

**MINISTER OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS  
REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA**

- To
1. Minister of Home Affairs;
  2. Minister of Health;
  3. Head of the National Task Force for the Acceleration of Handling Covid-19;
  4. Commander of the Indonesian National Army (TNI);
  5. Chief of the Indonesian National Police;
  6. Head of the Indonesian State Intelligence Agency;
  7. Provincial Governors;
  8. Regents/Mayors of Regencies/Cities;
  9. Heads of Religious Assembly;
  10. Heads of Regional Offices of the Ministry of Religious Affairs;
  11. Heads of Technical Implementation Units; and
  12. Administrators and Managers of Houses of Worship

**CIRCULAR LETTER  
NUMBER: SE. 15 YEAR 2020  
REGARDING  
GUIDELINES FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES  
IN HOUSES OF WORSHIP IN ACTUALIZING  
A PRODUCTIVE AND COVID-SAFE SOCIETY DURING THE PANDEMIC**

**A. Introduction**

In the efforts to support the functionalization of houses of worship during the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic, it is necessary to implement an arrangement of activities in houses of worship through an adaptation to the change of religious activities into **a productive and Covid-safe society**. The implementation of this guidelines is expected to enhance the spirituality of the religious community in overcoming the Covid-19 pandemic as well as its impact, while minimizing the risks as a result of a mass crowd in one location.

**B. Purpose and Objectives**

The Circular Letter regarding **Guidelines for the Organization of Religious Activities in Houses of Worship in Actualizing a Productive and Covid-safe Society during the Pandemic** is issued as a response to the longing of the religious community to carry out their worships in their respective houses of worship while still abiding by the health protocol, especially in the efforts to prevent the spread of the Covid-19 and protection of the society from the risks of its threatened impacts. Houses of worship must become the best example in the prevention of the spread of the Covid-19.

**C. Scope**

The substance of this Circular Letter encapsulates the guidelines for the organization of religious activities in houses of worship during the pandemic, which is usually done in congregation or collectively.

#### D. Legal Basis

1. Decree of the President of the Republic of Indonesia No. 11 of 2020 regarding the Stipulation of the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Public Health Emergency;
2. President's Directives dated May 15, 2020 regarding the Procedures for the New Normal Standard towards a productive and Covid-19-safe society among others in the field of organization of religious activities in houses of worship;
3. Regulation of the Minister of Health of the Republic of Indonesia No. 9 of 2020 regarding the Guidelines for Large-Scale Social Restrictions to Accelerate the Handling of the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);
4. Decree of the Minister of Health No. HK.01.07/MENKES/328/2020 regarding Guideline for the Prevention and Handling of the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) in Offices and Industrial Workplaces in Supporting Business Continuation in the Pandemic Situation;
5. Circular Letter of the Minister of Health No. HK.02.01/MENKES/335/2020 regarding the Protocol for the Prevention of the Transmission of the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (Covid-19) in the Workplaces of Services and Trade Sectors (Public Area) in Supporting Business Continuity;

#### E. Provisions

This guideline regulates the **core religious activities** and **social religious activities** in houses of worship, based on the real situation against the Covid-19 pandemic around the said houses of worship environment, not only based on the Zoning status applicable in the region. Although the region has a Yellow Zone status, if within the region of the said house of worship there is any Covid-19 transmission case, the said house of worship may not organize worship in congregation/collectively.

The full provisions are as follows:

1. Houses of worship that are allowed to organize activities in congregation/collectively are the ones that, based on the field facts as well as numbers of R-Naught/RO and Effective Reproduction Number/Rt, **are situated in Regions/environment that are safe from the Covid-19**. Such shall be proven by the Covid-Safe House of Worship Certificate from the Head of Provincial/Regency/City/Sub-District/ Task Force according to the level of the said house of worship, after coordinating with the local Regional Leadership Communication Forum along with the Religious Assembly and relevant institutions in the respective region. The Certificate shall be revoked if in its development, cases of transmission arises within the said house of worship environment or non-compliance to the implemented protocol is found.
2. Administrators of houses of worship shall submit a request for the certificate stating that their houses of worship's regions/environment are safe from Covid-19

in a tiered manner to the Head of Sub-District/Regency/City/Provincial Task Force according to the level of their houses of worship.

3. House of worship that has a large capacity and which majority of congregation or users are from outside of their regions/environment, may submit the request for the Covid-19-safe certificate directly to the regional leader in accordance with the level of the said house of worship.
4. The administrator or person in charge of the house of worship are obligated to:
  - a. Prepare officers to implement and supervise the implementation of health protocol in the house of worship area;
  - b. Clean and disinfect periodically within the house of worship area;
  - c. Limit the number of doors/entrances of the house of worship to ease the implementation and supervision of the health protocol;
  - d. Provide hand washing/soap/hand sanitizer facilities at the entrance and exit door of the house of worship;
  - e. Provide temperature screening device at the entrance for all users of house of worship. If any user of house of worship is found with a temperature of  $>37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  (2 times screening with an interval of 5 minutes), the said user is not allowed to enter the house of worship;
  - f. Implement the distance restriction by putting special mark on the floor/chair, minimum distance of 1 meter;
  - g. Regulate the number of congregation/users of house of worship gathered at the same time, to ease the distance restriction.
  - h. Shorten the time of worship without diminishing the perfection of worship;
  - i. Put an appeal on the implementation of health protocol on easily visible places of the house of worship area;
  - j. Prepare a statement letter of readiness to implement the stipulated health protocol; and
  - k. Implement the health protocol specifically for guest congregation coming from the outside of the house of worship environment.
5. The people who will carry out worship in the house of worship are obligated to:
  - a. In case of congregation, to be in a healthy condition;
  - b. Ensure the house of worship that is used has obtained the Covid-19-safe Certificate from the authorized party;
  - c. Wear mask/face mask since leaving the house and during the visit to the house of worship area;
  - d. Maintain cleanliness of the hands by regularly washing hands with soap or hand sanitizer;
  - e. Avoid physical contact, such as handshaking or hugging;
  - f. Keep a distance between congregation of at least 1 (one) meter;
  - g. Avoid a long stay at the house of worship or crowd in the house of worship area, other than for the purposes of compulsory worship;
  - h. Prohibit worship in houses of worship for kids and elderly who are vulnerable, as well as people with underlying disease that have highly risk to contract Covid-19;

- i. Respect the implementation of the health protocol in the house of worship in accordance with its terms.
6. The implementation of social function of the house of worship that covers the community gathering activities in the house of worship (for example: marriage), shall refer to the above provisions with the following additional provisions:
  - a. Ensure all participants who are present to be in a healthy condition and Covid-19 negative;
  - b. Limit the number of participants of a maximum 20% (twenty percent) of the space capacity and shall be no more than 30 people; and
  - c. Gathering shall be carried out as efficiently as possible.

**F. Closing**

This guideline shall be adhered to by the religious community while carrying out activities in their respective houses of worship during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Matters that have not been regulated under this guideline, shall be specifically regulated by the Director General of Community Guidance and Religious Assembly. This guideline shall be evaluated according to the development of the Covid-19 pandemic.

This is conveyed for your attention and implementation as it is intended to be. May Allah SWT, the God Almighty protect us all.

Stipulated in Jakarta  
on May 29, 2020

Minister of Religious Affairs,

[Signed and Stamped]

Fachrul Razi