

Sovereignty and Security Issues in South East Asia:

*The Jamaah Islamiyah; Organizational Structure, Networks, and
Misinterpretation of Islamic Teachings*

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Abstract

Since the end of the New Order government, terrorism has become the most serious issue in Indonesia. Several bomb explosions since the fall of New Order government in 1998 until the Jakarta bomb in 2009, demonstrated that terrorism is a continuous threat. Media reports of previous terrorist attacks suggested that some terrorists are from the province of West Java, the region that becomes the center of DI/TII resurgence movement dated back in 1949. The main actors of both Al-Jamaah al-Islamiyah or the Jamaah Islamiyah (JI) and the DI/TII were having strong relationship. The two organizations also shared similar aims, to establish an Islamic state in Indonesia, and in a bigger sphere, an Islamic caliphate in Southeast Asia. The research aims to analyze historical factors to the existence of JI, its current organizational structure and leadership. The paper will answer questions of "How is JI organization structure and network? And "How the JI justified their terrorist and other violent actions?"

Introduction

After the bomb explosion in Mega Kuningan District which destroyed JW Marriott and Ritz-Carlton Hotels in July 17th 2009, the attention of Indonesian police apparatuses and analysts has returned to the Jamaah Islamiyah (JI) terrorist group. After several years under a relatively calm episode, marked by the absence of bomb attack, Indonesia again became a target of terrorist bomb. Analysis of bomb type and bomb content indicated that the latest bomb was engineered by JI members. This paper discussed JI as an organization: its structure, recruitment process, aims, etc. The purpose of this discussion is to know closer of the terrorist organization that today is considered as most feared in Southeast Asia. Further discussion is on Islamic teachings that been