

'Ksatria Airlangga' Floating Hospital Sets Sail from Makassar to Surabaya

UNAIR NEWS – Alumni of Universitas Airlangga made a new history. One more step they will actually have a ship that serves as “Ksatria Airlangga” Floating Hospital (RST) and will serve the public in outermost and remote islands.

A phinisi ship with 27 meters length and 7.2 meters wide, built in a phinisi shipyard in the district of Galesong, Kab. Takalar, South Sulawesi, Saturday morning, September 9, has officially set sail for Surabaya. At a pier in Tanjung Perak, Surabaya, the ship will be designed as a hospital and equipped with medical equipment.

“We expect prayers and blessings as this morning (Saturday 9 September 2017), “Ksatria Airlangga” Floating Hospital will set sail from Makassar to Surabaya. Hopefully the voyage will run smoothly to show Alumni service to Universitas Airlangga, “Dr. Gadis Meinar Sari, dr., M.Kes., Supervisor of Ksatria Medika Airlangga Foundation, the foundation managing the “Ksatria Airlangga” Floating Hospital. There was also Herni Suprapti, treasurer of Ksatria Medika Airlangga Foundation.

Head of Academics in Faculty of Medicine UNAIR, is currently in Takalar for the launch of the “Ksatria Airlangga” Floating Hospital. The ship set sail from a port in Takengon, after about a month of this trial sail in the waters around the area. The ship spends around Rp 250 million to built.

Dr. Gadis Meinar confirmed that alumni should be proud, because they succeeded in building the “Ksatria Airlangga” Floating Hospital. In addition, she said that this is the first RST in the world owned by college alumni to be used to dedicate themselves to health services and community service

in remote areas of the Indonesian archipelago.



The launching of "Ksatria Airlangga" Floating Hospital. There was dr. Herni Suprpti, M.Kes (second from the left), Dr. Gadis Meinar Sari, dr., M.Kes., and dr. Agus Haryanto, SpB (third and second from the right). (Photo by courtesy)

This trial and launching was also confirmed by Agus Hariyanto, dr., SpB., Alumni of FK UNAIR initiator of this RST. The doctor serving in the archipelago in North Maluku routinely checked the progress in Makassar. In this first voyage to Surabaya, the surgeon was also seen on the deck with the local authority.

"I cannot estimate how long and when we will arrive in Surabaya, I'll let you know," said Agus Hariyanto, alumni of PPDS FK UNAIR in 2006.

In a dialogue through chatting application with *unair.news* before this, Agus Hariyanto was also preparing the draft program of this RST ship for 2018. " *Unair Goes to Island,* " he wrote.

He hoped beside providing medical service, it should also be used to make observational research with a goal to have data based on maritime health in the islands of East Java Province.

“I think it’s very open to younger researchers to join the research, or make your own research by following this RST,” he added. (*)

Author: Bambang Bes