
Swineys Tandidio

Swineys Tandidio is an ordained minister and currently serving as the director of the Sabbath School and Personal Ministries Department as well as the Director of the Adventist Youth Ministry Department of Minahasa Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Manado, Indonesia. He is married to Marline Sepang, and they are blessed with two children.

Pasoloran Ngadjo was an Adventist pastor, evangelist and administrator of East Indonesia Union Conference,
He was the first Seventh-day Adventist minister from Rongkong tribe in Indonesia.

**Early Life**

Pasoloran (nicknamed Solo) was born December 14, 1947 as the first son of Gallo and Ludia in Limbong village located on a mountainous area in South Sulawesi, Indonesia. The family, including Solo and a younger brother born in 1949, belonged to Rongkong tribe, of a Toraja sub-ethnic origin. Around 1951 the family moved to Lebang, Palopo city, South Sulawesi, where the mother was kidnapped by tribal marauders. Sometime after the kidnapping incident Solo was adopted by a widow, Sikambong, sister of Ngadjo, an Adventist lay evangelist. With the adoption Solo also got his last name Ngadjo.

One morning in 1954, as Solo and his twelve friends were walking on a mountain trail, they were attracted by melodious singing coming from the house of Solo's uncle, Ngadjo. The boys went to the house and were fascinated with the joyful songs in praise to Jesus. With songs over, Ngadjo told Bible stories to the children, with the help of a colorful picture roll. Solo and his young friends enjoyed the Bible story and the songs, and continued to worship with the group for the next three years, and in 1957 all thirteen were baptized. However, persecution and family rejection followed, and only two of the group—Solo and his cousin Jordas Tandidio—remained firm in their new-found faith and eventually became Adventist pastors.

**Education and Marriage**

After completing secondary education in 1965, Solo went to Airmadidi, North Sulawesi, to begin his undergraduate studies in theology at Perguruan Tinggi Klabat (PTK), now known as Universitas Klabat (University of Mout Klabat). Because he was a self-supporting student, the four-year program took six years, leading to his graduation in 1971. In 1987 he completed Master of Pastoral Studies at Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies in the Philippines.

After preparing to enter the ministry, Pasoloran married Sofitje Weley on December 21, 1971 in Tompaso Baru, North Sulawesi. The couple had two had two children: Olviane and Michael. Tragedy struck the family five years later when Sofitje passed away. Pasoloran married the second time Yansie Komalig in 1982 and had two children, Melvin and Juliawati. Yet, God allowed Yansie to rest in peace on March 1988, and thus in Makassar city, he married to a widow namely Nunia Christina Mangalik on November 6th 1988. From this marriage he had one child by adopting Inrydh Patricia Paerunan, Nunia’s daughter from her previous marriage, to be his own. Nunia was a very dedicated and helpful woman to the ministry of her husband. As a devout Pastor’s wife, she accompanied Solo when he was a local church Pastor, Conference executive secretary, Conference president, a Union departmental director, and volunteer church planter and evangelist until her beloved husband inhaled the last air and exhaled his last breathe in 2017.

**Ministry (1972-2010)**

On January 1, 1972, Ngadjo began his ministry as a licensed minister in Maluku Mission of the SDA Church. He served this organization as a licensed minister from that year up to the last day of December 1975. In January 1976, the organization ordained him and thus he became a credentialed minister of Maluku Mission and continued to serve the Lord there until December 1977. In the year of 1978, on the first month, Ngadjo was sent by EIUC of SDA into a new territory, South Sulawesi Mission with its headquarters located in Makassar city. This mission, somehow, started from January 1994 up to the present time, being known as South Sulawesi Conference of the SDA Church which includes in its territory South Sulawesi Province, West Sulawesi Province, and South East Sulawesi Province of Indonesia.

Ngadjo served the Lord in South Sulawesi Mission as a church pastor until December 1983. In the following years (from January 1984 until December 1985), he was appointed as the director of Publishing and Communication departments of the Mission. From January 1986 up to December 1993, again Ngadjo served the Mission as a church pastor, and on January 1994 until December 1998 he was elected as South Sulawesi Conference’s Executive Secretary. In December 1998, he was elected to be the president of the Conference, and started from January 1999 up to December 2002, he served as the president of the Conference and accomplished his task in full responsibility and accountability until the end of the period. On December 2002, he was elected to be the director of Sabbath School and Personal Ministries department of EIUC of SDA Church that headquartered in Manado city, the capital of North Sulawesi Province of Indonesia. He then started to serve the Lord and the Church in this new ministry from January 2003 and remained to minister in that service until his retirement in December 2010.

**Later Life (2011-2017)**

Pastor Pasoloran Ngadjo’s regular service was terminated on December 14, 2017, and ceased his active work at the last day of December 2010. The last position he held before his retirement was the director of Sabbath School and Personal Ministries of EIUC of the SDA Church. In retirement he remained in Manado city where the headquarters of EIUC of SDA Church is located.

In 2011, being a retired pastor, Ngadjo was invited by Indonesian Adventist Community in Dover, the U.S.A. for a
On March 2, 2017, he was invited to Makassar city to preach and to conduct a Bible seminar at Sungai Saddang SDA Church on March 4. The next day, he went to Palopo city, his hometown, for a week Bible seminar also by invitation. In his free time of that visit, he also ministered to SDA Church members of the city who were sick and hospitalized. On the Sabbath morning of March 11, in a gathering of all Adventists of the city, he preached at Lamas Pantai SDA Church, and in the afternoon he conducted a seminar regarding the danger of offshoots’ teachings for Adventists—but, this was his last service for the SDA Church. In the third week of that month, he went to Makassar city to fulfill the invitation of Durian SDA church for preaching and conducting seminars on Sabbath, March 18. He also planned that after that, he would go to Mamuju city for fulfilling the invitation to preach and to conduct a seminar there on Sabbath, March 25. However, though he had arrived at Makassar city in the third week of the month, he could not be able to do his task in the city. From Makassar city, he cancelled his plan for Mamuju city, and instead he left Makassar city for Manado city on March 16 due to an extreme pain he felt in his stomach. As he arrived at Manado city on March 17, his wife, Nunia Christina Mangalik, took him immediately to Rumah Sakit Advent Manado (Manado Adventist Hospital), abbreviated as RSAM, to see their family’s medical doctor. On Sabbath of March 18, he attended church meeting at Winangun SDA church, and this was the last Sabbath he could attend the church. On Monday of March 20, however, as his sickness became worse, he was taken to RSAM by his wife and hospitalized there. This effort did not help him to have a good progress on his health. He was transferred by his family to Rumah Sakit Umum Kandow (Kandow Public Hospital) on March 30 for better medical treatment, yet it did not help.

On Sabbath, April 1, in Kandow Public Hospital, Pr. Fernando Kalalo, elder Freds Melope, and Melope’s wife of Winangun SDA church ministered him for a Holy Communion. At 8 o’clock in the morning of April 4, again Pr. Kalalo visited him at that hospital to pray and anointed him with oil in the name of the Lord Jesus for his recovery before he got the surgery. The surgery did not help and on that very day, April 4, 2017, at 6 o’clock in the evening, Ngadjo passed away. Many Adventists from South, South East, West, Central, and North Sulawesi, and from many other parts of Indonesia attended his funeral service that took venue at Ngadjo’s house in Winangun, Manado city, on April 7, 2017. The sermon was delivered by Pastor Dj. Muntu, director of Adventist Youth Department of EIUC of the SDA Church.

**Contribution**

Pasoloran Ngadjo was one of the Adventist pioneers of Rongkongish people. He also established a good servant leadership system among his people. Ngadjo was also a good pastor, preacher, evangelist, and administrator of the SDA Church within the territory of EIUC or GMAHK UKIT, and was the first SDA pastor among his tribalmates followed by Pastor Jordas Tandidio. Ngadjo, in fact, dedicated himself fully for the work of Christ until he died. He impacted the SDA people of Sulawesi island to work for the Lord and to sought to provide better education opportunities to Rongkongish people.

**SOURCES**


Service Record of Pasoloran Ngadjo. East Indonesia Union Conference of the SDA Church Archives.


**NOTES**

1. Swineys Tandidio, “Jejak-Jejak Soteriologi dalam Aluk Todolo (AT),” a class paper presented for the fulfilment of the subject *Teologi Kontekstual*. 

3. Ibid.

4. Service Record of Pasoloran Ngadjo, East Indonesia Union Conference of the SDA Church Archives.

5. Ibid.


8. Ibid.


10. Ibid.


12. Inyridh Patricia Papua, interview by author, Manado, South Sulawesi, April 14, 2018.

13. Ibid.

14. Service Record of Pasoloran Ngadjo, East Indonesia Union Conference of the SDA Church Archives.

15. Ibid.


17. Service Record of Pasoloran Ngadjo, East Indonesia Union Conference of the SDA Church Archives.

18. Ibid.

19. Ibid.

20. Michael Pasoloran, interview by author, Mamuju city, West Sulawesi, May 20, 2018. Michael Pasoloran, a son of the late Pastor Pasoloran Ngadjo, is now serving as an SDA pastor in South Sulawesi Conference and appointed by the conference to minister as a district pastor in Mamuju city, West Sulawesi Province of the Republic of Indonesia.


22. Ibid.


24. Ibid.


26. Ibid.

27. Ibid.


29. Ibid.

30. Ibid.