

**Interview by Jemma Purdey with Lalu Sahabuddin, Mataram, 4 August 2014**

**MA, Public Policy, Flinders University, 2007-2009**



**PART 1**

[00:00:00]	Completed a master's in education management, from 2000 to 2003, at the National University in Surabaya then did a second one in public policy, from 2007, at Flinders University in Adelaide on an APS scholarship.	Postgraduate education; scholarship opportunity
[00:01:33]	Originally from a rural area in East Lombok. His father died when he was two and his mother remarried. He and his younger sister lived with their grandparents for about a year and then their uncle adopted them and they moved to Pancor, Selong, east Lombok. He went to school there, to a special high school that trained students to be kindergarten and primary school teachers. Born in 1968, graduated in 1988 but decided to go on to university rather than teach.	Childhood; Family background; Early education; Undergraduate education
[00:04:34]	In 1986, when he was in his second year of senior high school, his uncle died and he had to support himself and his sister. His uncle had five sons and two daughters so it was hard for his aunt. His uncle was the district head of a government company.	Family background; Youth
[00:07:15]	It was a good and bad time in Sahab's life because, a few months before his uncle died, he got a scholarship to do a leadership course in Jakarta for about three weeks. That helped him develop confidence in himself. Two weeks before he died, his uncle told him that, according to their religion, he wouldn't be able to inherit anything but that it was up to him to be a strong person.	Scholarship opportunity; Leadership; Family background
[00:11:54]	Sahab had to support himself and his sister to finish school. He worked at the market at 3 or 4 am and earned a little bit for his sister. He got a scholarship from a Suharto foundation, about Rp 12 400 a month, that meant he could finish senior high school. He kept working in the market. In 1988 when he finished school he collected the rest of the scholarship and went to	Family background; Youth; Scholarship opportunity; Undergraduate education; Work experience

	Mataram to apply to go to uni. He needed to get a job while he waited for his application to be processed and went to different relatives asking for work. One uncle said he could work as a gardener in exchange for lodgings. He was accepted into University of Mataram (Unram) and did other part-time jobs to pay for that.	
[00:16:03]	Did the entrance exam, looked in discarded newspapers and saw he'd been accepted. He went to the Faculty of Teacher Training, majoring in English to teach high school. He worked in a hotel and paid board to his relative, also brought his sister to live there so she could go to high school in Mataram. After two years at uni he got a scholarship.	Undergraduate education; Work experience; Family; Scholarship opportunity

## PART 2

[00:00:00]	Got the scholarship after getting second place in a national competition. He submitted a scientific paper about language acquisition. Then the dean suggested he apply for an Indonesian government scholarship that guaranteed a job as a teacher or lecturer when he graduated.	Scholarship opportunity; Leadership
[00:03:28]	Graduated in 1994 but wasn't called to his government job until 2000. In the intervening years he worked for Annisa, a local NGO founded by Ibu Kasmianti that focused on women's empowerment. Learnt a lot about gender perspectives. [Discussion about the importance of changing both men's and women's perspectives.] He was the only man working for the organisation. He helped design projects and write grant applications.	Early career; Community service
[00:09:07]	In 1998 he worked for a US NGO, Helen Keller International (HKI), as a program officer for demographic surveillance. He had 480 staff collecting data in four districts. The project went until 2004 but he had to leave in 2000 to work for the government as a teacher. He taught English in junior high school in east Lombok. HKI didn't replace him immediately, so for six months he did both jobs. In 2000, he applied to do a master's in education management, by coursework, at Surabaya State University (UNESA). It was delivered mostly through the Institute of Teacher Education and Educational Sciences (IKIP) Mataram so he could study while he was teaching. He finished in 2003 and planned to study again.	Professional networks; Career; Postgraduate study
[00:13:43]	In 2004 he got a two-year contract in Flores working as a school-based management specialist for AusAID's Primary Education Partnership. [Description of the project, team, objectives and how they managed the initial	Professional network; Career; Connection with Australia



	resistance of the local community.]	
[00:21:47]	Was nominated for the APS scholarship by his Flores team leader. He wanted to study public policy so he could work with the bigger picture in education. He chose Flinders uni because they offered a master's by research. He was there from 2007 to 2009 and his thesis was approved in 2010. His topic was decentralisation in education and he did field work in Central Lombok. His thesis hasn't been published yet but he's been to conferences. He came home often because he was consulting for different district governments in Lombok.	Scholarship opportunity; Motive to study overseas; Studying in Australia; Professional networks; International mobility
[00:25:45]	His consulting work complemented and consolidated his research. He was working in different provinces in Indonesia but a year ago he decided to come back to Lombok to work as project manager for an Australian project helping the government to plan and be accountable. Hasn't been back to Australia yet but Prof. Janet McIntyre, at Flinders, is encouraging him to do a PhD.	Post-scholarship career; Connection with Australia; Professional network
[00:28:19]	Had been overseas before going to Adelaide: from 1996 to 1997 to Malaysia on a private Lombok scholarship to study English; in 2002 to Japan for two months, funded by Honda, learning how Japan became strong as a country; and to Singapore and Thailand. In Adelaide he lived with other Indonesians but had meetings and barbecues with colleagues from his work on Flores because the headquarters were in Adelaide. That was partly why he chose to go to Adelaide. His wife and three children stayed in Indonesia, his wife is a civil servant.	Scholarship opportunity; Living overseas; International mobility; Living in Adelaide; Indonesian community in Adelaide; Existing connections with Australia; Motive to study in Adelaide; Family
[00:31:41]	Liked living in Adelaide, although it was very cold and sometimes very hot. He went to weekly seminars on campus. His supervisor, Janet McIntyre, was like an older sister. He doesn't teach at the moment, occasionally does a guest lecture. Janet has a lot of projects in Indonesia with former students but not with Sahab. He wants to focus on his family.	Living in Adelaide; Studying in Australia; Supervisor-student relationship; Connections with Australia; Post-scholarship career; Family
[00:34:29]	In Australia he was happy to work part time fruit picking, it was a good experience. He didn't need the money but liked going to the farms and talking to the people. [Signing forms.]	Work experience in Australia; Living in Australia
[00:37:02]	END	

