

Nature research by students of Senior High School Miftahul Khoir Bandung



Gunung Walat, Sukabumi – *Nature research* by students of Senior High School *Miftahul Khoir* (Bandung) had been conducted in GWUF from 29 January through 2 February 2013.

For this Senior High School, this *nature research* activity is a routine agenda every year. This year, is the 12th occasion of the *nature research* activity and is conducted in Gunung Walat University Forest (Sukabumi).

Nature research at this time, was followed by 60 students of classes X,XI,XII; 5 alumni of SMAIT *Miftahul Khoir* as accompanying persons, and 10 teachers as guiding persons.

"*Nature research* is an integrated activities for learning mathematics and natural sciences, such as biology, physics, chemistry, religion and leadership, so that the students could feel the difference in learning atmosphere between those in class room, and from textbook,



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and those from direct experience in nature and in the field”, said Mr. Muhammad Yusuf, the deputy principal of the school for curriculum affairs, who acts as person in charge for learning process at school and outside the school.

“Gunung Walat University Forest is chosen for this activity because it has very good objects to be studied, and its condition as educational forest, provide good support for student’ research activities, ” added Mr. Muhammad Yusuf.

“The objectives of this nature research are : 1. To make the students become closer to God the Almighty by feeling the grandiose of nature which are created by God (for instance by doing study on water, the students realize, that water is not only for drinking, but also could be used for various other uses, such as for generating electricity. 2. Developing the spirit of scientist among the students. 3. Developing the spirit of togetherness and leadership among the students”, explained Mr. Muhammad Yusuf.

Activities which were conducted during *nature research* are among others, measurement of water yield in water catchment areas, measurement of soil pH and temperature, construction of mini hydroelectric power generator, bird watching, mapping of forest vegetation, identification of tree species, and karst cave exploration.

“This activity serves as media for developing better relation between teachers and students, so that there would be no barrier for their relations. Later, if the experience during this *nature research* is brought to school, the students would be not reluctant anymore to ask questions to the teachers due the closer relation which has developed “, added Mr. Muhammad Yusuf.

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