



PROFILE

Desi Anwar is currently Director, Senior Anchor and Journalist at CNN Indonesia based in Jakarta Indonesia. She hosts a daily talkshow 'Insight with Desi Anwar' featuring in-depth interviews with prominent figures, policy makers, experts, celebrities and leaders both international and Indonesian.

Prior to joining CNN Indonesia, Desi was Senior Anchor/Journalist at Metro TV news channel where she hosted 'Face 2 Face with Desi Anwar,' (first aired in 2010) a programme where she interviewed public figures and personalities around the world. Her guests included: HH the Dalai Lama, Entrepreneur Richard Branson, Hollywood star Richard Gere, Musician Kitaro, Financier George Soros, IMF Chief Christine Lagarde, Author Karen Armstrong, and many heads of states and other influential international figures. (Watch videos of the programme at [Metro TV website](#) under Talk Show and on Youtube.)

Desi was also the host of 'TeaTime with Desi Anwar' on Metro TV, featuring leaders, inspiring figures and personalities from Indonesia. Altogether, her career with Metro TV, Indonesia's first news channel spanned 15 years where she was one of the station founders and hosted various shows including: Perempuan, Today's Dialogue, Economic Challenges.

Desi began her career as a pioneer anchor/reporter with Indonesia's first commercial television station RCTI in 1990. Among other programs, she hosted daily news bulletins 'Seputar Indonesia,' 'Nuansa Pagi,' 'Buletin Siang' and 'Buletin Malam.' RCTI Desi also served as executive producer and anchor of RCTI's daily English-language news program "Indonesia Today' and the weekly current affairs documentary 'Liputan Khusus.'

A member of the presidential press corp, Desi travelled extensively on foreign state visits as well as international summits during her years in RCTI and until now continues to interview many prominent statesmen and public figures. People she had interviewed include: PM Benazir Bhutto, PM Tony Blair, Lady Margaret Thatcher, Bill Gates, Muhamad Yunus, President Jiang Zemin, French Diva Catherine Deneuve, former Malaysian PM Mahathir Mohamad, Body Shop founder Anita Roddick, Super Model Cindy Crawford, PM of Pakistan Pervez Musharaf and many others from all walks of life.

Desi is an Honorary Fellows recipient from SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies, the University of London) for her contribution to the growth of the Media in South East Asia. She is also the recipient of Number One Press Holder from the Indonesian Journalist Association (2010) and awarded Senior Journalist (Wartawan Utama) status from the Indonesian Press Council (2011).

Desi Anwar was also a regular columnist for the news magazine Tempo and the English daily [The Jakarta Globe](#), The Jakarta Post and The Indonesian Observer.

Books published include a book of photography and writings on her travels called 'A Romantic Journey'. Her other publications are: 'Tweets For Life: 200 wisdoms for a happy, healthy and balanced life' consisting of her collection of Twitter messages and her travel photography. 'A Simple Life' - a self-help book, 'Faces and Places' - a collection of articles on her travels and interviews, 'Being Indonesian' - a compilation of her columns written between 1997-2007 in The Indonesian Observer.

Prior to that Desi was co-founder of the online portal Astaga.com and columnist and editorial member of Indonesia's English language daily The Indonesian Observer.

Desi Anwar was voted “Best News Presenter” by Citra Tabloid for three consecutive years (1994 – 1997). She also won the Panasonic Award for “Best News Presenter” in 1997 and 1998. In 1998, she was nominated as “Best Anchor/Presenter” by the Asian Television Awards. And she was a nominee for the Panasonic Award “Best News Presenter” in 2004.

Desi Anwar holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Sussex, England, and a Master of Arts degree from S.O.A.S, University of London. She speaks Bahasa Indonesia, English and French.

Desi is the Founder, Editor and Content Provider of the online magazine The Daily Avocado.

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