

Five Essential Steps If you want to Marry with Chinese Citizenship in Indonesia

While some still consider inter-racial marriage is a peculiar thing, it's not uncommon for a foreigner to fall in love with Indonesian woman and decide to marry them. Awareness of the Indonesian Marriage Law is substantial for Indonesian to marry foreigners and vice versa. For a Chinese citizen who wants to marry Indonesian, here are five steps that will allow you to have a registered marriage that's accepted by both countries.

1. Understanding the Marriage Law

The 1974 Marriage Law, the 1958 Citizenship law, and the 1960 Agrarian Law clearly state all required documents and procedure to hold marriage between foreign nationals. To have a brief understanding of the law, it is better to consult with the authorities including the officials of the Chinese Embassy in Indonesia.

The Marriage Law also implies that a religious marriage under Islamic influence is conducted and witnessed by the Office of Religious Affairs (Kantor Urusan Agama). The non-Islamic citizens (both Indonesian and Chinese) can file their request to the Civil Registry Office (Kantor Catatan Sipil). Both should be done by submitting the required documents.

2. Prepare the Required Documents

Both Chinese and Indonesian citizens are obliged to file the required documents before marriage in order to perform their will. The documents include:

- 16 years or older (for female) or 19 years or older (for male)
- Valid identification document (passport)
- Valid entry visa to Indonesia and National Identification Card (for Indonesian)

- Original certificate of birth, or notarized photocopy that's verified by the consulate.
- Legal proof of the marital status from both parties.
- A Christian ceremony in Indonesian church required to provide a letter of notification from the church

Aside from the required documents, two witnesses over the age of 18 also need to be present for the marriage ceremony. The witnesses must also provide their identification proof.

3. Prepare Letter of No Impediment

One of the most important documents to prepare for the Chinese citizen is a letter of no impediment. The document must be issued in Indonesia by the Civil registry office, and then legalized by Indonesian Consulate Office. Once the letter issued, it must be taken to Indonesian Embassy in Beijing, China in order to make the Letter of No Impediment in Mandarin.

If you find the procedure crinkles, apply for the letter in Indonesia and then translate it into Mandarin. However, the letter must be notarized, legalized to the Ministry of Law and Human Right, to Directorate Counselor of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Chinese Embassy in Jakarta.

4. Prepare Notice of Intention to Marry

In order to marry with Chinese citizenship in Indonesia, you must provide a letter of Notice of Intention to Marry. To present the document at the Civil Registry office, both parties must submit the following documents:

- Valid identification (passport and National Identification Card)
- Certified birth certificate
- Photographs 4X6

- Letter of No Impediment to marriage (for foreigner)
- Letter of Certification of No Previous Marriage and parents' consent (for Indonesian)

5. Prepare KITAS

After marriage, you can decide to move with your spouse to China or stay in Indonesia. To stay in Indonesia, you will need a KITAS (Kartu Izin Tinggal Terbatas) before coming to a final decision. The license is valid for a 1-2 year and required the following documents compliance:

- The National Identification Card of your spouse
- Application letter
- Marriage certificate

The five essential steps if you want to marry with Chinese citizenship in Indonesia can help you conduct a more contented and less-troubled marriage ceremony.