

Analysis of Criteria for Determining the Location of Hilal Observation in the Tropical Regions: Study of Hilal Observation Location in Bengkulu City

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Abstract : This study aims to review the use of the Bengkulu Provincial Government Mess as the location of rukyatul hilal because its determination has not been carried out scientifically. There are three things that will be analyzed, namely geographical-astronomical conditions, the suitability of the location with ideal criteria, and the determination of the location of rukyatul hilal in accordance with regional conditions based on the results of the study. The research method used is qualitative with an astronomical geographical approach. The results showed that the factor that strengthened the disturbance from the weather aspect was the western sky horizon in the form of the Indian Ocean sea level. The potential for geographical disturbances on this horizon is high sea waves, relatively high sea breezes, and more seawater vapor due to sea surface temperatures and high air humidity. This study found new criteria for determining the location of the observation crescent. The criteria is the western horizon is not sea level (especially the Indian Ocean).

Keywords : criteria, location, Rukyatul Hilal, tropics, Indian ocean

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