

The Empowerment of Gold Miners Woman in Minangkabau to Support Household Economy

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Abstract. This study aims to reveal the gold mines woman in Minangkabau. These women were seen as someone who works for establishment of food security in household economy at rural areas. Women gold miners have a big influence on food security in households economy at rural area, especially at Nagari IV Sawahlunto regenc. It has been known for ages that male became the dominant role, but in Minangkabau woman regarded as dominant role due its matrilineal system of social life. This research was qualitative research which is naturalistic or natural, it is also done on a particular natural background and case. The results of the study can be concluded that women gold miners occurred because of economic factors of the nuclear family and extended family. Besides that- social and cultural factors also became the reason for the alignment of Minangkabau tribes meaning who viewed that women have the same right to go into the public sector, especially to withstand the economic pressure. The involvement of women in the village market in terms of both economic and social culture has led to the transfer of knowledge and transfers of values not only in the nuclear family but also in the extended family.

Keywords: empowerment, women gold miners, minangkabau

Introduction

Sawahlunto Sijunjung regency is one mining town in Indonesia. Mining activity has existed since the 19th century. This regency becomes a mining area, especially the coal and gold mine. Gold mine in the regency Sijunjung is located along the Ombilin river, Batang and Batang Sukam Palangki or in some other streams. People who live there have the knowledge and experience in panning the gold, particularly society in Nagari Mundam Sakti, IV Nagari district, Sijunjung regency in Batang Palangki catchment.

Mining is done by people who are on IV Nagari both men and women. Miners' women increase time to time even more than half of society at IV Nagari residents involved. The presence of gold mine in IV Nagari affects some aspects and dynamics in community life, especially in the social and rural economy. Mining is also done in rice fields which cause a reduction of rice production, so that dependence on other regions to meet the food needs strongly cannot be avoided. This

makes the productivity of labor as farmers has declined. This happens when they have no other alternative or another job besides farming.

Furthermore, the tendency of women working as gold miners due to it can earn money quickly. The most important issue is to rebuild the village economy. This can only be realized by multiplying the economic potential of villages that become the economic based village. This potential comes from gold mines in this area because a number of women are gold miners.

From the description above, it can be seen that the problem in this research is the participation of women gold miners which were previously dominated by men. ie male as female miners and prospectors. This study focuses on women as part of a rural household economy and its impact on food security in the Minangkabau society. In other words, this study is to look at the involvement of women miners in food security in the rural household economy of rural livelihoods. The case study

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conducted on materilineal Minangkabau society in the district IV Nagari Sijunjung Sawahlunto regency.

Based on the issues stated above, the problem focuses on how the women gold miners involvement in the household economy in Minangkabau (Case Study of Women Gold Miners in Sawahlunto regency, IV Nagari).

This research was a qualitative research study specifically in history and sociology field. This study has certain characteristic which is naturalistic. It is done on a particular natural background and has a particular case. This research method used by historians to compile historical writing. This study must meet several criteria, concepts and rules used in order to research carried out can achieve good results (Notosusanto, 1984: 48) .The location of this research was the area IV Nagari, Sijunjung regency of West Sumatra province. IV Nagari area consisted of five villages namely Koto Tuo, Palangki, Muaro Bodi, Koto Baru and Mundam Sakti, selected intentionally (purposive sampling) The reason of the five villages selected was this areas predominantly gold mine workers were women.

The population was women gold miners at IV Nagari. Sampling technique used was snowball and suggested by Muhajir is double tiered samples were carried out in several stages, particularly women sampled gold miners based on the typology of gold miners in that village. This study used two types of data called primary data and secondary data. Primary data were data obtained from the results of in-depth interviews with women miners using field notes and interview guidelines. Secondary data were data and documents obtained from the relevant agencies, a case Mining Office, BPS and others who can provide resources for socio-economic conditions of women miners.

This research was qualitative, then the main data sources were the words and actions. The rest of additional data got from documents, photos, and statistics. Recording main data sources through interviews and participant observation Moleong, which was a joint effort of viewing, listening and asking questions.

Women miners are women who work either part-time or full-time work to make ends meet. Women have started mining in the IV Nagari district seen 1990s decade. They work to make ends meet or to meet household needs. Furthermore, the available

employment sector in line with the magnitude of "derived demand" for labor in certain fields of expertise and specifications. On the other hand, new and old job seekers growing quickly. Unexpectedly these interactions have produced the type of employment is increasingly diverse and complex, both in the formal and informal institutions. In informal, women working as gold miner (Elfindri, 2004: 18).

According to Snel and Staring in (Official Setia, 2005; 6) say that survival strategy is the set of standard action chosen by individuals and households who are poor socially and economically. Through this strategy a person can strive increasing their income through the use of other sources, or reduce spending through a reduction in the quantity and quality of goods or services. The ways of people to prepare this strategy influenced by the position of individuals or groups within the structure of society, belief and social networks that have been selected, including expertise in mobilizing existing resources, skill levels, ownership of assets, and type of work, sex and personal motivation.

The definition of rural livelihood by Fank Ellis (2000: 27):

A livelihoods is defined as the assets, the activities, and the access that determine the living gained by the individual or household.

The above definition describes the construction process and the life of rural communities in sustaining life in accordance with the standard of life of rural communities. It can be seen as follow

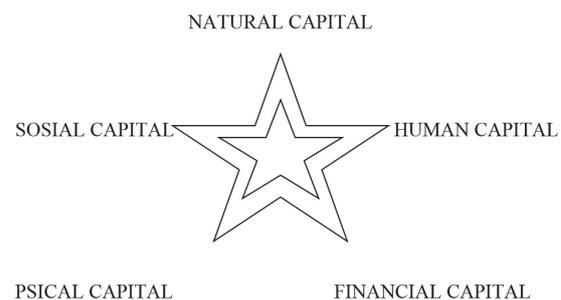


Figure 1: Plotting Asset Status on a Pentagon

From Figure 1 above shows that the rural households had five most important things are: (1) Natural capital; (2) Social capital; (3) Human capital; (4) Physical capital; (5) Capital money. (Fank Ellis, 2000: 49).

Household Economic Empowerment Concepts

The concept of economic empowerment

of the view through the growth of equalization. Basically there are two things that going to see here, continue to provide opportunities to the economic sectors of modern society, especially large-scale fixed forward. This is needed in spurring national economic growth at the macro level. And provide higher attention to the sectors of the economy including the people of the small-scale household economy, so the equalization of social welfare more quickly achieved, in line with the growth (Ansofino: 2011.24)

The Relationship Between Geographical State and The Origin of Mining Activities at Nagari District IV

Gold cannot be separated from the history of mankind, it can be seen from the history of the conquest of man against man, the conquest of a nation against nation and other nations. Gold which has a chemical symbol "Au" is derived from the Latin in Indonesian means "spark sparkle Dawn" has long been recognized by humans, even almost equal to the rise of human civilization itself. Gold mining has been known by the Egyptians around 2000 BC and by the Romans during medieval times that year AD 500-14000 (Kompas March 1, 1997).

World gold rush occurred in 1884 with the discovery of gold in the rivers valleys Sacramento, United States. After popping up a new gold producing regions such as Australia, South Africa, Canada and other countries. Since entering the 20th century gold mining industry is growing and new countries emerged as a gold producer in the world such as Brazil, Venezuela, Filipina, and Indonesia.

Gold mining in Indonesia has long been known, although it is not known exactly when the community since Indonesia started to mine gold. In the history of the former gold producing area is the island of Sumatra, known by the name of Swarnadwipa or meaning "The Golden of Island". It also became the star commodities in international trade. According to data from World Gold Council (WGC) in 1997, Indonesia was ranked eighth world gold producer with estimated production of 70 tons per year. Indonesia's gold production comes from two sources, namely from official sources and other sources. Mine official managed by PT Antam, Freeport Indonesia and other sources of artisanal mining and illegal mining. Gold mining and illegal mining are scattered

in various provinces in Indonesia such as in South Kalimantan, North Sulawesi, West Java, West Sumatra, Bengkulu and other areas. Especially for areas of West Sumatra, mining and trade has existed in the XI century. Major gold producing area is an area of central Minangkabau in the region adjacent river valleys and hills which Selo, Sinapar and Sumpur are in the region now Tanah Datar (Dobbin, 1992: 69). Christmas and Pasaman area located in western Sumatra, an area coast "shoreline" Minangkabau is also famous as a producer of gold (M.D Mansoer 1970: 77). Gold mining is also contained in Lubuk Basil, Mine Tower, River Land Ceiling and Munggu (Amran 1991: 222). Minangkabau regarded as a region that has the most gold. This prompted the Dutch to establish lodges in Padang (Marsden 1999: 111).

Search of gold at that time made the traditional way, which is to capture debris and rocks containing gold gumparan in rain water. In the mining process is traditionally known as panning. In the mining process is traditionally done by digging underground holes (panning in) (Amran 1991: 222). Form of modern mining was introduced by the Europeans, especially the Dutch. Mining is done by using modern tools, labor and capital (Lindayanti 1996: 3).

Mining in the past generally managed by private companies and the Dutch government as a gold mining Salido (years 1669-1678 and 1910-1928), Manggani Aquator (years 1912-1931), Pagadis (years 1910-1930), Kinandam (1917 -1918). Bulangsi gold mine (1937-1949) and others. The mines are generally closed for a bit of gold reserves, so it is not profitable be a modern way. There is also a gold mine, which has reserves quite a lot but was closed due to the outbreak of World War II. Mining is also done by entrepreneurs called "tuo mine" or head of mine who have the knowledge and can mobilize capital and labor. Tuo mine bisaanya a public figure by working with landowners and with the cooperation they manage mine (Lindayanti 1996: On the traces of mine set up by private companies and the Dutch government and then by the local community again mined on a small scale in the traditional way and it is spread in many parts of Indonesia, including in the area of West Sumatra. The mines are scattered in many areas such as Solok in West Sumatra, Sijunjung, 50 city, Pasaman and South Pesisir. In addition to the ex-mining areas that have been managed well done mining and quarrying in new places are

suspected gold content. Generally the area opened searched and determined amateurs and accompanied instinct that in those areas there is the gold content.

Geographical Circumstances and Development Activities Gold Mine at IV Nagari District

According to the Mining and Energy Office of West Sumatra province, the gold can be found in the local area Sijunjung, 50 city, Pasaman, and the South Shore. In the district of Sijunjung, gold deposits are estimated in a number of locations such as; Kabun hill, Batu Manjular, Silokek, Tanjung Ampalu, Palangki, Mundam Way, Muaro Sijunjung and Lubuk, Karia. Sijunjung in gold panning is done along the Ombilin River, Batang and Batang Sukam Palangki or in some other tributaries. Number of Nagari through which these rivers flow, its people have the knowledge and long experience panning for gold, one of which is resident Mundam Way Nagari, District IV Nagari, Sijunjung traversed by the rod Palangki

Subdistrict IV Nagari is one of the districts in Sijunjung. Sub-District IV Nagari consists of five villages namely Koto Tuo, Palangki, Muaro Bodi, Koto Baru and Mundam Way. In the past village administration system IV Nagari District consists of 12 villages. Koto Tuo was formerly a part of the area Palangki, after the transition from village ka Koto Tuo village in 2001 broke away from Palangki and formed a new village. The total area of the District IV Nagari approximately 96.30 square kilometers, is the second smallest districts in Sijunjung after the District Kupitan, or approximately 1.58% of the total area Sijunjung. In terms of land ownership in the District IV Nagari together with other Minangkabau region. Land tenure system is divided into two pusako soil and ground search. Besides, there is also a communal village land. Pusako land inherited from the maternal lineage (matrilineal). Most communities in the nagari in this district a life of farming, so the land is the initial capital when processed properly will bring benefits to them. While the search treasure owned by one family nucleus of the results of livelihood, so they buy from someone else.

Subdistrict IV Nagari in general is a hilly area that is a series of hills mountain chain. Mountain chain in addition to containing abundant forest product also contains a wealth of minerals such as gold, silver and other

mineral because the area comes from rocks containing minerals precipitate. In hilly areas used by people for plantation. People use the land for growing rubber, coconut, coffee and cinnamon. Forests also store abundant wealth such as wood and various types of rattan. The bisaanya wood for building materials such as meranti, banio Sungkai and other types. In addition, some people also raised like cattle, buffaloes, goats and other.

Since the opening of the underground gold mining, mining was changed in the 1990s. Which initially panning in the river has begun to spread to areas of rice fields will be made in the form of rat holes. The workers who wash has started occupied by women. In the process of panning sometimes the miners do not need the permission of the owner of the mine, because most of the women wash the remnants of panning was done by members of mine. In the acquisition of gold cannot be ascertained result, sometimes a little sometimes a lot. Based on the above general description of this research will be the involvement of women in mining activities that are heavy and hard work which tends done by men.

Process of Women Miners in The Economic Sector Households in Minangkabau

Activities mine was originally done by men, especially during traditional mines, this is caused by the nature of the mine itself is done by digging a hole in the river bottom using pundun is risky because it could be a hole that had been dug collapsed and close the hole excavation and a number are already casualties. Besides extracting the bottom of the river is done by diving, this can only be done by men.

Subsequent developments around 1988 gold mining is no longer with the system under the river but mine own mines in but also still tends to be done by men. The mine was done by digging a hole as well, if they have found a tunnel made of gold like little caves more tends called a rat hole. In this year already started to engage women to panning for gold in the form of a small pan with pan and pawed the ground / sand excavated area that has been dumped into the river.

Besides the involvement of women in the form of cooking rice and providing coffee for miners. Typically each hole (often also called tokok) there are some mothers who are assigned to parts of the kitchen. Besides

the involvement of women in the form of cooking rice and providing coffee for miners. Women's gold miners are generally hosted barbets around the mine area. Women's gold miners got 29.5% of the gold mining venture. Women's gold miners working from morning till evening. They work wage system. Their wages are paid every week. Women miners working dihananya the mine site. Women's gold miners their income is actually uncertain if it can provision up to millions but many if not in one week cannot be at all. For that women have always saved the miners joined-Julo Julo (social gathering). According to one gold miner named Dar follow-Julo Julo or save by buying gold like, bracelets, earrings, and rings. Usually they can be 6 to 7 mile per week (1 meli price of Rp. 40,000) so that they receive an average 480,000 per week (Interview with Dar dated 10 April 2015 in Sawahlunto Palangki).

While the women who worked as a gold prospector are women working part-time within the meaning of am until 15:00 pm to work as a housewife. Meanwhile, from 15:00 pm till 18:30 pm. This woman worked as a gold prospector. Women's gold miner working without binding rules. They work freelance to help the household economy. Employment gold panners can be moved around to various locations around the area of the District IV Nagari.

Initially the gold prospector women participate in helping the family economy. Generally women their husbands gold miners working as a farmer. But as time went on women's involvement in helping their husbands become so. Even women gold miners be the backbone of the family. This is evidenced by the increasing number of gold miners in each mine site.

From one of a woman named Erdianis (55 years old) gold prospector who has worked for five years, her husband is a farmer, while working as a farmer but it is no longer possible to supplement the family income. But the wife of income can reach 100-450 thousand per week. Mother Erdianis is that met all the needs of households with children 5 with student status. Even one of child Erdianis mothers have completed higher education and become a kindergarten teacher (Interview with Erdianis dated May 14, 2015 in New Koto Sawahlunto). Panning for gold is traditionally done in general by women as a side job / odd at the time did not do agricultural activities such as paddy, fields

or gardens. By way of simple equipment and the prospectors did not get the assurance of getting results and even if we got the result only in the average number of very small, no significant effect on family income.

Revenue miners/ gold panners are very diverse. The high price of the dollar at that time, being one of the causes of women directly involved in the mining activity both as a gold prospector (personally) as well as participate in mining (miners). Miners are very lucky if the price of the dollar increase because it will come to feel the rise in price of gold that they sell and will automatically lead to increased income of the miners.

Along with the growing of economy, society, their daily needs are also increasing. According to data taken from Nagari Koto Tuo, in 2001 obtained the data that already exists permanent housing as many as 133 pieces, 276 pieces and semi-permanent wooden house as many as 376 pieces. This condition is very different from the situation in 1980 in which they found a wooden house, house huts or makeshift houses. The wooden houses are still found bisaanya owned by farmers and miners who earn mediocre.

Since 1980 the average electricity price has been entered in all districts that exist in the District IV Nagari. At the same time the existing water taps. For the people who enter the water and electricity to their home regarded as capable or people "be". People who are able also usually have furniture such as televisions and refrigerators that are currently regarded as an expensive item. There are two ways women's involvement in mining activities, namely as a miner and as a gold prospector.

As a Gold Miners

Gold prospector is prospecting system in the river either as container or pan with a way to earn a stone or sand containing gold using a tray (jae, as described above). Panning effort is done along the river and also paddy fields. According Munah, panning has been made since 1996, he began to gain Munah as a sideline after coming home from the rice fields, it performs panning for gold during the hot season, because the water in the river at low tide Palangki rod and easy to panning for gold. In a process like this mundulang everyone should wash without having to ask permission of the owner of the mine. As Lina panning does not need to ask permission, just take jae continue to see

where many people gather gone there to accommodate hopefully can, if not sustained effort like that again he said.

Since the opening of underground mining, business panning also changed because the mine owners do mining venture in and gold veins easier to be obtained by using a pump, the gold earned or incurred more and more, then the women who wash are also getting a lot of debris of tiny gold under the water when processing the mine and panning of the former mine owners.

As miners

In modern mining era of women already involved in the process of mining activities. It depends upon the condition of the family economies of women who worked as a miner. Women who worked as a miner was previously only worked as a housewife but because of the demands of the economy of these mothers were switched professions to become miners to meet the needs of the family.

Women who work in the gold mines mainly comes from the area around the area Kupitan like, Pematang Panjang, Cage Baru, Padang Sibusuk, and Lubuk Batu. Based on the results of interviews with mothers Colorful (48 yrs) Women working in these mines has been around since 2008 but the height of the women working as miners in 2010. At first the work as a miner is carried out only as a side job, but in the end the job as a laborer The mine became a permanent job in the absence of the income from her husband (the husband tends to sit in the tavern than work).

From the result being a miner can send their children, to meet the needs of everyday life. In one week women can get better results for less than four hundred thousand even more dependent on the extent of the gold obtained within one week. The revenue sharing system artisanal mining the extent of the results obtained in a given week in the form of a percentage (%). In one percent of mine is 100%, the division is 40% for those who have machines (those who finance mining), 20% for people who have a territory (land) commonly known as Mr. Takur, rest is 40% given to members. Of the 40% granted to members issued more cost to the person responsible for the continuity of mine (Operator saline), then 2% is spent on charity, the rest is divided by the number of members who work at the mine.

Analyzing The Role of Women in Re-

lation with The Establishment of Food Security Effort in Home Economics Minangkabau

In general, people who undertake mining activities of the people are from families poor and less educated. The miners often become victims or cash cow of funders to provide loan capital in advance and refunded by selling mining product to the investor at a very low price compared to the market price (Integrated Team Counter measures Mining Without Permission, 2001) that the mining people who, during the prolonged economic crisis and the advent of the era of reform that occurred in Indonesia, experienced a tremendous increase both in quantity and quality, and most have been shifted to the category of unlicensed mining (PETI).

Minangkabau women's role in meeting the needs of domestic life working as a miner of gold exceeds the income of their husbands. The average female miner husband is a farmer. Income women who mostly came from the Long Causeway, New Cages and Padang Sibusuk and Lubuk Batu average more for education to a child while in the area and Koto Baru Sakti Mundam female gold miners less for the sake of education of children. They are more likely life more luxurious and their facilities more important: the car.

If the Minangkabau women have incomes in this area at the end of their husbands who used to work in the fields already sufficient lazily in everyday life. Even the farm life and rubber they leave at all. Life of gold miners prospects more promising. Generally in this area more female miner husband switching function replaces the household needs. As a result a lot of divorce in the life of their family household. As one woman a gold miner named Reni (32 th) claimed to have been widowed three years because her husband was not providing a living for their families (Interview with Reni, dated 11 April 2015 in the district Kupitan Sijunjung).

Furthermore, women gold miners at IV Nagari district active role in shaping food security at the household economy miners. Women miners in shaping food security in the household are by saving and join social gathering in their neighborhood each. This is evident from the mother Reni who said that, join a social gathering near the house so that no money can be saved. This money as a precaution used if the child needs for school fees or other unexpected purposes. While

saving for preparation if they had no money to buy rice and the money that has been saved can be retrieved for everyday purposes. (Interview with Reni, dated 11 April 2015 at KupitanSijunjung).

Conclusion

It is concluded that the empowerment of women miners involved in village markets due to economic factors of the nuclear family and a good family the big family. Besides cultural factors driven by the inclusion of women in the meaning of harmony based on the rate at Minangkabau view women have the same rights to public plunge in order to withstand the economic pressure. The involvement of women in the village market both in terms of economy and socio-culture has led to the transfer of knowledge and transfers of values amid the nuclear family and the extended family.

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