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THE BEHAVIOUR OF RIVERBANK COMMUNITIES IN BARITO KUALA

Muhammad Rezky Noor Handy*, Namira Regitha Kastina, Bambang Subiyakto, Mutiani, Muhammad Adhitya Hidayat Putera

> Email: *rezky.handy@ulm.ac.id Universitas Lambung Mangkurat

ABSTRACT

Rivers provide benefits to living creatures that live around riverbanks. However, river problems are a topic that is being widely discussed because they originate from the condition of the river or luman behaviour. Bad human behaviour towards rivers will cause several problems. The behaviour of the riverbank community in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village, Barito Kuala Regency, still uses the river for daily activities, including bathing, washing, toilets, and public consumption. This activity can negatively impact the river's condition, especially pollution of river water quality due to pople's behaviour and habits. Research objective: Describe the behaviour of riverbank communities in Arthr Serapat Muara Village 1. This research uses a qualitative approach with descriptive methods by describing the behaviour of riverbank communities in Anjir Serapat Muara Village 1 in Barito Kuala Regency. Observation, interviews, and documentation are used to carry out data collection techniques. Data analysis uses data reduction, data presentation, and conclusions. Test the validity of the data using extended observations, triangulation, and member checks. Research results: The behaviour of the riverbank community in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village still acks cleanliness. It can be seen that the people there still throw rubbish in the river. This is because, in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village, there are no trash bins, people/vencles carrying waste, public toilets, or clean water, which the community needs. The positive behaviour of the riverbank people of Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village is that in fishing in the Barito River, they still maintain local wisdom by using traditional tools like rengge, rempa and unjun. Keywords: Behaviour; Communities; Riverbank.

PRELIMINARY

South Kalimantan Province has the longest and largest river, the Barito River, with an average width of 650 to 800 meters and a depth of around 8 meters. It empties directly into the Java Sea and is directly connected to Banjarmasin, South Kalimantan. At the mouth of the Barito River, it has a funnel shape around 1,000 meters wide. The length of the Barito River is calculated starting from the upstream of the river in the Central Kalimantan region, and the mouth of the river is located in the South Kalimantan region. This is why the Barito River has been named the widest river in Indonesia (Ihsan et al., 2017).

One part of the natural environment is a river. Rivers play an essential role in the sustainability of human life and other living creatures that live around rivers, either currently or in the future. Since ancient times, people have used rivers as a means of transportation to get to other places. Rivers are used as final disposal places for liquid waste from various human activities before being channelled into lakes or seas. The city drainage system starts from settlements, trade and natural drainage, whose flow ends in rivers (Nugroho & Putra, 2022).

Apart from that, people use rivers as a life source, including fishing, irrigation, tourism, and household purposes. Apart from being a source of life, rivers are also used by the community for human life needs. Humans need rivers to support their needs and all the activities they do in

rivers because the existence of rivers can also affect human life (Mardhiyah et al., 2022; Subiyakto, 2020; Susanto et al., 2021).

According to Hadinata and Muchamad (2018), there are still many people's houses that live or stand firmly on the banks of the river because, for the community, the river represents an irreplaceable object for the lives of the people along the river, so they use the river as a necessity and their various activities in daily life. The rivers in Banjarmasin City, large and small, and many small rivers spread across the South Kalimantan region are where people live on the riverbanks. One is the Barito Kuala Regency area divided by the Barito River. The people there use the river for household purposes, including washing, bathing, and toileting, and even for consumption by the people in the areas along the river (Marlia et al., 2022; Noviana et al., 2018).

The problems that exist in the environment, especially rivers, are a situation that is currently being discussed a lot because disasters occur in the rainy season, even in the dry season. Problems in the river environment can be rooted in the river itself or river problems resulting from human behaviour. The decline in environmental quality at the national and international levels has triggered quite deep problems. Sriyana explained that river environmental management should be carried out sustainably, including various components of society or government agencies (Marlia et al., 2022; Nugroho & Putra, 2022; Setyowati et al., 2021).

Riverbank communities in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village, Barito Kuala Regency, South Kalimantan Province, continue to use the river for routine life needs such as washing, bathing, cooking, drinking, toilets and transportation routes. From observations, people there still throw rubbish directly into the river. This happened because the village government was less firm in not providing sanctions for those who threw rubbish directly into the river. Apart from that, the village government can still not provide the community with rubbish bins or waste vehicles, clean water, or public toilets (Handy et al., 2021, 2022; Handy & Maulana, 2021; Niliyani et al., 2022).

Simple habits such as throwing away rubbish and ignoring cleanliness are actions whose effects will harm the ecosystem, especially river banks. It is feared that people's habit of taking simple things for granted but having dangerous impacts will become a bad tradition or culture for society. Of course, this action will increasingly open the door for disasters that were previously rare or even never existed in the area to occur, causing all components in the ecosystem to fall apart.

Based on the background that has been created, the researchers were led to study the behaviour of the riverbank communities in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village. The background to this problem needs to be taken up as research to explore various exciting information that needs

to be studied and even resolve the root of the problem regarding a mindset that impacts less disciplined behaviour by society—utilizing the potential of the surrounding environment so that people can realize environmental and social awareness and be responsible for the environment (Bambang Subiyakto & Mutiani, 2019). In other words, this research aims to find out how people behave towards the riverbank environment and is helpful for the community to find out and correct deficiencies in the riverbank environment in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village.

METHOD

The research approach uses a qualitative approach with descriptive methods because this research seeks to obtain and present every activity carried out and the impact of an action carried out by humans on their lives in a narrative manner on the behaviour of riverbank communities in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village (Fadli, 2021). This research was conducted in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village, located in Anjir Muara District, Barito Kuala Regency, South Kalimantan Province. The riverbanks of Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village, especially the banks of the Barito River and Kanoko River, are located around RT. 01 to RT. 06 Anjir Serapat Muara Village 1. This research was conducted from December 2022 to January 2023. The subjects selected in this research included the Head of Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village, the Head of the RT, the Head of the Karang Taruna Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village, and the community riverbank of Anjir Serapat Muara Village 1. The instrument in this research is the researcher himself, starting from determining the title, determining the focus of the research, collecting various data sources, interpreting the data, selecting several informants or drawing conclusions from research findings obtained by himself in the field. As for collecting data, researchers carried out observations, interviews and documentation. According to Miles and Huberman, researchers must carry out three types of activities in analyzing data: data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. To test the validity of the data, researchers carried out triangulation, extended observations, and member checks (Sugiyono, 2019).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village is located in Anjir Muara District, Barito Kuala Regency, South Kalimantan Province. Based on historical evidence and the history of community elders, it is explained that Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village was originally a part of Anjir Serapat Muara Village. However, after exploring the Kanoko River, accompanied by an increase in population and the start of development in this area, the community figures took the initiative to build this village to have its area. Since 1984, this village has been expanded into a village known as Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village.

Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village has an area of 15.05 km² consisting of 08 RT. Located at an altitude of 0.2-3 meters above sea level, the capacity and fertility of the soil are affected by the tides, and they are half-flooded and dominated by swamps. In total, the Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village area is located in a relatively flat lowland area.

A river is a broad, longitudinal water flow that moves consistently from upstream (source) to downstream (estuary). The main benefit of the river is that it will provide agricultural irrigation, the main ingredient for drinking water, as a channel for disposing of rainwater and wastewater, especially as it is implied that it will be used as a river-based tourist attraction. The riverbank is the area on both sides of the riverbed measured along the edge to the foot of the inner embankment (Putra et al., 2016).

River banks have the function of forming water flow, forming water quality nutrients, preventing flooding, erosion and sedimentation and providing a place for river animals and plants to live. People continue to survive on rivers because they use riverbanks as residential areas. Many Indonesians live on riverbanks, especially Banjar people, who use river water for their living needs. According to the Banjar people, especially those living along the riverbanks, this river has many uses for survival, whether from economic, cultural or social aspects. There are more and more houses on river banks; this will obstruct flowing river water because most of those who live on river banks use the river as a waste dump. The public's lack of understanding of the function of the river has resulted in people getting used to throwing rubbish into the river.

Behaviour is an activity or activities carried out by organisms that interact with each other. Human behaviour is all activities or activities carried out by humans that can be seen directly, or that cannot be seen by other parties (Harun, 2017). Human behaviour is based on the individual's circumstances and environment. This behaviour is driven by specific patterns so that humans have personalities. Behaviour plays a role in implementing and expressing an individual's attitude towards the circumstances and conditions of the environment in which he is located, which can be seen in knowledge, attitudes, and actions. A person's knowledge, attitudes and actions will influence how society interacts (Mahda et al., 2019).

Subiyakto (2005) said that in South Kalimantan, rivers are the link between Banjarmasin City and other areas in South Kalimantan and Central Kalimantan. The rivers in South Kalimantan are branches and sub-branches of the Barito River. This is why the Barito River plays an essential role in the waters of Banjarmasin City. The estuary of the Barito River is more than two kilometres wide and has a length of around 900 kilometres. The Barito River is one of the largest rivers on the earth's surface. The Barito River is the largest and longest

river in South Kalimantan. The Barito River has springs that originate from the interior of Central Kalimantan and empty into the Java Sea. Rochgiyanti (2011) said that around the Barito River and its tributaries around the Barito River, there are many artificial rivers or canals known as anjir, handil, and saka. Generally, in Banjar areas, the people use riverbanks as settlement locations. This is a result of river utilization and management patterns identified as local wisdom of the Banjar community (Subiyakto, 2020; Susanto et al., 2021).

Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village is one of the villages in Barito Kuala Regency, which the Barito River surrounds. The behaviour of the people along the river in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village is that they still use the river for their daily lives, such as bathing, toileting, washing, eating utensils and clothes, and even for cooking and drinking. As stated by the RT community. 06 Anjir Serapat Muara Village 1 Mrs. Zuliatin in the following interview

"Using the river, we take a shower, wash dishes and do everything in the river. If it's tasteless, drink water, just add a little alum (Using river water for bathing, washing dishes and clothes, all in the river. You can drink the river water but add a little alum if the river water is fresh." (Interview 17 December 2022).



Figure 1. People bathe in the Kanoko River

This is why many people still throw household waste into rivers. Waste is discarded waste material or dregs that can no longer be used resulting from human activities at the industrial, mining and household levels. Waste that originates from the household itself is waste that originates from laundry, kitchen, bathroom, and even human feces. Household waste can be categorized into two types, namely solid waste and liquid waste. Liquid waste comes from the disposal of water that has been used by the community, such as water used for bathing or water that has been used for washing and so on. Meanwhile, solid waste originating from households includes plastic waste, used cans and bottles, used household furniture, and so on.





Stilt houses are a characteristic of houses in South Kalimantan with the existence of a pit under the house which makes people spontaneously throw rubbish into the river, especially leftover food consumed by the people along the river in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village which is not easily destroyed such as used vegetables, plastic from food or snack wrappers, bottles or drink cans which can cause rubbish under people's houses to pile up. For plastic waste, there are already some riverbank communities in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village who are aware of this and do so by burning it because the village government has not yet provided a rubbish dump or waste transport vehicle in this village. As stated by Mr Kaspul Anwar as the village head of Anjir Serapat Muara 1 in the following interview.

"What we mean is just public awareness, but for us, if we emphasize it, it's not quite right, the problem is we haven't prepared a place yet, so for now, before there is a trash bin, please just make the public aware again if there is quite a lot of rubbish please burn it or kada don't throw it anywhere. The plan to provide rubbish bins is already there at every sub-district meeting with the health department, a suggestion from us, the community, that if possible, each village could be helped with a rubbish disposal bin (what we mean is awareness from the community itself, because if we put too much emphasis on it, it's not quite right either, because the problem is that we don't have any trash bins yet, so for now, before there are trash bins, please just make the community aware that if there is a lot of rubbish, please burn it or if possible, don't throw it anywhere. There is a plan to provide rubbish bins at every meeting. sub-district with the health service, suggestions from us, the community, if possible, help every village with a waste disposal site." (Interview 3 January 2023)

The Barito Kuala Regency Government has also issued an appeal to the community regarding river management so that every village community in Barito Kuala Regency can maintain the cleanliness of the rivers used by their own community with the aim of ensuring that the river is always kept clean. Apart from that, the Barito Kuala Regency government recommends that there should be no more latrines in riverbank areas to maintain the river environment. The high number of floating toilets in rivers can certainly affect the concentration

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of E.coli in river water. Escherechia Coli is a bacteria that is located in the intestines of humans and animals and is excreted in feces. This bacteria is one of the causes of bacteria that can cause diarrhea and can even cause intestinal infections resulting in stomach ache and fever in humans who drink river water directly without treating it first with a mixture of alum.



Figure 3. Condition of floating latrines on the Kanoko River

The following is an interview with Mr Sulaiman as a member of RT.03

"But taking a shower versus washing in the river, I wanted to use the toilet last night, but until now I haven't. There are already directions from the government, such as don't throw rubbish in the river, it's forbidden to defecate, how many years has that been banned, but the place is said to be old. In fact, the government has messed up the place here, right? There are rubbish bins and then motorbikes pick them up, but in fact they want to make the village clean, but until now they haven't. Some of the houses in the village here, which are on the riverbanks, may already have toilets and in other areas there are already toilets in the area, like ketu portable toilets, but in this village there are no more from the government. Hopefully our village government will be able to regulate what it will be like to have a clean village (As for bathing and washing in the river, yesterday we wanted to build a toilet but until now there isn't one. There are directions from the government itself, such as don't throw rubbish in the river after that. It is prohibited to defecate. This prohibition has been around since what year, but the name of the place doesn't exist. Actually, the government can make rubbish bins and then there will be vehicles carrying rubbish that will pick them up to make the village clean, but until now there are still none. Several houses in this village "Those who are not on riverbanks may already have toilets, then in other areas there are already toilets in their area, such as portable toilets, but in this village the government is still not providing them. Hopefully later our village government can regulate how this village is clean)."

The provision of public toilets in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village has been planned for a long time but until now it has not been implemented. The village government has often appealed to the community not to throw rubbish and defecation directly into the river, but the community has no choice but to continue doing this because the village government has not provided a place for it. Clean water supply in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village is still not available. Therefore, people there still use river water mixed with alum or gallon water to cook and drink.

In Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village, the people more often carry out mutual cooperation activities in land areas only. Mutual cooperation activities carried out in riverbank areas are only carried out if the flow of river water is blocked. However, the village government plans in the near future to hold special mutual cooperation to clean up the riverbank area.

The positive behaviour of the riverbank community in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village is that in fishing in the Barito River, they still maintain local wisdom by using traditional tools in the form of rengge, rempa and unjun. Fishermen do not use explosives when fishing in rivers. This certainly will not cause damage to the ecosystem in the river. Traditional fishing gear is certainly more environmentally friendly, even though it is expensive and requires skill to use these tools, fishermen do not want to catch fish in a way that is detrimental.

The following is an interview with Mrs. Dra. Rochgiyanti, M.Sc.

"The current condition of the river is physically quite dirty, the color of the water is also cloudy, so it is unhygienic, but because of our people's habits we still use the river for bathing, washing, and even daily consumption even though the quality of the river water is not suitable. People who live around river banks should maintain the cleanliness of the surrounding environment, but in fact they use rivers as rubbish dumps. There is a need for synergy between the government and the community in maintaining the cleanliness of riverbank areas. Because currently people only consider the river as behind the house. Therefore, the river is used as a place to throw rubbish. Awareness is needed by each community in preserving rivers. Growing this awareness through education. From childhood we must instill the habit of throwing rubbish in its place, taking care of rivers, and holding special activities to clean rivers. If the river is maintained, the quality of the river water will be better maintained." (Interview March 20, 2023)

For Anjir Serapat Muara Village 1, the community's behaviour in maintaining the cleanliness of the riverbank area is considered to be less concerned with the cleanliness of the river environment. In terms of knowledge, the public still lacks understanding because the majority of people do not know that keeping riverbank areas clean is very fundamental and half of the public also do not know the impact of not keeping riverbank areas clean. The result of this is the lack of firmness from the village government in river management because the government has not taken firm action to counter the behaviour of riverbank communities in throwing rubbish directly into the river, such as creating regulations regarding giving sanctions to those who throw rubbish carelessly. Apart from that, the village government is unable to prepare the facilities and infrastructure needed by riverbank communities, such as the unavailability of rubbish bins, toilets and clean water.

CONCLUSION

Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village is a village located in Barito Kuala Regency, South Kalimantan Province. Rivers have an important role in human life, especially people who live

in riverbank areas. People along the river in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village still use the river for daily activities such as bathing, washing, toilets, and even for daily consumption. The behaviour of the people of Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village is still lacking in maintaining the cleanliness of the riverbank area. Almost some people there still throw rubbish in the river because the village government has not provided rubbish bin facilities or vehicles/people to transport rubbish. However, there is already a small number of people who are aware that this behaviour can pollute rivers. People who do not throw rubbish into the river do so by burning it. The positive behaviour of the riverbank community in Anjir Serapat Muara 1 Village is that in fishing in the Barito River, they still maintain local wisdom by using traditional tools in the form of rengge, rempa and unjun. Fishermen do not use explosives when fishing in rivers. This certainly will not cause damage to the ecosystem in the river.

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