

Poems on quake released

YOGYAKARTA: The Indonesian Literature Community (KSI) launched an anthology of poems of 100 Indonesian poets recently at the Kedai Kebun Forum, *Jogja 5.9 Skala Richter*.

The poems were an expression of concern in the wake of the 5.9 -magnitude earthquake on the Richter scale, which devastated Yogyakarta and parts of Central Java.

With 2,500 copies already printed, publication of the poems is aimed at garnering donations for the quake survivors in Yogyakarta.

"The poets are not asking for royalties. All the money from the book sales will go to quake survivors," Kurnia Effendi of KSI said.

Among the poems were Afrizal Malna's *Gempa Orang* (People Quake), Agus Manaji's *Sketsa Jogja Juni 2006* (Jogya Sketch June 2006), Amien Wangsitalaja's *Sketsa Gempa Sketsa Keluarga* (Quake Sketch, Family Sketch), Indrian Koto's *Sebuah Subuh* (Once one Dawn), Joko Pinurbo's *Surat dari Yogya* (Letter from Yogya), KH Muhammad Fuad Riyadi's *Elegi Gempa* (Quake Tale), Muchlish AR's *Bumi* (Earth), and TS Pinang's *270506 (Richter 5.9)*.

The editors of the anthology include noted poets Ahmadun Yosi Herfanda, Endo Senggono, Saut Situmorang and Kurnia Effendi.

According to Kurnia, the team of editors received 563 poems from 236 poets, including from Indonesian citizens residing in Amsterdam, England, Jeddah and the Maldives.

Besides the theme and aesthetic aspects, priority was given to Yogyakartaans in the selection process.

The number of poems is also symbolic: The 100 poems by 100 poets represents the 100 days of commemoration since the earthquake.