

## International Lecture with Terence Ward

BY [FIDKOM UINIKT](#) · PUBLISHED OCTOBER 30, 2019 · UPDATED NOVEMBER 20, 2019



*Terence Ward*

Understanding Wahhabism should not only be done from an ideological and academic perspective, but also through personal experience, Ward stressed, as someone who has lived and raised in Saudi Arabia and Iran. The current condition of Mecca cannot be enjoyed as it was in the 19th century because many historical sites such as the graves of the Prophet's friends and followers have been moved or even lost, along with other Islamic historical places. Among them, Ward gave an example of how the tomb of the Prophet Muhammad's wife Siti Aisyahra has been moved, and currently the initial location of the tomb is a parking lot and public toilet.

Before World War I and II, Mecca was inhabited by many people from Java, where we could find the graves of Javanese scholars who died in Makkah, and also enjoy the aroma of satay or fried rice. All these images have now been replaced by luxurious buildings with multi-storey buildings that are far from the images of sacred sites like historical places of worship. Ward observed all these changes as part of the impact of Wahhabi thinking which prohibited all models of worship or (new) bid'ah ritual practices that were not taught by the Prophet PBUH, including the pilgrimage to the grave.



Ward views British-Arab relations as the beginning of the development of the Wahhabi school of thought and practice extending to other parts of the world. In addition, Wahhabi is a new sect that is around 200 years old, which has actually changed the face of Arabs to be less favorable to other worlds, he said.

Besides Terence Ward, there was also Prof. Din Syamsuddin, who also gave a speech and delivered a warm introduction to Mr. Ward. The discussion was also guided by the great moderator Sakdiyah Ma'ruf (one of BBC's 100 inspirational and influential women in the world), who also gave a perspective in understanding the Islamic world within the frame of moderate Islam and Indonesianism. This event is a collaboration between the Journalism Study Program and the Bali Ubud Writers & Readers Festival. It was opened by the Dean of the Faculty of Da'wah and Communication Sciences, Dr. Suparto Ph.D, and the discussion lasted for three hours.

Post Views: 3,402

SHARE

<http://fidkom.uinjkt.ac.id/international-lecture-bersama-terence-ward/>