

Field Report_ (M.Garnjost)

From April to June 2012 I spent three months in Java/Indonesia.

After two weeks in Yogyakarta where I studied at “Wisma Bahasa” I started my internship at *Fahmina Institute* in Cirebon.

Fahmina is a progressive Muslim NGO oriented towards the Islamic organization of Nahdlatul Ulama (NU) and their aim to fill in many of the shortcomings of the Indonesian government in society.



Besides heading their own Institute for Islamic Studies (ISIF) as well as cooperating with several Islamic boarding schools (*pesantren*) *Fahmina* works towards community as well as female empowerment, is involved in health and sex education and strives for democratic social change, pluralism and critical religious discourse.

During my time as intern I translated articles from the homepage into English, taught English to the staff and students of ISIF and pursued my own research project on female labour migration. People were very interested in learning about German culture, traditions and social debates. I also participated in *Fahmina's* daily activities and their numerous public lectures and discussions. As this interaction with society and political as well as religious leaders is the core of their activity, good knowledge of Bahasa Indonesia is crucial for a successful internship.

