

## TESTIMONI DARMASISWA 2015-2016

**Name** : Rosat Ya  
**Nationality** : Cambodia  
**Place of Study** : Lampung University (UNILA)  
**Program** : 1 Year



Being awarded as Darmasiswa scholarship exchange one year to learn Bahasa Indonesia and culture is fascinating and overwhelming. It is definitely offering an opportunity for all international students to come and learn among youth of other countries. I am super excited, of course, to stay one year long in Bander Lampung, University of Lampung, and I have learned a lot even till now, Bahasa Indonesia, diversity culture, and people get along with.

It is about eight months that I have been studying Bahasa Indonesia in Lampung University (Unila). I am so enjoyable every single class that I have attended. Sometimes it is funny because class Bahasa Indonesia is all about foreign students whose accent is extremely different from one to another, it seems like class international on TV show Indonesian channel. Technically, it is a bit hard to catch up a new language; however, it is barely amazing since I am able to speak now. Surprisingly, the first day came to Jakarta and I did not understand when someone asked me “where do you come from in Bahasa Indonesia”, finally, I can speak and listen, nevertheless. Even though I am not fluently as a native speaker, I suppose to well speak as local people, such as using slang words that I have never learned in the class. Exactly, I have learned in the class, but I also have learned out campuses with international and Indonesian friends by travelling, trips and homestay with local people.

Indonesian is a diversify culture country, it is more than thousands ethnics around. Each province has its own culture with symbolization, ethics, and languages. Lampung Province has a very beautiful women crown which is called “Siger” in Bahasa Indonesia, it is a symbol of Lampung, and the big one is in Bakauheni seaport, South Lampung. When I drove a car with my friends around Bandar Lampung City, I have seen this crown on the top of public light pole along the way, and the top wall or roof of any home whose run businesses. However, when I travelled to Bali, it was completely different. It seems I am in another country; it seems like I am living in Islamic country and then I move to Hindu country, such as Sari Lanka or Nepal. Of course, Bahasa Indonesia is official language; nonetheless, people speak ethnic area language when they meet someone who has the same blood. For instance, Lampung people, while they are trading in the traditional market, absolutely speak Lampung language,

but if they meet Jawanese, they will speak Bahasa Indonesia as those people can not speak Lampung language. I never thought that Lampung province has several ethics, I thought it as a whole of Indonesia, actually, but when I attended Lampung cultural performance, I saw several traditional customs and different dance performance while master of ceremony was introducing each performance and where it come from.

Indonesian people totally are helpful and altruistic. As I am a foreigner, they usually try to assist me whatever I face to live in school dormitory. They came to dorm to make friend with me, and sometimes bring me to visit some gorgeous places round city, beaches, park and mountain whenever I miss home, they always get alone with and make me feel that I am not alone. I know sometimes there will be some cultures shock to live in the country where I am not belonging to; however, everything is fine even the food is incredibly spicy to me. Being local people, try to eat spicy food, and then now no spicy, not testy. hilarious!

To sum up, I would like to say again that archipelago Indonesia is a beautiful country where I have absorbed knowledge from professors, classmates, friends, and people around while on the program of Darmasiswa one year. I have learned so many things in my life, such as new language that I never thought I am able to speak, never hopeless of what I have been doing, hardworking, finally, I can do and I can speak. I am fine even the culture is different than mines, I am so delighted, and enjoyable. testing different food though the cuisine here, Lampung, is really spicy to me. People are tolerant and friendly; they helped me when I got lost. Every single thing that I spent, it would be recording in my life from now.