

Haul in Eyang Gusti Semaring Gedhong Mindi Cemetery Carried Out with Meaningful Activities



Picture: Hadrah as one of a series of events in haul (Source: Erwin Tri Bawono)

Klaten – Haul in Eyang Gusti Semaring Gedhong Mindi Cemetery has been carried out on Thursday, August 15, 2024 to commemorate Eyang Gusti Semaring Gedhong Mindi and Raden Mas Haji Notobroto.

The commemoration started from 07:30 PM with praises for Prophet Muhammad and *hadrah*, which was then continued by reading *tahlil* and *tawasul*.

The event is usually held in Eyang Gusti Semaring Gedhong Mindi Cemetery every August, considering last year's event was held on August 22nd. Coinciding with the celebration of Indonesian Independence Day, the national anthem “Indonesia Raya” was also sung at the event.

“It is usually held on August. The last year’s event was on August 22nd, so basically it is usually on August. We usually take the right moment, either it’s Kliwon Tuesday or Friday, in line with *rutinan* on those days, if it’s not haul, there’s usually *rutinan*,” explained Dalimin, one of the graveyard custodians.

He said Eyang Gusti Semaring Gedhong Mindi Cemetery was chosen to be the location for haul because Eyang Gusti Semaring Gedhong Mindi was the first person who spread the teachings of Islam in Mindi.

“It means that this *eyang* was a strongly religious person and a person who spread the teachings of Islam, so for me, he was a great *ulama*,” he shouted above the stairs of the grave area.

The head of neighborhood unit 13 further stated that he built Al Mujahidin Mosque in Mindi so the event that was held in his grave is a form of honor because the people of Mindi felt like they have been given kindness.

“So it’s like we honor him, in other words it could be we praise him. By praising and praying, InshaAllah, he will also be praying for us,” added Dalimin.

Dalimin added that by chanting prayers, InshaAllah, Eyang Semaring would give intercession back to us.

The commemoration was closed by eating a dish which is placed on a traditional bowl called *takir*. The placement of the dish isn’t without reason, but it has its own symbolic meaning.

“But with the tradition of using *takir* as a bowl, it has a meaning just as what the Javanese ancestors said that *takir* is defined as *taaruf* and *dzikir*. So *taaruf* means converge and then we do *dzikir*,” explained Dalimin at the end of the interview.

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