surhuisterveen

Donations:

NL 75 INGB 0009 1000 83 in the name
of Stichting Pikulan Surhuisterveen

From the board

It is good practice to inform our friends, sponsors, adoption parents and all who are interested twice a year about what is happening at Pikulan. Passing on 'news' has become more difficult because these days social media are much faster spreading news around the globe. Nevertheless, we would like to look back on our trip in this past year, because there is some much to share.

18 people travelled to Indonesia from 9 Sep-7 Oct last. In four weeks we visited all the projects of Pikulan. Two members of the board and the other travellers could see with their own eyes what Pikulan's concern is: helping as many children as possible, supporting the poor and trying to give them opportunities in a very complex society. Below I will give a summary of the trip, and some conclusions. If you would like the full story we recommend reading it on Pikulan's website.

Theo Loonstra has posted a beautiful day-to-day- report, including pictures: www.pikulan.nl.

nl Indonesie reis 2016. If you prefer receiving a paper copy, please contact the secretariat. We noticed that after two years the country is visibly moving forward. For example, Jakarta - with 20 million inhabitants - has become much cleaner. Rivers and drainage are much cleaner, there is less garbage alongside roads, and fewer people live under fly-overs. Traffic has increased even more since two years ago, there are fewer old cars but the number of scooters is incredible. Most people walk around with their mobile phone, especially the youngsters.





In the projects, people are very grateful for the help that Pikulan provides. And when you see all the happy children's faces, you are reminded of who and what you do it for. Despite their harsh conditions every day, you see the joy and gratitude, which impressed all of us. In all 9 projects and 6 schools that we visited, we were received hospitably, with dance and music. Wherever we went, we had to eat and drink, that is part of the culture. The Indonesian is very hospitable, it is great to see and it can make a person envious. You can read more about this in the full report.

There was a painful and difficult moment in Purwokerto. We ended the cooperation with and said goodbye to domestic sciences school Mardikenya, one of the first projects of Pikulan. Two years ago it became clear that we had difficulties getting in touch with the new school board. It was already apparent that concrete decisions weren't made and that the school wouldn't survive due to a lack of students. We made various proposals, but the school board had different ideas.

Marta Sumarti, our project manager in Purwokerto for many years and teacher at the school Mardikenya, has giving up the battle and has started her own sewing workshop. She has a small pension from the school, and her husband has a job. She lives a stress-free life now. Martha will remain our point person, and she will represent and when necessary support the adoption children.

Martha is connected with the Diakonos seminary. She is a part-time teacher there and member of the school board. Pikulan has been in touch with Diakonos for a few years. We know how and also under which circumstances students are educated in theology here. We will continue with Martha and the school board and we hope – with the help of all of you- to be able to mean something for the poorest students.

We discussed last year's Christmas gift in all the projects -which was made possible because of the great turnover the charity

shop made that year. Everyone had a great Christmas himself or herself, but they also shared with others, and very good work was done. For these reasons the board has decided to repeat this action this Christmas. We are grateful that the charity shop is doing well and that in this way we may pass on the gospel of Christmas.

We can look back on a blessed year 2016. We could work together in a good way: board, promoters, project managers and all the staff members of the charity shop. All of us together have done our best to put into practice our assignment as described in Pikulan's mission: inspired by and in obedience to the Word of God, the Bible, in close consultation with the partners of the selected projects, focus ourselves on the poorest people in Indonesia.

On behalf of our brothers and sisters and all adoption children, we want to thank you very much for your interest and empathy, donations and all ways of help. In Bahasa Indonesia: Terimah Kasih Banyak.

If you would like to transfer an extra donation at the end of the year, could you please state the project or name and adoption number? I wish everyone a pleasant December time, blessed Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2017. Hari Natal Memberkati dan Selamat Tahun Baru yang Sejahtera.

*Best regards,
Bauke Baron.*

Lulus

Lulu is the Indonesian term for a graduate. Through the years there have been many lulus. In Batu, for example, Suci Isnaeni, back then adopted by the H. vd S. Family, was the first who graduated in 2005 and got a job. In all likelihood, Marsa Melinda, adoption child of C. S., will graduate at the end of this year and she will also have a job. Marsa Melinda is the 36th adoption child from the Batu project in the past 11 years who experienced this.

In Baturetno, the following children graduated last July: Anastasia Sandari, Maria Natalia Nursinta Anggraini, Yenita Sari, Lilik Setyawan, Pamungkas Adepernomo. In Tanjung Priok, Jakarta, Vano Pormes and Yuliyanti Arlis graduated.

In Semarang, Slamet graduated in June. He was offered a trip to Japan and he has a good job now in technology. Prayogi finished secondary school and was compensated for the registration fee for the polytechnic school for advanced education.

Project Mardikenya becomes Project Talang Kasih Banyumas

This project in Purwokerto and surrounding derives its name from SM Kristen Mardikenya, a Christian domestic science school that was supported by Pikulan for many years. But in Indonesia too, society is changing and because of a lack of students and the school board's unclear vision on the future we had to end the support of and cooperation with this school, unfortunately.

But fortunately, there is good news too. To help guarantee the continuity of the project in the future, a project board has been formed. The name of this project is from now on Talang Kasih Banyumas. Talang Kasih is Indonesian for 'gutter of love', and Banyumas is the name of the region. Also in this new situation, Martha Sumarti remains our contact in Purwokerto.

STT Diakonos Seminary in Banyumas.

Apart from supporting schoolchildren with financial adoption, Pikulan has for some years now also supported this seminary. In the past, Pikulan had supported this school before, so that they could buy land to build their own campus. The last few years we have sponsored a number of poor students. During the Pikulan trip in 2016, the group

could visit the new site. Diakonos has now their own place. The main building is almost ready.

Student housing is lagging behind. For many things there is a lack of funds, unfortunately. The two buildings for students were for that reason built swiftly, and they are quite simple. Both roofs are thatched roofs and not waterproof in heavy rainfall. The rain season meanwhile has started again and a humid place (wet mattresses, clothing etc) is naturally not beneficial for the living and study climate.

The students of STT Diakonos mainly come from the surrounding region and other parts of Java, but some also come from remote poor regions as Nias (near Sumatra), Sulawesi,

Sumba, Flores, Alor and Timor. As far as possible, the seminary itself also sponsors students from the very poor regions, compensating for travel expenses and the price of living. When these students graduate and go back to their own regions and islands, they can raise the level of the local, Christian, education there. Next to theology they have learnt a trade to provide their own income. Christian communities and schools are and will remain very important as counterweight to further Islamization and radicalisation of the Indonesian society.

Both the school's management, the teachers and the students deserve our support. To us, it is almost impossible to imagine the price these young people must be willing to pay for their Christian faith, esp. when they are converted Muslims.

They themselves are all filled with confidence that our Lord and Saviour will support his work. Besides the student housing also the



kitchen needs to be well furnished. Right now, it is not much.

Only a small amount of money is available each month for the meals of the internal students. Next to studying, the students also grow part of their own food. But even with this the monthly budget is not enough most of the time. Could you please support this school and the poor students with a donation but also with your prayer, so that they will receive good lodging and study facilities, and enough to eat every day to be able to carry on with their activities.

The estimated amount for the improvement of the living and study conditions and the kitchen facilities is 7.500,- Euros.

Perhaps you could inform your own church, deacons and mission department about the poor circumstances at STT Diakonos. We would gladly hold a general presentation about Pikulan's work, and pay special attention to the activities of the STT Diakonos seminary.

*Best regards,
Sjouke v.d. Meulen, promoter*

A dream

Joshua Mohamed Jasin was a fanatical extremist Muslim. He helped persecuting Christians. He helped burning churches down. Until he saw a light, three times, and he heard a voice that told him to follow Jesus. He wanted to obey. He ran away from home, and his father and his father's fifth wife disowned him.

Someone gave him the opportunity to become an evangelist in six months in Palembang. Now he preaches in several churches. For this reason he does not have a steady job. He is married and has a 10-year old daughter. It is his dream to live his life as a pastor and witness of the love of God. He would like to study at STT (sekola Tinggi Theology) Sangkakala and Kopeng. This is 25 km away from his home.

Unfortunately he does not have the money to pay for his studies. Matriculation and tuition for 8 semesters amount to around 580 Euros a year (3 years).

Pikulan would like to help evangelist Joshua Jasin's dream come true. Would you, too?



Requests

- ***Could you ask people in your surroundings to register as financial adoption parents? The more adoption parents, the more children we can help!***
- ***We would love to come round to hold a presentation to promote our projects. Please get in touch with Hinke de Vries (see www.pikulan.nl)***
- ***Did you know that donations to Pikulan are tax-deductible because we are ANBI-certified?***

Donations are welcome at: NL75 INGB 0009 1000 83.

Please clearly state the cause: the project or name and number of your child, and also your name so that we know who the sender/donor is.

- ***The adoption money is to be transferred to bank account no. NL43 INGB 0006 2734 00 in the name of: Stichting Pikulan, Surhuisterveen.***

A unique trip for the children in an orphanage

We were asked via a Kasihi Foundation project in Ambarawato to take the children in the Panti Asuhan Sumber Kasih orphanage on a small trip.

The church in Ambarawa funds the orphanage and the children go to the Lantera primary school. Some children are orphans; some have been left behind on the street by their parents who could probably no longer provide for them. Poverty drives people to desperate measures. But at Ibu Mary's these children have found a place where love and warmth can help them process their trauma. She is like a mother to them and at the moment she is caring for 18 children. Every year, Wytze, Joan and Ismi visit her and feel her enormous drive to provide to these children what other children also receive.

During our last conversation we learnt that the children never go anywhere, they only go from the orphanage to school and vice versa, and there they always stay inside. We thought of an idea to offer them to go on a small trip together, and Ibu Ismi and Ibu Mary have made a proposal.

After that, Pikulan decided to pay for the expenses of the trip from the proceeds of the charity shop. A travel agency in Semarang arranged a trip to the zoo and amusement park in Yogyakarta. With a number of local volunteers the group departed early in the morning. It was a trip of a lifetime to them. They loved the trip and all the attractions in the park, as the picture clearly shows! Ibu Mary sent us a message that it had been



the first time in years that could relax a little, as the volunteers took care of everything.

Thanks to this generous donation made by Pikulan there are happy children and a happy leader in Ambarawa. The travel agency made a free surprise DVD of the trip, for the children. We have a copy. If anyone would like to watch this DVD, please contact the secretariat.

Who wants to sponsor me?

The following children (and their families) are looking for financial adoption parents.



Project Talang Kasih Banyumas: Oyi (2010) is in the first year at the Christian primary school Klampok. She lives in a small house with her sister Liane and her mother. Her father died and her mother does not have a steady income. Would you like to help Oyi to get an education?



Vena (2010) goes to the Christian primary school Klampok. She lives with her grandparents because her parents are divorced. Vena is looking for adoption parents.



Project Baturetno Rafa (2009) Rafa's parents don't have steady jobs, so there is no steady income. Rafa is an only child and would love to go to school.



Amel (2004) Amel was born in 2004. She lives in Baturetno and only has a mother. The mother is very poor. Who would like to join paying for Amel's school, so she can continue her education?

A man with dark hair, wearing an orange t-shirt with a graphic print, is smiling and cooking in a kitchen. He is holding a long-handled spatula and is in the process of flipping a large, rectangular, golden-brown fried item, possibly a pancake or a piece of fried dough, on a griddle. The kitchen has white tiled walls. To the left, there is a window and a counter with several green bottles and other items. To the right, there is a black wok on a small stand, a yellow bucket, and various colorful bowls and containers on the counter. A colorful painting of two fish is mounted on the wall behind him.

The photograph shows the interior of a food stall. A red counter in the foreground displays a menu with the following items: NASI GORENG, TAMIE GORENG, FUYUNG HAI, and BAKMI GORENG. The counter also features the stall's logo, 'Teh Pacuk', and a slogan, 'Teh Terbaik ada di Paksi'. Behind the counter, three people are visible: a man in an orange shirt on the left, a person in a striped shirt in the center, and a man in a dark shirt on the right. A large white ventilation duct is mounted on the ceiling. The background includes a glass display case and a wall with a colorful mural.

The screening takes place twice a year to evaluate whether the financial circumstances have improved or have worsened. In such a