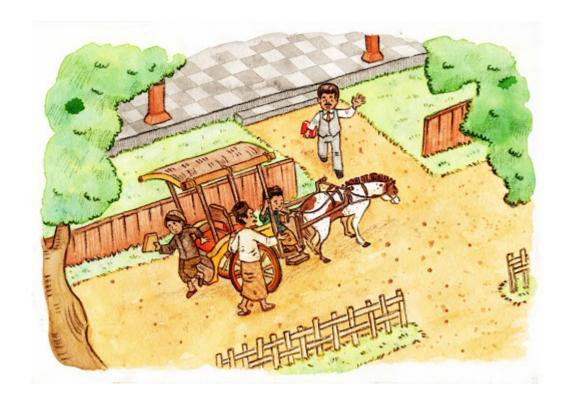


I Am Kartini





In my country, many girls cannot go to school. Schools are intended for boys and children of the noble families only.



Luckily my Dad is a regent. I can go to school every day.



I love being at school. A have many best friends. I want to keep going to school, even if my friends stop going.



Until one day my Dad said,
"You have enough schooling
already, Kartini. Girls do not
need high education."



I should not give up. I want to keep learning. I want to. I can do it.



From reading books, I can create new stitching pattern.



From reading books, I can create new cooking.



My friends also want to learn together too.



One by one, each of my friends is not allowed to come to school anymore. The tradition requires them to stay at home.



I write my worries to my best friends abroad.



They keep motivating me; that I should not give up. I want to keep sharing.



I know that I can help girls in my country.



If they cannot come to my school, my writings can visit them.



The writings break the boundary walls and traditions that hold us down.



My thoughts will remain forever, even if I no longer exist.



R.A Kartini is a national heroin of Indonesia. Her birth date, April 21th 1879, is commemorated as Kartini Day. Kartini loved to learn since she was little. She persistently fought for girls to get an opportunity to learn. Her motto is "I want to!" because it enables her to overcome challenges and obstacles. Her thoughts were written and mailed to her best friends. Those



letters were compiled in a book titled "From Darkness to Light."



©2019, The Asia Foundation. The book creation project features mighty girls and women as the main character(s) of the story and involve female writers, illustrators, editors, and designers. This book was created through a book creation workshop conducted in collaboration between Litara Foundation and The Asia Foundation with the support of Estee



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Original Story

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