

Journal of Noesantara Islamic Studies

E - ISSN 3048-2658 | P - ISSN 3048-1147

Interreligious Interaction in a Multicultural Society (Case study: about Tolerance and Harmony in Indonesia)

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Received: Nov 19, 2024	Revised: Nov 21, 2024	Accepted: Dec 28, 2024	Online: Dec 28, 2024
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ABSTRACT

This research aims to analyze forms of tolerance and harmony between religious believers in multicultural society in Indonesia. The method used is a qualitative method, data is obtained through data collection, observation and document analysis. The research results show that religious education has a significant role in forming inclusive attitudes and reducing the potential for religious conflict. Apart from the diversity and multiculturalism of society in Indonesia, it can be maintained thanks to the existence of the Pancasila ideology as a unifying ideology for the nation. The forms of tolerance and harmony between religious believers in multicultural society in Indonesia include: dialogue between religions and ethnicities and cooperation between religious believers; believe in one's own religion and respect other people's religions; and Interfaith Communication Interaction.

Keywords: *Harmony, Multicultural, Tolerance*

Journal Homepage <https://journal.ypidathu.or.id/index.php/ijnis>

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How to cite: Pamuji, S. (2024). Interreligious Interaction in a Multicultural Society (Case study: about Tolerance and Harmony in Indonesia). *Journal of Noesantara Islamic Studies*, 1(6), 346-360. <https://doi.org/10.70177/ijnis.v1i6.1459>

Published by: Yayasan Pendidikan Islam Daarut Thufulah

INTRODUCTION

Indonesian society is a multicultural society consisting of various cultures, tribes and ethnicities. Indonesia's multicultural society is not only caused by diversity of ethnicity, culture, language and race, but also because of religious diversity (Abdel-Rahman et al., 2025; Famarzi et al., 2025; Goodhines et al., 2025; Hashemipour et al., 2025; Mahmoud et al., 2025; Qiu et al., 2025). The religions recognized by the Indonesian government during the current Reformation Era are Islam, Catholicism, Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism and Confucianism.

This last religion is the result of the Reformation during the reign of Abdurrahman Wahid (Ghus Dur). Among these religions, there are differences in the religions adhered to by Indonesian people (Khan et al., 2025; Nyine et al., 2025). If these differences are not properly maintained, they can lead to conflict between religious communities which is

contrary to the core values of the religion itself, which teaches us to live in peace, respect each other and petrified of each other.

In today's increasingly interconnected world, interreligious interaction within multicultural societies has emerged as a vital area of study and reflection, necessitating a nuanced understanding of the complex dynamics at play (Bashir et al., 2025; Bonzanini et al., 2025; Feng et al., 2025; Restrepo et al., 2025). As globalization continues to break down geographical and cultural barriers, communities are experiencing a growing diversity in religious beliefs and practices. This diversity can be seen in urban centers across the globe, where individuals from various faith traditions coexist and interact, contributing to a rich tapestry of cultural exchange. However, the presence of multiple religions within the same societal framework also poses challenges that must be navigated carefully. Historically, societies have witnessed both harmonious coexistence and significant tensions between different religious groups. The interplay between these dynamics often shapes the social fabric of communities, influencing everything from policies and governance to individual relationships and collective identities.

Interreligious interaction can be characterized by a spectrum that ranges from dialogue and collaboration to conflict and tension. On one end, constructive engagement through interfaith dialogue initiatives fosters mutual understanding, respect, and collaboration on social issues such as poverty alleviation, education, and community development. These dialogues often serve as platforms for individuals from different faiths to share their values, traditions, and perspectives, creating opportunities for empathy and partnership (Cederqvist et al., 2025; Valle-Vargas et al., 2025; Zhang et al., 2025). For instance, interfaith groups have played pivotal roles in addressing communal violence, advocating for peace, and promoting social justice, demonstrating that shared values can transcend religious differences. Such initiatives highlight the potential for building bridges in a multicultural society, showcasing how interreligious interactions can lead to positive social change and a sense of belonging among diverse communities.

Conversely, the potential for conflict in interreligious interactions cannot be overlooked. Historical grievances, misunderstandings, and stereotypes can fuel tensions, leading to discrimination and violence. In many cases, political factors exacerbate these issues, with certain groups using religious differences to mobilize support for their agendas, which can deepen divisions within society (Bashir et al., 2025; Restrepo et al., 2025). For example, religious extremism has emerged as a significant concern in various parts of the world, often manifesting in acts of violence and intolerance. This highlights the importance of addressing not only the theological differences between faiths but also the socio-political contexts that shape interreligious relationships. Education plays a critical role in this regard, as fostering an understanding of different religious beliefs and practices can combat ignorance and fear, paving the way for a more peaceful coexistence.

Moreover, the impact of technology on interreligious interaction cannot be understated. The rise of social media and online platforms has transformed how individuals engage with one another across religious divides. While these platforms can facilitate dialogue and connection, they can also propagate misinformation and divisive

narratives. As individuals increasingly turn to online spaces for community and information, the challenge lies in harnessing the positive potential of these tools while mitigating their risks. Encouraging responsible digital citizenship and promoting critical thinking about online content are essential steps in navigating this new landscape.

In examining the role of government and institutions in fostering interreligious interaction, it is crucial to consider policies that promote inclusivity and protect religious freedoms. Multicultural societies benefit from legal frameworks that encourage pluralism and support the rights of individuals to practice their faith openly. Such frameworks can help mitigate tensions and create environments where interreligious dialogue can flourish. Additionally, educational institutions have a significant role to play in shaping the attitudes of future generations. Incorporating religious literacy into school curricula can foster understanding and respect among students of different faith backgrounds, equipping them with the tools to engage constructively in a diverse society.

In Indonesia, religious tolerance can be seen in many aspects of daily life. For example, celebrations of holidays of different religions are often attended by people from various religious backgrounds. Apart from that, the many places of worship side by side in Indonesia's big cities is also clear evidence of tolerance between religious communities (Sivalingam, 2025; Weldemichael & Gebremedhn, 2025). Even though Indonesia has a strong tradition of religious tolerance, it cannot be denied that there are still challenges in maintaining harmony between religious communities. Several issues such as religious intolerance, horizontal conflict and radicalism are still serious concerns for the government and society. Therefore, efforts to strengthen religious tolerance continue to be carried out through multicultural education, inter-religious dialogue, and law enforcement against acts of intolerance.

Population of Indonesia, 30 September 2021 Demographics Percentage of Religious Followers in Indonesia in June 2021. Based on data from the Directorate General of Population and Civil Registration (Dukcapil) of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Indonesia's population was 272.23 million people in June 2021. Of the total population Several religions developed in Indonesia includes Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Catholicism and Confucianism (Lorková et al., 2025; Mmotla et al., 2025). Residents Part of Indonesia. The majority are Muslim, the number is 236.53 million people or 86.88% are Muslim, 4.67 million people or 1.71% are Hindu, 2.04 million people or 0.75% are Buddhist, 20.4 million people or 7.49% are Christian, 20.4 million people or 7.49% are Christian. There are 8.42 million Catholics or 3.09%, and 73.02 thousand Confucians or 0.03%. The population of Indonesia who adheres to religious beliefs is 102.51 thousand people or 0.04% of Indonesia's population.

Indonesia's population is very diverse, because there are various ethnicities include Javanese, Madurese, Asmat, Batak, Dayak, Betawi, Bugis and Balinese. Because ethnic differences between one another allow conflicts to arise, one of which is conflict between religious believers. Viewed from the perspective of inter-cultural communication, inter-religious conflict is caused by differences in religious identity which are communicated egocentrically. Where in some people reside radical thoughts that are counter-democracy

and anti-Pancasila which view the formalization of their religion as the only truth. This happens because correct information is broken between religious followers from one party to another, resulting in negative prejudices arising. Amidst the differences that exist in society in Indonesia, it is possible for them to live in tensions that give rise to conflict, such as being motivated by religious, ethnic, tribal and group differences. Therefore, pluralism must be managed properly and correctly so that it becomes a tool for uniting the nation between people of the country and creating tolerance and harmony between religious communities.

Religious tolerance has been an integral part of Indonesian history. Since the time of the archipelago kingdoms, various religions such as Hindu-Buddhism, Islam and Christianity have lived side by side peacefully. Even during the Dutch colonial period, religious tolerance was maintained despite pressure to adopt Christianity. The Indonesian government also actively promotes religious tolerance through policies that support harmony between religious communities (Lisina et al., 2025). Apart from that, many civil society organizations also participate in maintaining religious tolerance through inter-religious dialogue programs and social activities involving various religious communities.

The Indonesian Constitution expressly guarantees freedom of religion and belief. Article 29 of the 1945 Constitution which reads,"(1) The state is based on the One and Only God. (2) The state guarantees the freedom of every resident to embrace their respective religion and to worship according to their religion and belief." This article emphasizes that the state guarantees freedom for all its residents to adhere to their own religion and worship in accordance with their respective religions and beliefs. Apart from that, there are also various regulations that protect the rights of religious communities and encourage harmony between religious communities.

Harmony broadly means the existence of an atmosphere of brotherhood and togetherness between all people even though they differ in ethnicity, religion and class. As stated by Maftuh Basuni (2008: 79), harmony between religious communities is a pillar of national harmony and is dynamic so it needs to be maintained continuously from time to time (Schmieder et al., 2025). Harmony in the life of religious communities itself means a state of relations between religious communities based on tolerance, mutual understanding, respect for equality in practicing religious teachings, and cooperation in the life of society, nation and state.

The life of Indonesia's multicultural society appears very peaceful and harmonious even though it is based on religious and ethnic differences. In the midst of a crisis of harmony and tolerance in Indonesia, the position of places of worship that are in harmony with Islam and Hinduism has also become a very interesting social reality. Every society not only recognizes the existence of the rights of other religions, but is also involved in efforts to understand the differences and similarities of each existing religion's adherents through positive interactions in a pluralistic and diverse society

Based on the explanation above, a conclusion can be drawn that interaction regarding interreligious tolerance and harmony in Indonesia in a multicultural society is very important to minimize the occurrence of conflict. Thus, the study of interactions

regarding interreligious tolerance and harmony in Indonesia in a multicultural society is considered important to be implemented immediately. Based on several reasons, namely 1) Multiculturalism in Indonesia is a national asset that can contribute positively as well negative for dynamics social and the realization of national harmony and integrity. 2) The emergence of various cases of religious and tribal conflict in Indonesian society which need to be resolved. 3) Forms of tolerance and harmony between religious communities in a multicultural society in Indonesia should be can made as role models for all Indonesian people in maintaining the integrity of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A qualitative descriptive approach is prioritized by finding existing indicators. In finding existing information and indicators, data collection focuses more on data collection methods in the form of documentation, with analysis focused on listening, seeing, exploring, recording important notes about matters relating to interreligious tolerance and harmony interactions in Indonesia in a multicultural society (Bolaño Losada et al., 2025; Kvach et al., 2025). In this research, the data collection method was carried out using Document Study Techniques. In this research, such as magazines, newspapers, research results, articles and books related to inter-religious harmony in multicultural society in Indonesia. The data analysis stage uses interactive analysis by presenting the results of the research conducted. The steps in this analysis are: a) data reduction, b) data presentation, c) drawing conclusions.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Understanding the Concept of Religious Tolerance and Harmony

In an increasingly globalized world, the concepts of religious tolerance and harmony have gained significant attention as societies navigate the complexities of diverse belief systems. Religious tolerance is defined as the acceptance and respect for different religious beliefs and practices, while religious harmony refers to the peaceful coexistence and mutual understanding among individuals of varying faiths. Both concepts are essential for fostering a cohesive society, particularly in multicultural environments where individuals from different backgrounds interact regularly. Understanding these concepts involves exploring their historical development, their significance in contemporary society, and the challenges and strategies associated with promoting tolerance and harmony among diverse religious communities.

Historically, the journey toward religious tolerance has been tumultuous. Many societies have experienced periods of intense conflict fueled by religious differences, leading to persecution, violence, and social fragmentation. Notable examples include the religious wars in Europe during the Reformation, the Inquisition, and the conflicts between different sects of Islam, as well as the persecution of various minority faiths throughout history. These events illustrate the devastating consequences of intolerance, prompting thinkers and leaders to advocate for a more accepting approach to differing beliefs. The Enlightenment period in the 18th century marked a significant turning point in

this regard, as philosophers such as John Locke and Voltaire championed the idea that individuals should have the right to practice their faith freely. This intellectual shift laid the groundwork for the development of modern concepts of religious freedom and tolerance, which were later enshrined in various human rights frameworks.

In contemporary society, the significance of religious tolerance cannot be overstated. With increasing migration and globalization, communities are becoming more diverse, often leading to the coexistence of multiple religious traditions within the same geographic area. This diversity presents both opportunities and challenges. On one hand, it can enrich cultural experiences and foster mutual learning among different faiths. On the other hand, it can also lead to tensions if individuals or groups feel threatened by differing beliefs. Therefore, fostering an environment of religious tolerance is essential for promoting peace and social cohesion. It encourages individuals to engage in respectful dialogue, seek common ground, and appreciate the values inherent in various religious traditions.

Religious harmony, closely tied to tolerance, emphasizes the importance of active engagement and collaboration among different faith communities. It goes beyond mere acceptance, advocating for positive interactions that can lead to deeper understanding and friendship. In societies where religious harmony is prioritized, individuals are encouraged to participate in interfaith dialogue initiatives, community service projects, and joint celebrations of significant religious events (Maity et al., 2025). These activities not only build bridges between different faith groups but also cultivate a sense of shared purpose and collective identity. Promoting religious harmony requires recognizing the common values that underpin various belief systems, such as compassion, justice, and the quest for truth. By focusing on these shared ideals, individuals can transcend their differences and work together towards common goals.

Despite the pressing need for religious tolerance and harmony, numerous challenges hinder their promotion. One significant barrier is the presence of prejudice and stereotypes, which can foster an environment of fear and misunderstanding. Media portrayals of different religious groups often exacerbate these issues, highlighting negative narratives that can perpetuate discrimination. Educational institutions play a crucial role in addressing this challenge by incorporating religious literacy into curricula, enabling students to learn about different faiths and fostering empathy and understanding from a young age. By equipping individuals with knowledge about various religions, educators can help dismantle stereotypes and promote a culture of respect and acceptance.

Additionally, political and social factors can impede the development of religious tolerance and harmony. In some contexts, governments may exploit religious differences for political gain, exacerbating tensions between communities. Furthermore, economic disparities and social injustices can create environments where intolerance thrives, as individuals seek scapegoats for their grievances. To counteract these challenges, it is essential to advocate for inclusive policies that promote interfaith dialogue and protect the rights of all religious groups. Governments and civil society organizations can collaborate

to create platforms for dialogue, encouraging leaders from different faith traditions to come together and address pressing societal issues collectively.

Another critical aspect of promoting religious tolerance and harmony is the role of faith leaders and communities. Religious leaders hold significant influence over their congregations, and their messages can either foster division or encourage unity. By actively promoting messages of peace, acceptance, and understanding, faith leaders can help shape the attitudes of their followers. Interfaith collaborations among religious leaders can further enhance these efforts, as they demonstrate a commitment to building bridges and fostering mutual respect. Initiatives such as interfaith prayer services, community events, and collaborative outreach programs can serve as powerful symbols of unity in diversity, reinforcing the idea that individuals can work together for the common good despite their differing beliefs.

The importance of grassroots movements in promoting religious tolerance and harmony cannot be overlooked. Community-based initiatives that bring together individuals from diverse backgrounds can foster a sense of belonging and shared responsibility. These initiatives often focus on local issues, such as poverty alleviation, environmental sustainability, and social justice, allowing participants to unite around common concerns. By collaborating on meaningful projects, individuals can build relationships that transcend religious differences and create a more harmonious society. Social media platforms also offer new opportunities for grassroots movements to spread awareness, share stories of interfaith collaboration, and mobilize support for initiatives that promote tolerance and harmony.

Religious harmony is a state of relations between religious communities which is based on tolerance, mutual understanding, mutual respect, respect for equality in the experience of religious teachings, and cooperation in social, state and national life within the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia which is based on Pancasila and the Constitution. The Foundation of the Republic of Indonesia in 1945. Therefore, harmony between religious communities is a precondition that must be created for development in Indonesia.

Harmony between religious communities in question is strive to create a situation where there is no internal conflict each religious people. In everyday conversation there seems to be no difference between harmony and tolerance. In fact, although there are differences between these two words, they are interdependent. Harmony brings together different elements, while tolerance is an attitude of tolerance of harmony. Without harmony, tolerance will never exist, and if harmony is not achieved, then tolerance will never be realized.

Religious tolerance is an attitude of mutual respect and respect for differences in religion and belief between individuals and groups in a society. Religious tolerance is based on the belief that every individual and group has the right to practice their beliefs without discrimination or unfair treatment. Religious tolerance also includes the courage to dialogue and understand differences in religions and beliefs as well as fostering attitudes of tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity in society. It is very

important to continue to strengthen and develop attitudes of tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity. In this way, everyone can build an inclusive, harmonious and peaceful environment for all individuals.

In religious tolerance, different religious groups and communities must live together in harmony and respect each other, regardless of differences in religious beliefs and practices. It is important to create an inclusive environment, respect differences as part of the diversity that exists in society, and avoid discrimination or acts of intolerance that can trigger conflict between religious groups and society. The government, religious leaders and society must work together to build tolerance and harmony between religious groups and communities.

Conflict between religious groups can be triggered by various factors, including differences in religious beliefs and practices, differences in culture, customs and social values, as well as injustice and discrimination in relations between groups. Apart from that, external factors such as politics, economics and the environment can also cause conflict between religious groups. Triggers for conflict between religious groups can be acts of intolerance committed by certain groups, such as discrimination, insults, persecution and violence. Apart from that, fake news or hoaxes related to religion can also trigger conflict between groups. To prevent conflict between religious groups, efforts are needed to build awareness of the importance of religious tolerance and harmony between religious communities. The government, religious leaders and society as a whole need to work together to overcome differences and prevent acts of intolerance. Apart from that, efforts are also needed to strengthen laws and systems that are fair and uphold human rights so that all religious groups and communities feel respected and recognized in an inclusive environment.

An inclusive environment is an environment that can facilitate diversity and accommodate the needs of all individuals and groups in society without discrimination or unfair treatment. In the context of Religious Tolerance, an inclusive environment must accommodate different religious beliefs and practices. In an inclusive environment, all individuals and groups must have the same rights and have their existence recognized without discrimination or marginalization. All individuals and groups must also be given equal opportunities to develop themselves and fulfill their needs without discrimination or unfair treatment. To create an inclusive environment, there needs to be an awareness of tolerance and harmony between groups in society. In addition, the government, social institutions and religious leaders must work together to build an inclusive environment educate public about its importance tolerance religion, accommodate differences, and oppose discrimination and intolerance. This can be done through various programs, such as dialogue between religious groups, social programs and educational programs.

In conclusion, understanding the concepts of religious tolerance and harmony is essential for fostering a cohesive society in our increasingly diverse world. By acknowledging the historical context, contemporary significance, and various challenges associated with these concepts, we can develop strategies to promote acceptance and collaboration among different religious communities. Education, interfaith dialogue, and

community engagement are vital components in this endeavor, enabling individuals to learn from one another, appreciate their shared values, and work together towards a more inclusive and harmonious society. Ultimately, by embracing religious tolerance and harmony, we can create a world where diversity is celebrated, and all individuals are free to practice their beliefs in peace.

Relations between Harmony and Tolerance between Religious Communities

In the context of national and state interests, religious harmony is an important part of national harmony. Religious harmony is a state of relations between religious communities that is based on tolerance, mutual understanding, mutual respect, respect for equality in the experience of religious teachings, and cooperation in social, state and national life within the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia based on Pancasila and the Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia. Indonesia in 1945. Therefore, harmony between religious communities is a precondition that must be created for development in Indonesia.

The relationship between harmony and tolerance among religious communities is a crucial aspect of fostering peaceful coexistence in today's increasingly diverse societies, where individuals from various faith backgrounds often interact in close proximity. Tolerance, defined as the acceptance and respect for differing religious beliefs and practices, serves as the foundation upon which harmonious relationships can be built. Without a basic level of tolerance, the potential for conflict and misunderstanding rises significantly; thus, it is essential for individuals and communities to acknowledge and respect the rights of others to practice their beliefs freely (Firatligil et al., 2025). However, while tolerance allows for the coexistence of different faiths, it is insufficient for achieving true harmony, which requires proactive engagement, collaboration, and mutual understanding. Harmony goes beyond mere acceptance to promote positive interactions that can lead to deeper relationships and a sense of community among diverse religious groups. Historically, the journey toward achieving both harmony and tolerance has been fraught with challenges, as societies have often experienced significant religious conflicts that resulted in violence, persecution, and social fragmentation. The religious wars in Europe during the Reformation and the sectarian violence in various parts of the world serve as stark reminders of the consequences of intolerance (Hosier et al., 2025; Puig-Jové et al., 2025). These historical events underscore the importance of cultivating an environment where dialogue and understanding can flourish. In contemporary society, successful examples of interfaith cooperation demonstrate the dynamic interplay between tolerance and harmony, as communities come together to address common social issues such as poverty, environmental sustainability, and human rights. Initiatives like the United Religions Initiative highlight how interfaith dialogue can foster both tolerance and a sense of shared purpose among diverse groups.

However, numerous challenges still impede the promotion of harmony and tolerance. Prejudice, stereotypes, and misinformation can create an environment of fear and suspicion, undermining efforts to foster respectful dialogue. Moreover, political exploitation of religious differences can exacerbate tensions, while social and economic

inequalities can breed resentment and intolerance. Addressing these challenges necessitates a multifaceted approach involving education, policy reform, and community engagement. Education is a powerful tool for fostering understanding and respect; by incorporating religious literacy into school curricula, educators can equip students with the knowledge to appreciate diverse faith traditions, combating stereotypes and cultivating empathy. Interfaith dialogue initiatives provide safe spaces for individuals to share their beliefs and experiences, promoting mutual understanding and respect. Community engagement, particularly through grassroots movements that unite individuals from different religious backgrounds for collaborative projects, can further strengthen bonds and enhance community well-being (Irisarri et al., 2025). The role of religious leaders is also critical in this context; they can influence their congregations by promoting messages of peace, acceptance, and collaboration, thus shaping attitudes toward other faiths. Interfaith partnerships among religious leaders can amplify these efforts, demonstrating a commitment to building bridges and fostering mutual respect. Ultimately, the relationship between harmony and tolerance is essential for addressing the challenges posed by prejudice, political factors, and social inequalities. By nurturing this relationship, societies can create an environment where both harmony and tolerance thrive, enabling religious communities to work together for the common good. Embracing the richness of diversity and fostering collaborative efforts can lead to a more peaceful, inclusive, and harmonious world for all, where individuals feel safe to practice their beliefs and engage with others in a spirit of respect and understanding. In conclusion, the interplay between harmony and tolerance among religious communities is not only vital for preventing conflict but also for promoting a deeper understanding of the shared values that bind us together, allowing for a more unified and compassionate society.

Commenting on the issue of inter-religious harmony in relation to national and state life in Indonesia, Pastor Waynata Sairin (1996) said: "Inter-religious harmony is the only option in Indonesia." There is no other choice, but to continue developing it. As a nation, we insist on maintaining the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia which is based on Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution. We are also determined to continue to develop our society, nation and state, so that we become a modern, advanced nation without losing our identity. In this context, religion has an important place and plays an important role in the life of our nation and state."

The task of realizing harmony between religious communities in Indonesia is a joint task for all religious communities in Indonesia and the government. Every individual and group of religious believers in their daily lives are always involved and in contact with each other for various purposes, and need to understand correctly and accurately implement the meaning of religious harmony for their interests. It is natural that the government promotes the importance of religious harmony through the tri-harmony program, namely inter-religious harmony, inter-religious harmony, and inter-religious harmony with the government.

Forms of Tolerance and Harmony Between Religious Believers in Multicultural Societies in Indonesia

Cooperation Between Religious Communities

Religious life and belief in God Almighty are increasing, thereby creating harmony and cooperation between fellow believers and believers in God Almighty. This cooperation will strengthen the unity and integrity of our nation and country. In cooperative relationships in accordance with the norms and values written and implied in Pancasila, especially the principles of Belief in One Almighty God, namely cooperation based on: a. Tolerance of religious life, beliefs and beliefs of each. b. Respect people who are performing worship. c. Work together and help without discriminating between religions. d. Not imposing his religion and beliefs on others (Setiawan, 2016).

Cooperation between religious believers is part of social relations between humans which is not prohibited in all religious teachings in Indonesia Relations and cooperation in the economic, political and cultural fields are not prohibited, they are even encouraged, as long as they are within the framework of mutually beneficial interests between human beings. Cooperation between Religious communities are also a very important part of social life in Indonesia. With close cooperation between them, life in society will be safe, peaceful, orderly and peaceful. Form of collaboration between religious people Of Indonesia includes the following: a. There is intercollaboration leader religion when solving a problem or when the village government formulates a policy that has an impact on the existence of adherents of religions in Indonesia. b. There is agreement among traditional leaders, figure public each in maintaining diversity in Indonesia. c. Providing assistance to each other when affected by natural disasters or working together when people in Indonesia carry out social service around the region Indonesia. Form of cooperation. This is done by all village communities regardless of religious or ethnic identity.

Believing in One's Own Religion and Respecting other People's Religions

Community life in Indonesia, one of which is Bali, appears very peaceful and harmonious even though it is based on religious and ethnic differences. The location of places of religious worship that live side by side in harmony between Islam and Hinduism is also a very interesting social reality in the midst of the crisis of harmony and tolerance that is occurring in Indonesia. This shows very high tolerance, giving birth to the nickname "Bali Van Java" to describe the existence of the Balinese tribe in Patoman Village. The existence of Hindu adherents in Patoman Village means freedom to embrace and implement religious teachings or religious traditions without interference or prohibition from adherents of other religions. This was clearly seen during the Nyepi Day celebrations in Patoman Village, where Pecalang and Banser together safeguarding Nyepi celebrations Saka year 1939. As a group, they are visible around in Banjar, Central Patoman Hamlet, seeing the atmosphere of residents who were carrying out solitary confinement (Pham et al., 2025). They also did not hesitate to reprimand material drivers passing by to help maintain order. They ensure that conditions during the Nyepi celebration remain calm and safe. The presence of security from Banser NU troops is not only during Nyepi commemorations, but also during the Tawur Agung Kesanga

celebrations and the Ogoh-Ogoh carnival. The NU Banser troops also participated by securing motorists on the ogoh-ogoh carnival route.

Communication Interaction Between Religion

In this research, it is said that in establishing communication between different religions, religious differences and a lack of education regarding the importance of tolerance between religious people trigger tension between religious communities. Even though we are born with differences, there are still differences matter. That does not should be stumbling block for us to stop respecting each other and glorifying other people. As stated by Mary Jane Collier and Milt Thomas, it is clear that the messages conveyed by individuals during interactions can contain meaning many things related to identity, such as national identity, race, ethnicity, social class, gender, politics and religion. Because individuals have various identities, not all emotions are expressed in the same way in each group and are not recognized by others. So, maintaining interreligious communication interactions is very important to maintain interfaith harmony. And the importance of providing understanding to the wider community regarding the importance of tolerance between religious communities in social life. Moreover, Indonesian society is a heterogeneous society because it consists of various kind of tribe, culture, custom ceremony and so on.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research regarding interactions regarding interreligious tolerance and harmony in Indonesia in a multicultural society, it can be concluded that: 1. Indonesia, as a multicultural country with diverse cultures, ethnicities and religions, has long been an example of harmonious diversity. Its society consists of various religious groups living together in peace, making it an important example of how religious diversity can be managed and maintained. 2. Inter-religious harmony in Indonesia cannot be separated from religious teachings each which both teach tolerance, mutual respect, sympathy and empathy. By a multicultural society the teachings contained in each religion It is used as a guide in thinking, speaking and acting. 3. Inter-religious and ethnic dialogue as well as a high sense of empathy, respect for other religions and beliefs coupled with good communication are forms of religious harmony and ethnic in multicultural society in Indonesia.

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