

Interview by Jemma Purdey and Ahmad Suaedy with Taufik Fauzi, Mataram, 5 August 2014

PhD, Agriculture, UQ, 1994-1998



[00:00:27]	Born in Masbagik, in East Lombok, about 50km east of Mataram. Parents were traders, selling clothes etc. Went to school there then to senior high school in Mataram. While there his parents' shop was burnt, no insurance, and his father became a farmer (father's father had been a farmer). Very big family, 22 siblings from six or seven mothers. Their father was very supportive of higher education and 16 or 17 of them went to university.	Background; Family; Childhood
[00:05:01]	Pak Fauzi is sixth in the family, the youngest is in his final year at university now. Pak Fauzi got a scholarship to become a lecturer but most of his siblings were supported by their father or older siblings while at university. Their father bought a house in Mataram where the children lived while at school and university.	Family background; Scholarship opportunities
[00:07:41]	Liked sport while at school, played basketball and soccer. Played basketball while at university, even when studying in Canada.	Childhood; early education

	<p>Didn't study very hard but did well at school. Loved reading, novels and sometimes philosophy books. At first wanted to go to Bandung Institute of Technology (ITB) but was persuaded to stay in Lombok by his grandmother.</p>	
[00:11:03]	<p>Agriculture was getting a lot of media and government attention then, in 1979, so enrolled in that, still thinking he may transfer to technology in Bandung. The degree was normally five years but Pak Fauzi took seven because his research project, into plant disease, was difficult. His supervisor was Javanese and would speak to him in Javanese. Finished in 1986.</p>	Undergraduate education
[00:15:16]	<p>Loved basketball when an undergraduate, played for the university team with games all around eastern Indonesia. So was often away and his studies suffered a bit. The scholarship was for becoming a lecturer so that direction was clear from the start. His father was worried that he was taking longer than others and thought it might be a good idea if he got married. Pak Fauzi wanted to as well and was married in 1985. His son was born in 1986.</p>	Leadership; Achievements; Family
[00:19:01]	<p>Began work as an assistant lecturer but sometimes it can take too long to be promoted to a lecturer position so, in 1986, Pak Fauzi sat the test and passed. In 1987 he became a lecturer. From high school had dreamt of going overseas. He learnt</p>	Early career; Scholarship opportunity; International mobility

	<p>English at school and sought out tourists to practise speaking. At first thought of going to America but there were no American scholarships the year he applied and he was accepted by CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency). Did a Master of Agriculture, studying wheat, at McGill University in Montreal for three years.</p>	
[00:23:42]	<p>Went alone to Canada because it was too expensive to take the family (wife and two children). There were quite a lot of Indonesians at McGill, several in the same faculty. The MA was part coursework and part research. The research took a while because the wheat had to be planted and grow in different seasons. It wasn't very technical so not very different to Indonesia.</p>	<p>Studying overseas; international mobility; international networks</p>
[00:26:41]	<p>Living in Canada was very different to Indonesia, difficult at first, missed his family, better once he joined basketball and soccer teams. Visited the family for a month after one year, the children called him 'uncle' rather than 'dad'. It was hard to leave again. Talked on the phone quite often.</p>	<p>Living overseas; Family at home</p>
[00:30:11]	<p>Made many friends in Canada, French-speaking Africans. Didn't learn any French but the university used English and that was OK. Was very independent in his research there. Returned home in 1993 and soon after applied for an Australian scholarship, part of a project to develop universities in eastern Indonesia. Funds were also</p>	<p>Friendships; International network; Scholarship application process</p>

	given for equipment, the university got computers.	
[00:35:17]	<p>In 1994 went to Australia to the University of Queensland (UQ) in Brisbane. His family joined him after three months. He only found a flat for them the day before they arrived and friends from the Indonesian community helped him furnish it. Wanted his research to be different to his colleagues' doctorates so studied the biological control of weeds. Was especially interested in purple nut sedge (<i>Cyperus rotundus</i>) but couldn't get a supervisor for that so studied parthenium weed (<i>Parthenium hysterophorus</i>) and why a pathenogenic fungus, introduced from Mexico, didn't work to control it.</p>	<p>Arriving in Australia; Living in Australia with family; Indonesian community; Research topic</p>
[00:39:48]	<p>Lived in St Lucia in Brisbane with his wife, son and daughter. Pak Fauzi's son was a chess champion, when in grades 3 and 4, and went to competitions around Australia. The children picked up English very quickly. Pak Fauzi's wife had an active social life with other Indonesians and people from her English class. From the second year she worked as a babysitter and nanny.</p>	<p>Living in Brisbane; Family in Australia</p>
[00:43:45]	<p>Lived in Australia from 1994 to 1998. [Comments about the Australian education system and the merits of play-based learning in the early years. Comparisons with Indonesian education.] Pak Fauzi's son studied computer science at</p>	<p>Living in Australia; Family experience; International mobility</p>

	University of Indonesia (UI), did a MA in Norway and now is doing a PhD in Estonia. Loves maths. Won maths and chess competitions while he was at school.	
[00:48:18]	Pak Fauzi's daughter studied English. After graduating, applied for overseas scholarships but no luck yet, maybe English isn't a priority.	Family
[00:51:35]	Hasn't been back to Australia but is in contact with friends from that time. Has funding from New Zealand Aid for a project starting this year. Keeps in touch with plant pathologists from Melbourne but no collaborative projects because their backgrounds are different.	Ongoing connections with Australia; International research network
[00:54:02]	Returned to Indonesia in 1998, was happy to be home again (hadn't been home since 1994). The children missed Brisbane, especially his daughter who started school in Australia so hadn't been to an Indonesian school before.	Returning to Indonesia; Family
[00:56:21]	END	