



The 'ghosts' spooking Indonesians into staying home

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A neighborhood in Indonesia's central Java province has deployed local 'ghosts' to patrol the streets and scare people into staying home in order to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus.



1-1. Wrapped in white cloth - their faces _____

1-2. the ghoulish 'pocong' _____

1-3. hoping _____

2-1. When the initiative first started earlier this month, _____

2-2. which had the opposite effect on villagers _____

3-1. Organizers have since deployed the pocong _____

3-2. to catch people _____

4. Resident Karno Supadmo says that since the Pocong appeared, _____

5-1. Indonesian President Joko Widodo _____

5-2. instead urging people to practice

[Vocabulary]

- **powder:** to put powder on your face or body
 - *She powdered her face and applied her lipstick and rouge.*
 - *...the old woman's powdered face.*
- **ghoul:** an imaginary creature that eats dead people; a ghoulish is an imaginary evil spirit
 - *Ghouls are said to steal bodies from graves and eat them.*
- **ghoulish:** reminding you of death in an unpleasant and frightening way; making you feel afraid, frightening, scary; Something that is ghoulish looks or behaves like a ghoulish.
 - *...the ghoulish apparitions at the window.*
- **pocong:** A **pocong**, also known as **shroud ghost**, is an Indonesian and Malaysian ghost that is said to be the soul of a dead person trapped in its shroud. Known in Indonesia/Malaysia as *kain kafan*, the shroud is the prescribed length of cloth used in Muslim burials to wrap the body of the dead person. The dead body is covered in white fabric tied over the head, under the feet, and on the neck.
- **age-old:** very old
 - *the age-old problem of poverty*
 - *This age-old struggle for control had led to untold bloody wars.*
- **superstition:** a belief that things such as magic or luck have the power to affect your life; an irrational belief arising from ignorance or fear
 - *The belief that breaking a mirror will give you seven years of bad luck is just a superstition.*
 - *Meanwhile, the jealous local gossips spread fear and superstition.*
- **initiative:** an important action that is intended to solve a problem
 - *The city has a new initiative against drunk-driving.*
 - *"a number of initiatives designed to address the problem of child poverty"*
- **venture out:** to proceed bravely out into some unknown or dangerous place
 - *The group of explorers is getting ready to venture out into the wilds of Antarctica.*
 - *It was nearly midnight by the time we arrived at our hotel, so we had to wait until the next morning to venture out and explore Tokyo.*
- **organizer:** someone who makes all the arrangements for an event or activity, especially as a job
 - *a conference/party organizer*
 - *The organizers of the demonstration concede that they hadn't sought permission for it.*
- **deploy:** to use something; to distribute systematically or strategically
 - *Troops have been deployed in the area to counter a possible attack.*
 - *"The U.S. deploys its weapons in the Middle East."*

□ **Joko Widodo:** (born 21 June 1961) 7th President of Indonesia. Assumed office: 20 October 2014

□ **resist:** to stop yourself from doing something that you would very much like to do

• *It's difficult to resist a challenge like that.*

• *She couldn't resist asking him about his date.*

□ **practice:** to do something regularly, especially as a habit, custom, or tradition

• *The early settlers seem to have practiced farming as well as hunting and fishing.*

□ **hygiene:** the practice of keeping yourself and the things around you clean, in order to prevent illness and disease

• *One should practice good hygiene to avoid becoming ill.*

[参照辞書: Merriam-Webster, Oxford English Dictionary, America Heritage of the English language, Collins English Dictionary, Macmillan Dictionary, the Free Dictionary, Wikipedia]