

SEPTEMBER 2018

**“I write to you, young men [and women], because you are strong,
and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.” 1 John 2:14**

Dear Friends,

A very blessed “sewasdee krub” to you from Thailand where we just concluded the third law student conference, *Law and Truth: Sacred Calling of the Christian Lawyer*. It was a tremendous blessing to be surrounded by a fantastic group of young men and women from across Asia.

In conjunction with our friends at ADF International’s India office and Handong International Law School (HILS), the conference in Bangkok was attended by 35 law students, young lawyers, and one parent, Ezra Shujat, who is one of our Advocates from Pakistan. The students and young attorneys came from China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines and South Korea (the HILS students which included a Canadian and Cameroonian).

Regent Law School Professor Jeff Brauch, an AI board member, led our devotionals. Other speakers included ADF’s Jeff Ventrella, Tehmina Arora, Jennifer Lea, Loreign Ovung, and Bala Baskaran. Also on the agenda were HILS’ Dean Eric Enlow and Professor John Park, and practicing lawyers Simon Benjamin from India and AI Global Council member, Gregory Vijayendran from Singapore. I was also one of the speakers and encouraged everyone to remember that we are called to be salt and light in the legal profession.

I am very encouraged for the future of the Christian law movement after meeting such amazing young men—like William from China and Markee from the Philippines (a networker like me)—and young women—like Tejaswi and Blessy from India and Sara, a law grad student from Cameroon. All of them are incredibly bright and have hearts of compassion. I only wish the conference didn’t have to end so soon. Please pray with us for them.

During the same time we were meeting in Bangkok, AI’s newest staff member, Pat Talbot, was speaking at the Indonesia CLS law student conference in Bali. His conference report is enclosed with this letter.

Thank you again for your prayer support for all the work of Advocates on all six continents, and for your financial support, which allows us to continue to encourage, equip and enable the next generation, especially like those I met in whom the Word of God abides and who are strong.

May the Lord bless and keep you in His perfect . . .

Grace and Peace,



Brent M. McBurney
President & CEO





LAW STUDENTS, LAWYERS, AND SUPREME COURT JUDGES RISING UP FOR JUSTICE IN INDONESIA

Patrick Talbot | September 2018



On August 16-18, law students, lawyers, Supreme Court justices and other advocates gathered in Bali for the Indonesian Justice Conference to learn, encourage each other, and discuss ways of transforming the justice system. As the fourth most populous country on earth, after China, India and the United States, and the world's most populous Muslim-majority country, with a population of 270 million, Indonesia has the largest economy in ASEAN, but its justice system is plagued by bribery and corruption.

Indonesian Christian Legal Society (PPHKI)

PPHKI has grown from one local chapter in 2012 to 13 chapters in 2018 with advocates meeting regularly in cities across Indonesia from Jakarta to Papua. During the Opening Ceremony of the Justice Conference, law students held flags representing their law schools, ministry leaders and a Supreme Court judge encouraged the participants, and all shared in a wonderful time of praise and worship. On Friday night, the advocates gathered for a prayer concert led by a variety of pastors and leaders of prayer movements.

Biblical Worldview and the Next Generation of Leaders

With the generous support of Advocates International, LPMI (Indonesian CRU), Perkantas (Indonesian InterVarsity), TransformWorld Indonesia (TCI) and Campus Network, law students came from 20 cities and 15 provinces across the country to learn from Christian lawyers and Supreme Court judges on topics ranging from global trends in the legal profession, religious freedom, human trafficking, peace and reconciliation, anti-corruption and radicalism. As a foundation for transforming the justice system, Patrick Talbot, Vice-President of Advocates International, taught sessions on Biblical Worldview of Law, Justice, and Government using his newly released Study and Prayer Guide on the same topic. The book was translated into Bahasa Indonesian just in time for the Conference, and charted the Conference's course for its themes on Justice. The book will also be used for follow-up and

discipleship in the local attorney chapters and in Christian law student fellowships starting at many universities.



This Conference introduced some clarifications toward a more biblical view of Social Justice, using lessons taught in the story of the Good Samaritan. Significant emphasis was also given to the strong connection between increased justice in a nation (both legal and voluntary kinds), and improving its economic and social welfare (see Prov. 14:34, and various World Bank studies).

One of the exciting activities was having the students compete in teams of up to 5 individuals each, in which they were asked to identify 5 problems of corruption (lack of rule of law) in Indonesia, and offer 5 solutions to those problems. The responses are being typed up after the Conference and the best ones organized into a document we hope to present to the appropriate ministry of the Indonesian government, as student suggestions. We now have a very enthusiastic class of about 50 students who are eager to reflect Christ and promote justice in Indonesia.

Break-Out Sessions

In addition to training from experienced advocates, numerous break-out sessions gave the participants opportunities to discuss issues impacting Indonesia, along lines of the themes in AI's 7 global advocacy projects. Kathy Talbot led a session on the importance of God's design of Marriage and Family in transforming the justice system and led a training with the Indonesian Cru (LPMI) on why and how to share one's faith.

Commitment to Integrity

At the closing ceremony, law students and advocates stood and recited in unison a commitment to integrity and received a certificate and business card with the commitment that they can keep in their wallet to remind them of their declaration. This Conference would not have been possible without the stalwart servant leadership of the Indonesian Christian Legal Society, including Tony and Mardiana Budidjaja, Frederik Pinakunary, Hasudungan Manurung, Dave Surya, and many dedicated staff and volunteers.