

Why more Indonesian teens are giving up dating

When Natta Reza, a **dashing** Indonesian **busker**, discovered the young woman's account on Instagram, he knew he'd found the one. Within hours he had proposed via an Instagram message. They married soon after, in February 2017.

dashing 风度翩翩的

busker 街头艺人

Since then Mr Natta and his wife, Wardah Maulina, have become celebrities on Instagram. They are the poster couple for a social movement sweeping Indonesia, home to the world's largest population of Muslims. Its champions encourage single Muslims to **renounce** dating, lest they **succumb** to the **temptations** of **premarital** sex, which is barred by Islamic law. Islam in Indonesia has traditionally been a moderate affair. Yet the eagerness with which teenage and millennial Muslims have embraced **abstinence** shows how a purist strain of the faith has tightened its **grip**.

renounce 放弃; 拒绝

succumb 屈服; 死

temptation 诱惑

premarital 婚前的

abstinence 节制; 禁欲

grip 紧握; 支配

It all began five years ago in a dorm room in a provincial Javanese city. La Ode Munafar started an organisation called Indonesia Tanpa Pacaran (itp) or "Indonesia without dating".

Mr Ode is **by no means** the first Muslim to condemn dating, says Dina Afrianty, of La Trobe University in Australia. What's new about itp is its use of social media. The ability of Mr Ode and other tech-**savvy** conservatives to market Islam to young Muslims accounts for the popularity of itp and hijrah, the broader, **grassroots** movement to which it belongs.

by no means 绝不

savvy 理解; 懂

grassroots 基层的; 乡下的

Conservative Muslims regard women as "the guardians of the family", according to Ms Dina, and have looked on with *indignation* as women have carved out space for themselves.

indignation 愤慨; 愤怒

Ode's organisation, which encourages women to *defer* to their male relatives and refrain from arousing male lust, has come under heavy criticism from feminists.

defer 服从; 延期