

## **The roles of my country and of Asia in the future.**

Indonesia is classified as a primate nation in Southeast Asia with a population of 206 million making it the fifth most populous nation in the world. As an Indonesian, I feel that Indonesia is different from most countries, just like how every country is different from another country. Our usage of Bahasa Indonesia, Pancasila, the national language and the national philosophy stresses the universal justice and the doctrine of unity for all Indonesians; it binds the people together like glue.

My name is Taqi and I am currently living in Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia. For starters, my interest lies in sports and music. Soccer was my favorite sport to participate and play in but soon I lost my interest in the game and moved on to playing Basketball. I moved on because nearly all my friends in my school play Basketball and I wanted to try something new. But sports did not beat my passion for Music. Music became a part of me ever since I started watching live performances of different artists and thinking that I was going to be the one in the stage not them. I wanted to be in a stage but did not realize it till I picked the Guitar. I studied the Guitar alone, without any supervisors and it became a friend that I would not ever want to abandon.

I find the sports in Indonesia fascinating. Indonesia's popular sports are soccer and badminton. Badminton is arguably Indonesia's most successful sport because it has won gold medals in every Olympic Games ever since the sport was introduced in 1992 but sadly they did not win the 2012 Summer Olympics. One of my favorite badminton players is Taufik Hidayat who is now retired former world and Olympic champion in men's singles. Soccer in Indonesia has always been enjoyable. In every soccer cup Indonesia participate in, most people especially the soccer fans have always created an intense atmosphere because Indonesia is currently not successful in soccer and seeing them win a match makes all of us excited. I find the 2010 AFF Championship the most intense to watch because my passion for football was still strong that time. Seeing them compete and win is similarly comparable to seeing a growing baby which makes us all proud.

Unfortunately the music in Indonesia did not abide to my taste due to its lack of originality. Most of the songs I listen in the local radio is all about romance or love and I find it

boring because too many love songs are just boring. Luckily, most of the “love” songs have a good flow and usually the flow is what keeps people forgetting about what the songs actually meant. Aside from the alternative music we listen here, the traditional instruments of Indonesia are diverse because each region has its own art and culture. The percussion instrument gamelan, the improvisational instrument kecap suling, the bamboo instrument angklung, the bronze and wooden instrument kulintang, the plucked string instrument sasando and lastly, the musical performance tapanulli ogong. All these unique instruments grow in each region and has its own uniqueness which is different compared to other regions. Some of their uniqueness is what drives me to love music even more because It makes you think how people could come up with an Instrument that is different from the other instruments.

This country have been on the growth ever since the country’s Independence which was 17<sup>th</sup> of August 1945, and it will take ruthless determination as well luck to realize Indonesia’s potential. I see this country in the future as a country that can compete with the big countries such as America, China, Russia and etc. The future of Indonesia is heaven for people in my social class but sadly I could not say the same for the people in the lower class. The education is still in a mess and most of the quality education prices are unfair. The health care system is still something no one truly understands and insurance are created mainly for wealth protection and for investment. I think Indonesia’s key priority for the next 3-6 years is to deal with pollution, public healthcare and infrastructure.

However, putting aside all the negativity, I am confident about Indonesia’s future because Indonesia has a well-entrenched robust democracy that works very well and it has a growing middle class driving Indonesia’s economy. Most people would say that corruption should be one of Indonesia’s priorities to fix but it was not as endemic as it was 10 years ago but it is still not tolerated. Indonesia is still a beautiful place with interesting languages, foods, sights and everything in between. Whether you travel here for the unique and diverse culture we have or surf the waves of bali there is no way you won’t have a good time. Indonesia is still growing to be the country we expect and the future for this nation is bright.