

Glossary

Aqidah (Arabic)	A statement of doctrine, or an article of faith.
Bai'ah (Arabic)	'Contract' or oath of allegiance binding members of an Islamic sect or Sufi <i>tariqa</i> to their spiritual guide.
Bid'ah (Arabic)	Innovation; a view, thing or mode of action that has formerly not existed or been practised. The term has come to suggest change in religious belief or action that leads to heresy, but not necessarily to disbelief.
Dakwah (Indonesian from Arabic da'wa)	Missionary or propagatory activities, to call or invite mankind to believe in the true religion, Islam. This word also means to make Muslims better Muslims.
Darul Islam (Arabic Dar al-Islam)	Realm of Islam; those lands under Muslim rule.
Fiqh (Arabic)	Understanding of <i>syari'ah</i> ; the system of jurisprudence based on the <i>usul fiqh</i> (roots or foundation of jurisprudence).
Harakah (Arabic)	Originally means 'movement.' In Indonesia it refers to various independent Islamic movements which are not formally approved by government.
Haram (Arabic)	A sanctuary which is forbidden by the <i>shari'a</i> (Islamic law).
Imam (Arabic)	One who stands in front to lead the <i>shalat</i> (prayer), and who leads the Muslim community.
Jihad (Arabic)	War against unbelievers in accordance with shari'a. Also applied to an individual's struggle against baser impulses.
Jama'ah (Arabic)	Group or community.
Jilbab (Arabic)	Long, loose robe worn by Muslim women activists over regular clothes. It also often refers to <i>kerudung</i> , a head-dress that reveals only the face. It falls down loosely to below the chest or the waist.
Khutbah (Arabic)	The sermon delivered on Fridays at the noon prayer. The khutbah is also given in the morning after sunrise at the 'Idul Fitri (end of Ramadan) and 'Idul Adha (Sacrifice festival).

Mihrab (Arabic)	Niche or chamber in the front part of mosque where the <i>imam</i> (leader) leads prayers and <i>khatib</i> (preacher) gives the sermon.
Mubaligh (Arabic)	Originally means bearer or messenger; A Muslim propagandist or preacher.
Muhammadiyah (the Way of Muhammad)	One of the most significant Islamic modernist organisation of Indonesia, established in 1912.
Mujahid (Arabic, pl. Mujahidin)	Soldier fighting a holy war or <i>Jihad</i> .
Mujaddid (Arabic)	The person who leads <i>tajdid</i> (renewal).
Musholla (Arabic)	A small room or building set aside in a public place for praying.
Pengajian (Indonesian)	Learning the Qur'anic recitation; religious lecture; public sermon.
PERSIS (Persatuan Islam)	An Islamic modernist organisation -established in 1923-played important role in the debate between traditionalist and modernist viewpoints in religious matters.
Pesantren (Javanese, Pondok Sundanese)	Islamic school with fully boarding students.
Pesantren Kilat (Indonesian)	Short course of Islamic training activity. It also refers to an Islamic group or movement.
Priyayi (Javanese)	Aristocrate, court official.
Ramadan (Arabic)	The holy month in which the Qur'an was revealed. It is the fasting month in which Muslims may not eat, drink or have sexual intercourse during the daylight hours.
Sahur (Indonesian from Arabic sahira meaning to stay up at night)	Having meal before dawn during fasting.
Santri (Sundanese)	Student in <i>pesantren</i> . It also refers to a pious Muslim.

Shalat (Arabic)	Ritual worship performed five times daily, one of 'five pillars' (<i>rukni</i>) of Islam.
Syari'ah (Arabic)	Sacred law of Islam which governs all aspects of a Muslim's life. It is elaborated through the discipline of <i>fiqh</i> .
Subuh (Indonesian from Arabic subh)	Dawn; daybreak.
Sunnah (Arabic)	Custom sanctioned by tradition of the Prophet enshrined in <i>hadits</i> .
Tajdid (Arabic)	Renewal, regeneration of the commitment to the fundamental principles of Islam and the related reconstruction of society in accord with the Qur'an and the sunna.
Thagut (Arabic)	An idol, tempter to error, something worshiped other than God. Among Muslim activists in Indonesia this refers those who hostile to Islam, especially intelligence operatives. <i>Tahajud</i> (Arabic) Optional prayer after midnight.
Tarawih (Arabic)	Optional prayer at night during the month of Ramadan.
Tawhid (Arabic)	Unity of God. It is a fundamental tenet of Islam.
Ulama (Arabic singl. 'alim)	Those Muslims who are considered knowledgeable in religious learning, particularly in jurisprudence and theological matters.
Ummat (Indonesian from Arabic ummah)	Community of believers, in particular the community of Muslims.
Usrah (Arabic)	Family; One type of Islamic education among young Muslim activists, in which small and solid groups of activists discussed Islam and developed a sense of brotherhood. It was first introduced by <i>Ikhwan al-Muslimin</i> (Muslim Brethren) in Egypt.
Ustadz (Arabic)	Religious teacher.
Zakat (Arabic)	Religious duty imposed on all Muslims to give a portion of their wealth, as prescribed by religious law, in alms to the poor. It is one of the 'five pillars' of Islam.