

## Searching the Justice for Imam Masykur



Teuku Kemal Fasya







































## **Teuku Kemal Fasya**

*The action of these three TNI officers have done is unacceptable, but it also represents the worst image of the youth who are supposed to be the hope of the nation.*

*The three of them were perpetrators who were directly involved in the kidnapping, torture and forced disappearance of Imam Masykur, a Bireuen boy who decided to migrate to the capital city in order to better his life. Unfortunately, his fate was not good and he died tragically.*

*Praka RM is not an ordinary soldier. He is a member of the Presidential Security Service (Paspampres). Every day he works at the State Protocol Guard Battalion. Praka HS works at the Topography Directorate of the Indonesian Army. Meanwhile, J is a member of the Iskandar Muda Regional Military Command. What unites them and the victims is that they are all from Aceh! ("Prabowo said about the case of Paspampres and TNI AD members who beat Imam Masykur to death", Kompas.com, August 31, 2023).*

*The three murderers who killed a man they did not know had no revenge and no personal issue. Masykur can be as a dream and fulfillment as the hope of his parents and his lover, who can change lives through migration. He was tortured, killed and thrown into the river like useless waste. This case has given a bad image to the TNI institution as the backbone of the nation's security and defense.*

*The viral video of the fatal torture sparked public outrage, especially in Aceh. Acehnese described the case as a horror story related to traumatic experiences during the conflict. In addition, it was eventually discovered that young Acehnese migrants in Jabodetabek were indeed targeting victims of kidnapping and torture.*

### **Not an isolated case**

*The case of Imam Maskur was not isolated. It was discovered that the three perpetrators had tortured and extorted a number of Acehnese youths in Jakarta. They did it under police cover.*

*In fact, according to the post-New Order transformation chart, the TNI is one-step ahead of the police. After the reform, the redefinition, repositioning and re-actualization of the TNI underwent numerous adjustments. The role of the military is no longer part of the civil order, especially in the security aspect.*

*According to Law No. 34 of 2004, Article 7, Paragraph 1, the TNI's mission is to "uphold the sovereignty of the state, defend the territorial integrity of the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia based on Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, and protect the entire nation and all Indonesians from threats and disturbances to the integrity of the nation and the state. This means that in the democratic era, the military is no longer required to use police action to intimidate civil society.*

*However, the actions of these three TNI youths broke the Sapta Marga Crystal Oath. "We are Indonesian knights who are devoted to God Almighty and who defend honesty, truth and justice". The patriotic oath has no influence on their minds and consciousness. The transformation of the People's Security Army (TKR) should protect the people in safety and free from fear.*

*Instead, an explosion of terror during the conflict, when Acehnese youth who left the area were suspected of being separatists or security troublemakers and therefore deserving to be interrogated until proven otherwise. During the conflict, this method of defamation was carried out through torture and enforced disappearance to create a marker for the rest of the Acehnese public. However, the coercive methods of these youths are completely devoid of ideology. They only collected profits, which are said to be up to IDR 900 million.*

*The video shows that the torture inflicted on the Acehnese youths resembles 19<sup>th</sup> century African-American slavery as depicted in the film 12 Years a Slave (2013). They were arrested on charges of illegal drug*

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