

PRESS RELEASE

National German Olympics: Students compete in their favorite language

Final Round—The four best students win a study trip to Germany



In the finals of the National German Olympics at Goethe-Institut students have to prove their language proficiency. The four best students will receive a scholarship and travel to Germany.

Who is the best German learner? That's what the finalists have to show in the last round of the National German Olympics at the Goethe-Institut in Jakarta. In the 2-day-competition the students are tested in their writing, listening, reading and speaking skills. Sixty-six finalists of 27 Indonesian provinces present their German skills at the Goethe-Institut. The students, aged 15 to 17, already successfully accomplished the preliminary round in October and November last year. Now they will show who is the best learner of 2019. More than 1000 students across the archipelago joined the selection process.

What is a dream to many Indonesian students comes true for the four most successful students of the competition: they win a trip to Germany. The lucky winners will live with German families and get to know the German culture. They will have the opportunity to participate in language courses, and their teachers will be invited to Germany and receive special further training.

The Teachers Service Department of the Goethe-Institut wants to encourage Indonesian students to learn German. "Learning German opens up a lot of possibilities. The National German Olympics are also a great opportunity to meet new friends from all over Indonesia," says Raimond Selke, head of the Goethe-Institut Teachers Service Department. "The department wants to support the educational landscape of Indonesia to help create possibilities for every student. We hope it will inspire students to strive for achievement in their lives."

The final competition is not only an opportunity for many students from rural areas to come to Jakarta but also, as Audrey Gabriella Titaley, a teacher from SMA Santa Ursula Jakarta, points out, "The National German Olympics is an annual celebration for German teachers and German learners in which they can gather together and exchange their experiences studying the German language." A special effort was made to bring students from Palu to the finals as the schools in the region were not able to perform the preliminary round because of the tsunami.

The winners as well as teachers and other participants will join the award ceremony on the second day of the event. In addition to the contest's participants, the ceremony will also be visited by students and teachers from other schools in Jakarta and the surrounding area. Students and teachers will give presentations and make cultural contributions. Every year up to 300 guests are on hand for the awards ceremony.

The Teachers Services Department started the German Olympics in 2008. The annual event is an opportunity for Indonesian kids to showcase their abilities and receive scholarships. The department's goal is to strengthen German language teaching in Indonesia by training German teachers as multipliers and

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organizing cultural programs. This is accomplished in collaboration with teachers' associations and Indonesian education authorities. The Pädagogischer Austauschdienst (PAD) offers scholarships to the participating students.

When:

28-29 January 2019

Monday, 28 January, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Tuesday, 29 January, 8 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (award ceremony 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.)

Venue:

Goethe-Institut Jakarta

Jl. Sam Ratulangi No. 9-15

Menteng, Jakarta

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