

# GIRIGAHANA

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## HISTORY

Activities in the wild or open nature started as a simple hobby, which became a trend in the late 1970s. Several students of UPN "Veteran" Jakarta began to establish environmentalist clubs in their respective department. Environmentalist clubs in each department were trying to claim their existence by holding mass activities and used other students as their participants. This triggered competitions between departments in recruiting participants for their respective event, it even caused conflicts to bloom between departments at that time.

Seeing that the situation of the campus became increasingly unfavorable due to the friction between departments, an idea was raised to merge the environmentalist clubs in each department into one big association that was legally recognized in UPN "Veteran" Jakarta. Later, on September 7th 1981 at Kawah Ratu, Mount Salak, a group of representatives of environmentalist clubs from each department pledged an oath that the newly christened "**GIRIGAHANA**" will be the only environmentalist club's flag flying on the UPN "Veteran" Jakarta campus ground.

GIRIGAHANA itself comes from the Sanskrit language where the word "**GIRI**" means "**GUNUNG**" (**MOUNTAIN**) and "**GAHANA**" which means "**JURANG**" (**RAVINE**), so philosophically GIRIGAHANA means "in trying to achieve an ideal or a goal, everything starts from the bottom." So that GIRIGAHANA members are expected to be able to relish every process carried out from the ground up to achieving the peak of glory, not through an instant process.

## PURPOSES

The initial purpose of forming GIRIGAHANA was based on several important points which were later outlined in the organizational direction, as listed below:

- a. To build a professional environmentalist organization.
- b. To plant patriotism through various of nature-oriented programs
- c. To implement the Tri Dharma in community service
- d. To give insights and improve knowledge regarding the nature and wild environment
- e. To build and improve the members' ability and give them insights regarding organization management

## ACTIVITIES

The activities in GIRIGAHANA are divided into four divisions, there are Mountain Forest, Cave Exploring, Rock Climbing, and Rafting. These divisions are intended for easier material management in each activities. The enthusiasm of the students in nature and outdoor drives GIRIGAHANA to participate in variety of clubs and government championship in the field of youth and sports, from city level up to national level.

Listed below are the GIRIGAHANA activities in the past few years :

1. Orange Route Expedition, South Sulawesi - 2004
2. Hiking in Mount Dempo and Climbing in Condong Cliff - 2007

3. Joint training and Colloquium IX UPN "Veteran" Yogyakarta, Surabaya, and Jakarta Nature Lover Students - May 2015







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