

### **Section: Abdurrahman Wahid – Overseas education**

Context: In 1963, Wahid received a scholarship from the Ministry of Religious Affairs to study at Al Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt. He left for Egypt in November 1963. Unable to provide evidence to certify that he spoke Arabic, Wahid was told when arriving that he would have to take a remedial class in the language before enrolling at the University's Higher Institute for Islamic and Arabic studies. Instead of attending classes, Wahid spent 1964 enjoying life in Egypt; watching European and American movies as well indulging in his hobby of watching football. Wahid was also involved with the Association of Indonesian Students and became a journalist for the association's magazine. After passing the remedial Arabic examination, he finally began studies at the Higher Institute for Islamic and Arabic Studies in 1965, but was disappointed as he had already studied many of the texts offered at the Institute in Java and disapproved of the rote learning method used by the University. In Egypt, Wahid found employment with the Indonesian Embassy. It was during his stint with the embassy that coup attempt was launched by the 30 September Movement, which the Communist Party of Indonesia was accused of leading. With Army Strategic Reserves commander Major General Suharto taking control of the situation in Jakarta, a crackdown against suspected communists was initiated. The Indonesian Embassy in Egypt was ordered to conduct an investigation into the political views of university students. This order was passed to Wahid, who was charged with writing the reports. Wahid's displeasure at the method of education and his work following the coup attempt distracted him from his studies. He sought and received another scholarship at the University of Baghdad and moved to Iraq. There Wahid continued his involvement with the Association of Indonesian Students as well as with writing journalistic pieces to be read in Indonesia. After completing his education at the University of Baghdad in 1970, Wahid went to the Netherlands to continue his education. He wanted to attend Leiden University but was disappointed as there was little recognition for the studies that he had undertaken at the University of Baghdad. From the Netherlands, He went to Germany and France before returning to Indonesia in 1971. CANNOTANSWER

STUDENT: **Did he teach overseas?**

TEACHER: ↩ CANNOTANSWER

TEACHERX: ↩ CANNOTANSWER

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STUDENT: **What did he teach?**

TEACHER: ↩ CANNOTANSWER

TEACHERX: ↩ CANNOTANSWER

TEACHERX: ↩ CANNOTANSWER

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STUDENT: **Are there any other interesting aspects about this article?**

TEACHER: ↩ Yes, In Egypt, Wahid found employment with the Indonesian Embassy.

TEACHERX: ↩ Yes, In 1963, Wahid received a scholarship from the Ministry of Religious Affairs to study at Al Azhar University in Cairo, Egypt.

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TEACHERX: ↩ Yes, In Egypt, Wahid found employment with the Indonesian Embassy.

STUDENT: **What did he do there?**

TEACHER: → The Indonesian Embassy in Egypt was ordered to conduct an investigation into the political views of university students. This order was passed to Wahid,

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STUDENT: **What did he do?**

TEACHER: → This order was passed to Wahid, who was charged with writing the reports.

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TEACHERX: → This order was passed to Wahid, who was charged with writing the reports.

STUDENT: **Did he write them?**

TEACHER: → CANNOTANSWER

TEACHERX: → CANNOTANSWER

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STUDENT: **Why was he displeased at the method of education?**

TEACHER: ↗ was disappointed as he had already studied many of the texts offered at the Institute in Java and disapproved of the rote learning method used by the University.

TEACHERX: ↗ but was disappointed as he had already studied many of the texts offered at the Institute in Java and disapproved of the rote learning method used by the University.

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STUDENT: **Is there anything else noteworthy?**

TEACHER: ⇨ Yes, After completing his education at the University of Baghdad in 1970, Wahid went to the Netherlands to continue his education.

TEACHERX: ⇨ Yes, He sought and received another scholarship at the University of Baghdad and moved to Iraq.

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STUDENT: **What did he study?**

TEACHER: ⇨ He wanted to attend Leiden University but was disappointed as there was little recognition for the studies that he had undertaken at the University of Baghdad.

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