



PRESS RELEASE

300 Years of Immanuel Kant: Commemorating the German Philosopher of the Enlightenment through a Symposium Series



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This year signifies the 300th anniversary of Immanuel Kant's birth. Regarded as one of the central German philosophers of the Enlightenment era, Kant's ideas and principles have stood the test of time. Goethe-Institut Indonesien, in close cooperation with Driyarkara School of Philosophy Jakarta and Komunitas Salihara, presents a symposium series consisting of discussions and lectures from April to November 2024 in Jakarta and Bandung.

Kant was born on 22 April 1724 in Königsberg (now known as Kaliningrad) and passed away in the same city on 12 February 1804 at the age of 79 years old. One of his most important works is *Critique of Pure Reason* which was published in 1781 and regarded as a milestone in philosophical thought.

Serving as the opener of the symposium series is a lecture by Professor Matthias Lutz-Bachmann (Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, attending online) and Professor Franz Magnis-Suseno (Driyarkara School of Philosophy Jakarta) that will take place at GoetheHaus Jakarta on 22 April 2024—the date of Kant's birthday—starting at 6 p.m. WIB. The lecture will focus on the topic of "On Law, Politics, and Religion: Kantian Strengths, Limits, and Practices within Indonesia & Global Context". This lecture can also be viewed online via the [Goethe-Institut Indonesien's YouTube channel](#), as seats are fully booked.

Professor Matthias Lutz-Bachmann will deliver the topic of "Peace through Law? On the Strengths and Limits of Kant's Political Philosophy", dealing with Kant's reasonable political order grounded in his universality and unconditioned validity claims. Meanwhile, Professor Franz Magnis-Suseno will deliver a presentation entitled "Can Indonesian Politics Learn Something from Kant?" to contemplate the persistent challenges Indonesia faces in relation to governance and democracy, as well as the protection of human rights.



The evening will be followed by a joint discussion moderated by Retno Daru Dewi G.S Putri (Jurnal Perempuan).

“The two aspects of Kantian thinking which seem to me to be of central relevance are the connection of questions of identity with questions of morality, and second the establishment of dignity and freedom of humanity. They both are closely related to the topic of the symposium’s opening, which focuses on Law, Politics and Religion. The diverse presentations throughout the symposium series will highlight Kant as a cosmopolitan thinker whose ideas continue to hold remarkable relevance,” said Dr. Ingo Schöningh, Head of Cultural Programmes at Goethe-Institut Indonesien.

The schedule of the symposium series is available on www.goethe.de/indonesia/kant.

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Media representatives are cordially invited to the symposium opening. The lectures during the symposium opening will be conducted in English and will start at 6 p.m. WIB. Due to limited seats, media representatives need to pre-register before the event through: www.bit.ly/GI-pressreg

When & Where:

Monday, 22 April 2024, 6 p.m. WIB
GoetheHaus Jakarta,
Jl. Sam Ratulangi 9-15, Menteng, Jakarta

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ABOUT THE SPEAKERS OF THE SYMPOSIUM OPENING

Prof. Dr. phil., Dr. teol. Matthias Lutz-Bachmann

Prof. Dr. phil., Dr. teol. Matthias Lutz-Bachmann (b. 1952 in Frankfurt am Main) is a German philosopher and professor. He has been teaching and researching at the Institute for Philosophy at the University of Frankfurt since 1994, with a focus on medieval philosophy and practical philosophy, with particular attention to political philosophy and ethics, philosophy of religion, and critical theory. In the academic world, some of his achievements are a dean of the Department of Philosophy and History at the University of Frankfurt (2007-2009), an elected member of the Philosophy Review Board of the German Research Foundation (2004-2008), a Vice President of the Johann Wolfgang Goethe University in Frankfurt am Main with special responsibility for research and for the humanities and cultural studies (2009-2015).

Prof. Dr. Dr. (HC) Franz Magnis-Suseno SJ

Prof. Dr. Dr. (HC) Franz Magnis-Suseno SJ (b. 1936 in Eckersdorf, Germany) is a permanent lecturer and professor of social philosophy at the Driyarkara School of Philosophy, Jakarta. He studied philosophy, theology and political science in Pullach, Yogyakarta and Munich, and obtained his doctorate in philosophy from Universität München, Germany (1973) with a dissertation on Karl Marx. Since 1961 he has lived in Indonesia, becoming an Indonesian citizen, and taught at several universities in Jakarta and Bandung. He was also a guest lecturer at the Geschwister Scholl Institut, Universität München (1979), Philosophische Hochschule München (1987 and 1992), and the Faculty of Theology, University of Innsbruck (1987). He received his Doctor honoris causa degree in theology from the University of Luzern, Switzerland (2002).

ABOUT THE MODERATOR

Retno Daru Dewi G.S Putri

Retno Daru Dewi G.S Putri is an experienced teacher with a demonstrated history of working in the higher education industry. She is a strong education professional with Master's degrees focused in Education from Brunel University and Philosophy from the University of Indonesia and is skilled in English as a Second Language (ESL), Lecturing, and Curriculum Development. Her analytic skills have brought her to Jurnal Perempuan, the first feminist journal in Indonesia, where she is part of the editorial team.