



**Syamsi Dhuha**  
FOUNDATION

**Press Release**

Jakarta, April 29, 2009

**Music Album & Book For Lupus**

Approaching the World Lupus Day, 10 May 2009, a pop music album will be launched and can be enjoyed by the music lovers and public at large in Indonesia. *Syamsi Dhuha Foundation* (SDF) - a non-profit organization who provides support to Lupus patients - supported by PT. Bank Mandiri Tbk., produced this album, which will be ready to launch on 9 May 2009. This album aims to increase public awareness on Lupus disease as well as to encourage public attention and caring to those suffering from *Systemic Lupus Erythematosus* (SLE) or Lupus, who attacks mostly women at their productive ages.

“Being able to produce *Care for Lupus* music album is like a dream comes true for SDF, something that we have never imagined. It is a proof of God’s love, who we believe always accompanying us until we enter the 5<sup>th</sup> year of our services. We are now supporting hundreds of Lupus patients as well as those with Low Vision. Supported by many doctors, volunteers, donator, partners, and other stakeholders, SDF is really grateful receiving great love, care, encouragement given by them. A tiny step of SDF was initiated from a small sharing and education session in 2004. This was followed by larger seminars, free medical consultation sessions and talk shows to commemorate *World Lupus Day in 2004 and 2006*. We participated in the 8<sup>th</sup> International Lupus Congress in Shanghai, China in 2007. Last year we managed to launch book and audio book “*Miracle of Love, Journeying with Lupus Towards God*” Dian Syarief, the chairlady of SDF explained during the press conference.

*Care for Lupus* music album consists of 8 songs. Doctors, volunteers, Lupus patients and Low vision friends joined together to produce this album. Two well-known artists, namely Maylaffayza, a young talented violist and Iwan Abdulrachman, a senior artist and composer from Bandung, also joined the project, making this album more interesting. Another thing that makes this album special is that the music arrangement of almost all of the songs were done by Hendra JP, a blind person who has expertise in digital music and now he becomes one of SDF’s volunteers. The theme song for this album “*Care for Lupus*” was written by dr. Andika Prahasta (Ophthalmologist). “All 8 songs of this *Care for Lupus* music album were selected with the criteria of having meaningful lyrics which can provide spirit as well as enlightening not only to those suffering from Lupus but also for general public. Through this *Care for Lupus* music album, we aim to promote caring and sharing for others”, added dr. Merry Christianty, *project officer* of the album.

At the press conference to introduce the Album in Jakarta today, SDF also launched a book titled: “*Cinta Membuatku Bangkit - Saat Lupus Berbunga Hikmah*” (“Love That Makes Me Awake – When Lupus Teaches Me Lessons), published by Mizan. This book (160 pages) compiled true stories and each of the stories was written by 13 Lupus patients with their own experience struggling to face Lupus with at different stage from light to severe manifestations. The book shares how Lupus patients and their family face and live with Lupus.

Among the 13 contributors there is only one male Lupus patient. This also represents and explains that more female than male are prone to Lupus. The range of ages of Lupus patients who have become members of SDF are between 9 and 54 years of age. They come from different backgrounds and professions, from school students, university students, lecturer, employee, nurse, doctors and other professions. Depending on their physical condition and how active their Lupus, some of them are able to carry on with their normal activities. This patient category is entering its remission phase of Lupus. Some of them have to limit their activities, since their condition are still unstable. Those who have problems with hyper-sensitivity from the sunray, have to limit their activities to indoor.

“Until the cause of Lupus is known, the medication and treatment are still limited to lighten the symptoms rather than to cure the disease. This encourages myself to do something for Lupus, among other to educate public about the disease. If people are aware and understand the disease and the symptoms as well, this will help both the patients and the doctor to have early detection for the disease so that it make easier to handle the case and to avoid fatal implication that could endanger their live.” dr. Sonia Wibisono, a medical doctor and also a public figure, who care for Lupus. dr Andika Prahasta, supported dr. Sonia’s statement and added “Caring is the key word to increase live expectancy among Lupus patients. SLE has to be taken care by many doctors from several disciplines. Continuous effort to increase public awareness through socialization and education need to be carried out. In addition to that, standardization of medical services is also needed.”

Every May 10 is designated as World Lupus Day, lupus organizations around the globe call for increases in public and private sector funding for medical research on lupus, targeted education programs for health professionals, patients and the public and worldwide recognition of lupus as a significant public health issue. SDF will conduct an event on May 9, 2009 in Bandung in conjunction and to support the commemoration of this year World Lupus Day. An Art Performance “MORNING LIGHT” will be held at *Taman Budaya* Cultural Theater (Dago Tea House), presented by local artists. The event will also be the grand launching for both the Music Album as well as the Book.

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*Let's Light Up The World With The Ray of Our Heart  
Care for Lupus, Your Caring Saves Lives*



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