

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES IN RELIGION

(Humanisme Sekular dan Gerakan Zaman Baru)

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Learning Objective

- To understand Issues and Challenges in Religion: Secular Humanism and New Age Movement

Topics/Sub-Topics

- Humanisme Sekular
- Gerakan Zaman Baru
- Bedah Buku “The Secret”

Humanism

- An approach in study, philosophy, worldview or practice that focuses on human values and concerns attaching prime importance to human rather than divine or supernatural matters.

Secularism

- Worldly rather than spiritual.
- Not specifically relating to religion or to a religious body: *secular music*.
- Not bound by monastic restrictions, especially not belonging to a religious order.
- Occurring or observed once in an age or century.

Secular Humanism

- is a secular ideology which espouses reason, ethics, and justice, whilst specifically rejecting supernatural and religious dogma as a basis of morality and decision-making.
- Kebenaran ditemukan di luar 'sistem' keagamaan yang ada

- secularism may assert the right to be free from religious rule and teachings, and the right to freedom from governmental imposition of religion upon the people within a state that is neutral on matters of belief.

Utilitarianism

an ethical theory holding that the proper course of action is the one that maximizes the overall "happiness". It is thus a form of consequentialism, meaning that the moral worth of an action is determined only by its resulting outcome, and that one can only weigh the morality of an action after knowing all its consequences.

Individualism

- is the moral stance, political philosophy, ideology, or social outlook that stresses "the moral worth of the individual".
- An individualist enters into society to further his or her own interests, or at least demands the *right* to serve his or her own interests, without taking the interests of society into consideration

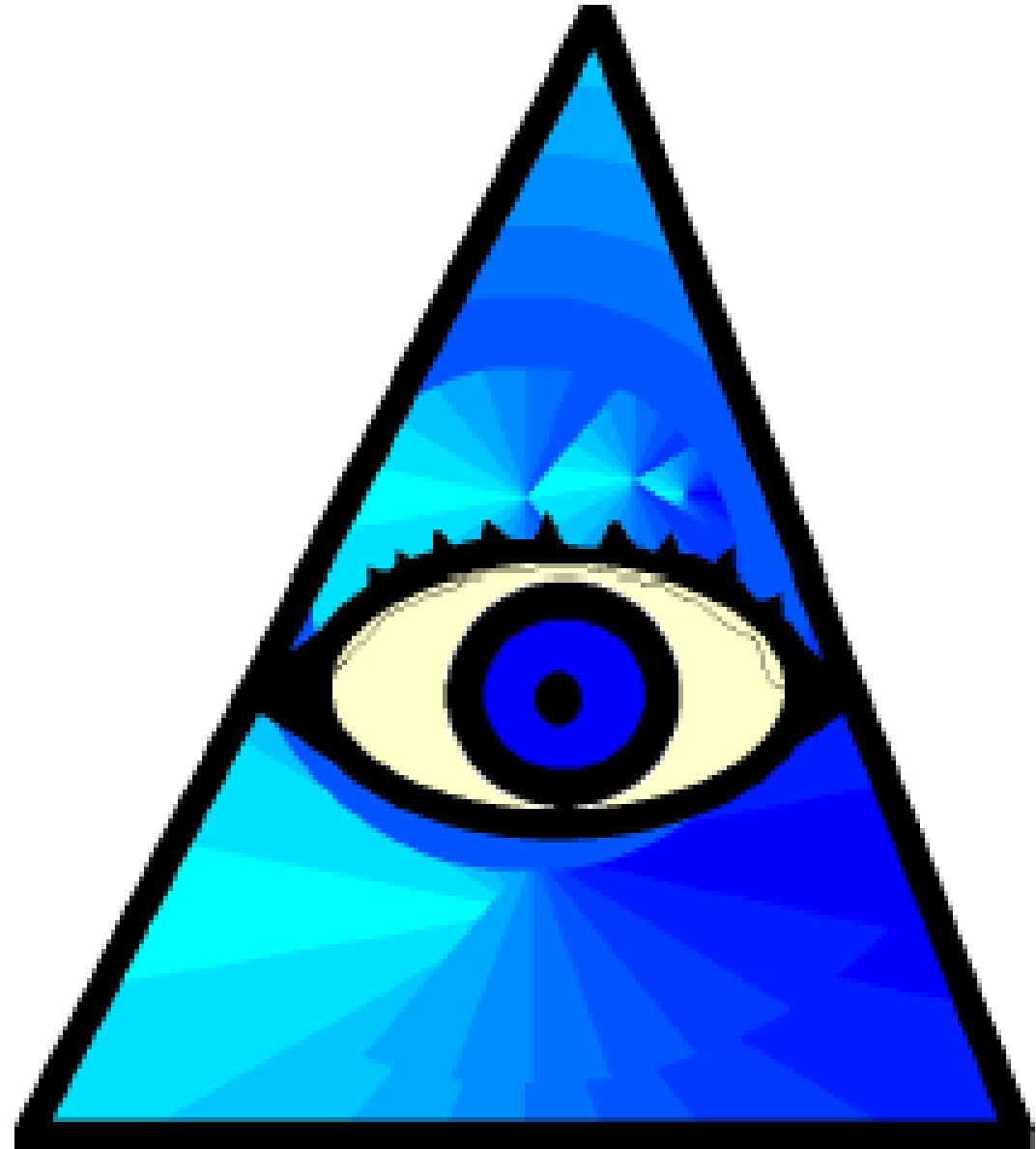
Existentialism

- ‘eksis’ = “berdiri tegak melawan”.
- eksistensi dapat diartikan sebagai berdiri sendiri sebagai dirinya sekaligus keluar dari dirinya

Tema-tema Eksistensialisme

- Kebebasan
- Nilai individualis
- Pilihan
- Relatif
- Tanggung jawab

NEW AGE
MOVEMENT
(Geakan
Zaman Baru)



Pemikiran atau Khayalan?

Lewis Mumford,
*"The Transformation
of Man"*

- “Kita berada dalam ambang suatu zaman baru: zaman dari suatu dunia terbuka dan suatu diri yang mampu memainkan bagiannya di dalam kawasan yang lebih besar. Suatu zaman pembaruan, sewaktu kerja, senggang, belajar, dan cinta akan bersatu untuk menghasilkan suatu bentuk segar bagi setiap tahap kehidupan, dan suatu lintasan yang lebih tinggi bagi hidup sebagai suatu keutuhan”

- **The term “New Age” refers to the so-called “coming Aquarian age” of peace and harmony and unity with “God” which is supposed to replace the age of the Pisces**
- **Based on astrology, new agers believe there are new ages every 2000 years**
- **The New Age movement is truly a “buffet” of beliefs and practices**
- **Adherents pick and choose what they want to believe (for the most part)**

The New Age Movement

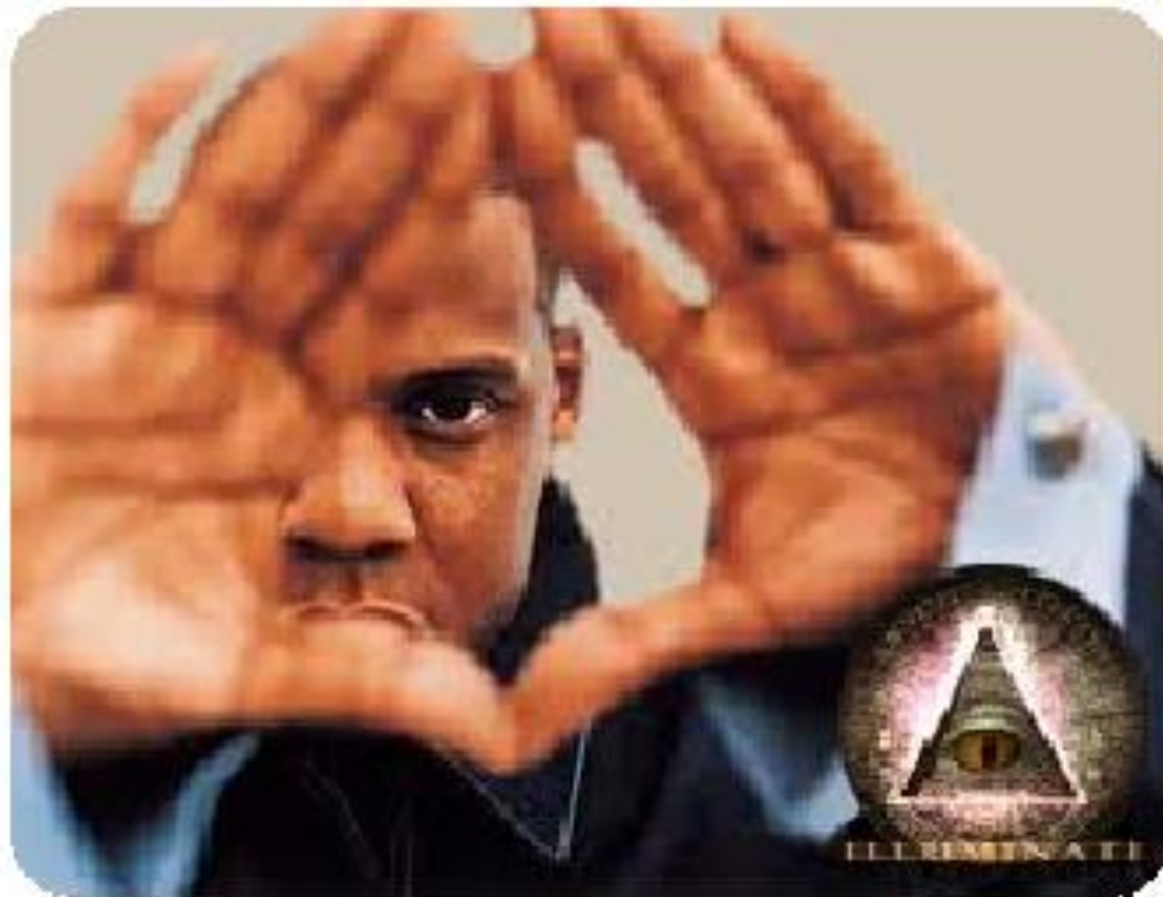
- Very broad social/spiritual movement
- Very individualistic
- Some recent avoidance of “new age” label
- Major spiritual movement – much larger than pagan movement



“The all-seeing eye”

Illuminati (bentuk plural dari bahasa Latin illuminatus, "tercerahkan")

Secara historis, nama ini merujuk pada Illuminati Bavaria (Johann Adam Weishaupt), sebuah kelompok rahasia pada Zaman Pencerahan yang didirikan pada tanggal 1 Mei tahun 1776.



- The "New Age" proclaims that human race is at the verge of a "gigantic quantum leap", to realize that every human is God
- When that happens, it will be the "New Age", a glorious time with only one nation on earth, one language, one government, one religion, with only love on earth, without hate, violence, wars, crime, racism, and without sickness nor death!...

Spiritualism



- 7 key principles:
 - The father/motherhood of God
 - Brother/sisterhood of mankind
 - Communion of spirits and ministry of angels (spirit communication, spirit guides)
 - Continuous existence of human soul
 - Personal responsibility
 - Compensation and retribution hereafter for all good and evil deeds done on earth (karmic law, 'as you sow, so shall you reap')
 - Path of eternal progress open to every soul

Pemikiran NAM

- Menawarkan suatu perspektif holistik atas kehidupan: yang menyatakan badan, *budi*, dan roh
- Idenya bahwa manusia mempunyai banyak tingkat kesadaran.
- Bila diri kita yang lebih tinggi dapat dibangun dan diubah maka kita akan mencapai tujuan hidup manusia.
- Menggunakan pelbagai metode & teknik, ide & kegiatan untuk memperluas kesadaran mereka dan kehidupan mereka.

A Tolerant Society

- Tolerance has become our society's only moral standard
- Society teaches that we must accept everyone's beliefs as being "equal" to our own
- We are taught that all religions point towards the same God

Is truth relative?

- Society teaches that truth is a matter of personal preference.
- What's true is what works for you.
- No reality is contingent upon our view of it.
- Truth will have consequences in our lives whether we believe it or not.
- The bottom line is that Truth cannot be relative, if it is then it is not truth!

NAM's Ethics

- Personal Transformation:
 - Believers hope to develop new potentials within themselves: the ability to heal oneself and others, psychic powers. (Human Potential Movement)
 - Later, when sufficient numbers of people have achieved these powers, a major spiritual planet-wide transformation is expected.
- Morality is Relative
 - No Distinction between good/evil or right/wrong
 - There is no judge of ethics
 - Actions simply “are”, they are not good or evil
 - The individual decides what is “good” for him

One becomes god

- To become God is easy, because you are already God, and the only thing left is that you realize it by means of “**mystical experiences**”.

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