

Dean's Remarks

Respected Rector of the State Islamic University Raden Mas Said Surakarta
Respected Vice-Rectors and leaders within the UIN Raden Mas Said Surakarta community

Respected speakers at the 2nd ICCL in 2024; Prof. Dr. Oman Fathurrahman, M.Hum (UIN Syarif Hidayatullah, Jakarta), Prof. Megan Lawton (University of Wolverhampton, England); Prof. Dr. Jajat Burhanuddin, M.A. (UIN Syarif Hidayatullah, Jakarta); Associate Professor Jon Mason, (Charles Darwin University, Australia).

Organizing committee and participants of the International Conference on Cultures and Language (ICCL)

First and foremost, we express our gratitude to Allah SWT for granting us the grace and opportunity to successfully convene this conference. We extend a warm welcome to all attendees in Surakarta and online from Salatiga, Jambi, Lampung, and Wamena. Welcome to the 2nd International Conference on Cultures and Language (ICCL). Welcome to the Faculty of Cultures and Languages at UIN Raden Mas Said Surakarta. Allow us to proudly highlight that the Faculty of Cultures and Languages stands as a unique institution within the realm of religious higher education in Indonesia, and perhaps even globally. Our faculty offers a range of programs in language studies, including literature, education, Islamic civilization, and library science. Among our six programs, four have attained superior accreditation. At present, we are wholeheartedly advancing our efforts in internationalization, particularly in terms of recognition, publication, learning, and the attraction of international students.

Esteemed Rector and distinguished guests,

This international conference stands as one of the annual highlights of the Faculty of Cultures and Languages at UIN Raden Mas Said Surakarta. This year's theme, "Glocalization of Culture and Education, Advancing Islamic Language, Literature, and Civilization," is exceedingly pertinent to contemporary developments. Education and culture are inseparable. They are interwoven, mutually influential, and mutually progressive. Culture is the product of human creativity, and simultaneously, culture serves as an object of study that can be continuously developed through education.

Referring to the Quran, we find the command to read in Surah Al-Alaq: 1-5: "Read in the name of your Lord who created - Created man from a clinging substance. Read, and your Lord is the most Generous - Who taught by the pen - Taught man that which he knew not."

These verses demonstrate the intimate connection between education, beginning with the fundamental activity of reading. Reading is the gateway to knowledge, understanding, and various forms of information that shape comprehension, beliefs, and skills. Reading, in this sense, is linked to the process of creation, suggesting that the ability to read extends beyond mere letters to reading facts and phenomena. From

this arises humanity's capacity for innovation, the creation of new things, and the production of culture and civilization.

Esteemed participants,

Through this international conference, on behalf of the Dean of the Faculty of Cultures and Languages, I extend heartfelt gratitude to the speakers, presenters in the plenary sessions, and all participants. May this event proceed smoothly, enlightening us and inspiring us all to advance education collectively.

Particularly, we express gratitude to the Rector of UIN Raden Mas Said Surakarta for gracing this occasion with his presence. We now kindly request the Rector to deliver his address and keynote speech, thereby officially inaugurating this seminar.

With that said, I conclude my remarks. I apologize for any shortcomings. Enjoy the seminar and the charms of Solo City. May everything proceed smoothly and yield great benefits for us all.

Wassalamualaikum, Peace be upon you all.

Dean,

Prof. Dr. H. Imam Makruf, S.Ag., M.Pd