

## THE DYNAMICS OF COAL MINING TOWARD SOCIAL ECONOMIC CHANGES IN BAYAH DISTRICT (1999-2015)

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**Abstract:** Bayah District is administratively one of the sub-districts in Lebak Regency. Lebak Regency has abundant natural resources, one of which is coal. Coal in Lebak Regency is scattered in various areas, one of which is Bayah District. Coal mining in Bayah District has existed since the Japanese occupation in 1942-1945. Over time, coal mining was reopened in 1999, and coal mining has now become one of the livelihoods in Bayah District. This research is focused on the 1999-2015 timeframe because during that period the dynamics of coal mining occurred which had an impact on the socio-economic life of Bayah District. The method used in this study is a historical method which includes: Heuristics (data collection), Source Criticism, Interpretation, and Historiography. The results showed that the general geographical description of the people of Bayah District were farmers and fishermen. As the community of Bayah Subdistrict realized that there was potential for coal in Bayah District, coal mining in Bayah District began to operate again in 1999. The existence of coal mining resulted in a shift of professions in the Bayah District community.

**Key Words:** Bayah District, Coal Mining, Socio-Economic Change.

### INTRODUCTION

Indonesia has the potential for abundant natural resources, both above and below the earth's surface. Among them are agricultural, plantation, fishery, mining, animal husbandry, mineral, petroleum, and other resources that have been used to meet community needs in achieving prosperity.

These natural resources are used for daily needs as well as for industrial needs. One of

the provinces that has potential mining potential is Banten Province. One area that has great mining potential is in the southern part of Lebak Regency, namely Bayah District.

One of the abundant natural resources in Bayah District is coal. Coal mining in Bayah has existed since the Japanese occupation of Bayah in 1942-1945, Japan exploited coal to meet its needs during

the Asia Pacific war, this was because Japan knew that coal in Bayah District had very good and abundant potential. Coal mining in Bayah District is community mining.

Community mining is a mining business of minerals from all groups carried out by the people on a small basis or in mutual cooperation which produces wages or salaries, using simple tools for their own livelihoods. One of the characteristics of community mining is that it is carried out by the people by means of mutual cooperation, how to carry out community mining activities, that is, it is carried out using simple tools. The goal is to increase their own income. (Fenty U, 2014: 9)

Coal mining in Bayah District has an impact on the surrounding community, both positive and negative. The positive impact caused by coal mining in Bayah District is to open jobs for the people of Bayah District, help the economy of the Bayah District community, while the negative impact that occurs due to coal mining for the people of Bayah District is the presence of coal mining that occurs in the forest area can damage the forest ecosystem, so that it can cause environmental damage in the form of water, soil, and air pollution caused by foreign objects such as Hammer, Girbox,

and so on, so that the environment does not function as it was before.

The emergence of positive and negative impacts cannot be separated from the various dynamics that occur in mining in Bayah District. One of the dynamics that occurs is regarding wages or salaries which have always fluctuated from 1999 to 2015. This occurs because the price of coal commodities always fluctuates.

The period was taken from 1999 to 2015 on the grounds that 1999 was the year that coal mining was reopened in Bayah District, after mining during the Japanese Occupation was closed. Meanwhile, 2015 was the year of the decline in coal miners, this was due to the decrease in coal commodity and the destruction of coal mining areas, due to the continuous extraction of the results. In the 1999-2015 timeframe, there were several changes, such as social and economic changes, for example the transition of professions from farmers to coal miners, and changes in wages that were felt from year to year.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

This study uses the historical method in historical research methodology. There are several stages, including heuristics,

internal and external criticism, interpretation and the last stage of historiography. According to Notosusanto, heuristic comes from the Greek *Heuriskein* which means the same as to find which means not only finding, but searching first. As a first step is what is called a heuristic (heuristic) or in German *Quellenkunde*, an activity to search for sources to obtain historical data, or material, or historical evidence (Sjamsudin, 2016: 55).

Research techniques in data collection include information through observation, interviews, and literature study.

#### a. Observation

Is an activity that is intended to observe directly the object of research to be studied. In this case, observing directly the state of coal mining in Bayah District by asking questions that you really want to know, then recording information from the informants then documenting it as evidence. In this stage, observations were made in Bayah District, this location is a coal mining location. To complete the relevant data sources, data search was carried out. (1) Coal mining locations in Bayah District, (2) Coal Mining Locations in Pamubulan Village, Bayah District, Lebak Regency, (3) Lebak Regency Central Bureau of Statistics,

(4) Lebak Regency Environmental Service, (5) Banten Province Library and Archives Service, (6) Bayah District Office, Lebak Regency, (7) Pamubulan Village Office, Bayah District Lebak Regency.

#### b. Interview

The interview stage is the stage of collecting data on coal mining in Bayah District by interviewing and studying the form of data related to what is being studied, namely the dynamics of coal mining against socio-economic changes in Bayah District in 1999-2015. To get data information, he conducted interviews including: First, Mr. Dasuki (65 years) is a coal mine worker in Bayah District, second, Mr. Juspa (56 years) is one of the coal mining entrepreneurs in Bayah District, third Mr. Sahip (48 years old) ) is a coal miner, fourth, Mr. Wandu (38 years old) is a coal miner in Pamubulan Village, the fifth Section Head of Economic Development (Ekbang) of Pamubulan Village, namely Mr. Jujun Juhandin (33 years), sixth Head of Trantib District Bayah namely Mr. Usep Saepudin (48 years old) ), seventh Mr. Husin Maulana (43 years) as Chairman of the Central Statistics Agency of Lebak Regency.

#### a. Literature review

Is a way of collecting data on various materials found in the library room, such as newspapers, books, magazines, manuscripts, journals, documents and so on that are relevant to research. Literature study deals with theoretical studies and other references related to social, economic and mining issues. Besides that, literature study is very important in conducting research, this is because research will not be separated from the literature. Books related to this writing are: Books related to coal mining, these books include "Indonesian Coal" by Irwandi Arif, a book by Fahrudin entitled "Biological Waste Management", a book by Hendri F Isnaedi and Apid entitled "Romusha: A Forgotten History", a book by Fenty U Puluhulawa and Junus Nirwan entitled "People Mining Problems and Solutions (Viewed from a Legal Perspective)", a book by Rusmadi entitled "Competitive Oil and Gas Management: To Increase People's Welfare In the Framework of National Development ", a book by Sukandarrumidi entitled " Coal and Peat "and" Coal and Its Utilization ".

The second step after carrying out the heuristics in his research is that the writer does not simply accept what is listed and written in the sources. The next step is

to critically screen the sources obtained, especially from primary or secondary sources, so that the selected facts are selected. These steps are called source criticism, both to the source material (external) and to the source (internal) substance (content). (Sjamsuddin, 2016: 83). The purpose of these activities is that once the historian has gathered the sources for his research, he will not take for granted what is listed and written on those sources. The next step, he must critically screen it, especially against the first sources, so that the facts of his choice will be netted. These steps are called source criticism, both towards material (external) and against the substance (content) of the source (Sjamsuddin, 2017: 83).

The third stage in writing this scientific paper is interpretation. Interpretation is interpreting or giving meaning to facts or evidences. Interpretation is needed because basically facts, evidence and historical witnesses cannot speak for themselves about what they have witnessed from past realities. Interpretation is the process of providing interpretation of the facts that have been collected. At this stage, start compiling and compiling historical facts based on historical sources that have

been previously criticized and using the universal evolutionary culture theory. Has the meaning of giving back the relation between facts. The process of interpretation is work that involves various mental activities such as selection, analysis, comparison, and combination, and leads to synthesis. use literature and oral sources (interviews).

The facts are based on historical sources that have been criticized before and use structural theory by Talcott Parsons. Historiography or writing history is the final stage of the whole series of historical methods. The heuristic, source criticism, and interpretation stages are then elaborated so as to obtain one unified whole. Then that is poured into scientific writing that applies at Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa University. In this stage, the entire series of historical research activities and the results of the research are written in the form of a historical or historiographical writing report entitled: *The Dynamics of Coal Mining on the Socio-Economic Change of the Community of Bayah District (1999-2015)*.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

General Description of Community Life in Bayah District, Lebak Bayah Regency

It is an area of Lebak Regency, Banten. Bayah District has an area of 156.43 km<sup>2</sup>, Bayah District is bordered by Panggarangan District to the west, Cilograng District to the east, Cibeber District to the north, and Ocean Indonesia to the south. (Data from Bayah District, 2018) In general, the topography of Bayah District is categorized into plains, beaches, and slopes / hills. The lowlands are generally agricultural and plantation areas.

Most of the agricultural areas in the Bayah sub-district are community agriculture, both rainfed and secondary crops. The hillside conditions dominate the Bayah area. Almost 57% are slopes / hills from the topography which is dominated by hills / slopes which makes Bayah an area that has potential mineral and coal content. Then the coastal areas or beaches in Bayah do not really dominate, only about 8% are coastal areas that are spread out in Bayah Barat Village, Darmasari Village, Sawarna and East Sawarna.

Natural resources found in Bayah District will be very potential if utilized optimally either from agriculture, coastal areas that have many benefits such as tourism and mining potential which is very potential to

attract investors to invest in minerals in Bayah District.

The area of Bayah District is geographically located 06050'40" - 06054'40" South Latitude and 1050 52'40" - 1050 58'40" East Longitude with an area of 156.43 km<sup>2</sup>. Bayah Subdistrict is 136 km from Lebak Regency and has administrative boundaries, in the south by the Indonesian Ocean, in the north by Cibeber District, in the east by Ciligrang District, and in the west by Panggarangan District. The social conditions in Bayah District are still dominated by agriculture, trade and services, in addition there are many people in Bayah District who work in the mining or mining sector, both as mining laborers and mining entrepreneurs.

Regarding the socio-economic conditions of the people of Bayah District, it can be seen from the religious, educational, social and economic aspects that develop in the life of the people of Bayah District. Bayah District education statistics consists of 42 Elementary Schools and Equals, 14 Junior High Schools and Equals, 7 High Schools and Equals. There are more Elementary Schools and equivalent Junior High Schools and Senior High Schools equivalent.

Because equivalent elementary schools exist in every village, usually in one village there are 2 to 3 equivalent elementary schools. The low level of education in Bayah Subdistrict makes the surrounding community forced to work as farmers or coal miners, because this work helps the local community's economy. The low level of education in Bayah District is due to the economic factors of the surrounding community, because the school fees are quite high, this is one of the factors for the surrounding community not to continue their education to a higher level.

The socio-economic life that develops in Bayah District is very diverse. ranging from religion, language, and work. this was not used as an obstacle to be studied, because it made the Bayah District have a good variety. The majority of religions practiced in Bayah District are Muslim, as in other areas, especially in South Banten, where the majority is Muslim. Islam has long grown and developed and is embraced by the people of Bayah District. Islam has been adhered to by the people of Bayah District for generations. It does not rule out the possibility for other religions to develop in the Bayah area, but for now the

only religion adhered to by the people of Bayah District is Islam.

There are various livelihoods in Bayah District, from construction, trade, transportation, mining / quarrying, and PNS (Civil Servants). In each area in Bayah District the number varies. The highest figure was trade, recorded at 1,381 people. The villages that have a large number of traders include Bayah Barat Village, Sawarna Village, Cidikit Village, East Bayah Village, and Cimancak Village, these five areas are the closest areas to the center of Bayah District. Most of them trade because in the district center there are shops, traditional markets and terminals. Whereas those with mining / excavation livelihoods are recorded as 581 people, areas that are scattered where mining / quarrying is usually in highland villages, such as the Pamubulan, Pasirgombong, Bayah Barat, Cimancak, and Darmasari areas.

Mining / quarrying in Bayah District is not only coal mining, there is also gold mining and so on. B. The Socio-Economic Conditions of the Bayah Subdistrict Society in 1999-2015 Bayah natural resources have mining potential that is potential to be explored, such as clay, zeloit, quartz

sandstone, limestone, tras, split stone, gravel, sandstone, coal, gold-silver.

Bayah's natural wealth is the most comprehensive of its kind and has the greatest potential, compared to other sub-districts in the administrative area of Lebak Regency. This, of course, is expected to provide added value to the economy and income of the Bayah and Lebak districts. Massive coal mining has been carried out since the Japanese occupation. Entering the 2000s, especially when fuel oil (BBM) soared, coal mining began to be busy again with people's mining activities to meet market demand in the industrial sector. Based on the livelihood system, land is the main source of livelihood for the Bayah people. Socially, land has a high value which gives birth to various land uses from various groups of people. In their daily life, the people of Bayah District depend on nature. Nature is everything for the surrounding community, because nature provides what humans need for their life.

They cultivate nature with simple tools to reap the results to meet their daily needs. As is well known, rural communities are often identified as agrarian societies, namely communities whose economic activities are centered on agriculture. As is the case in

Bayah District, Lebak Regency, where most of its residents work as farmers.

They depend on agriculture for their living. Because it is supported by fertile soil conditions and smooth irrigation. Not only farming, the people of Bayah District do coal mining because coal in Bayah District is one of the most abundant natural resources. Therefore, it is not surprising that residents take advantage of this natural fertility to support their daily lives. In describing these conditions, it can be seen from the socio-economic conditions that exist in Bayah District which are as follows:

a. Social Aspects

1) Education Level

Judging from the existing level of education, it can be said that the people of Bayah Subdistrict still pay less attention to the importance of education, from the data obtained from the Bayah Subdistrict office most of them have only attended elementary school (SD). Lack of knowledge on the importance of education makes it difficult for them to find new jobs that can be said to be more than their daily jobs, who mostly work as farmers, fishermen, and miners. Like what happened in Pamubulan Village. Pamubulan Village is one of the villages in Bayah District which has abundant natural

resources, one of which is coal. Pamubulan Village is also a village where the average population of only elementary school graduates (SD).

2) Social Interaction

The life of the people of Bayah District, of course, cannot be separated from the social relations that exist between them. In establishing this life, as social beings, of course, we will need help from other people around us. Like the interaction or communication in this Bayah District. Society is seen not only as a collection of individuals, but society refers to patterns of reciprocal interactions between individuals. This condition can be seen from the social life of the people of Bayah District. where they help each other in various ways. The relation with the existence of a form of the interaction process that occurs, contains several main things related to the form of interaction, one of which is cooperation. Social activities that are helpful in nature are still being maintained.

The attitude of helping each other has become something that has been passed down from generation to generation until now. Even though now many influences come from outside, they still maintain the harmony of their community members by



maintaining the attitude of helping help and harmony.

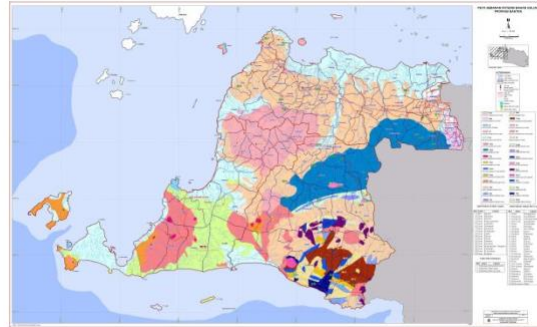
#### b. Economic Aspects

Since the Japanese occupation, the people of Bayah Subdistrict have indeed depended on their economy on nature, because Bayah is a sub-district that has good natural fertility. Land according to its use includes paddy fields, non-rice fields, and non-agricultural lands.

The land that is scattered in Bayah District is used as a place of livelihood for the surrounding community. The available land is quite wide, usually besides being used as rice fields, there are also gardens and fields that are cultivated by residents of the Bayah District community. Not only that land is not used as rice fields, there are also those used by miners, to get coal in certain places, and usually in the forest.

Where here it is said that the livelihoods of farmers are those who have rice fields or farm laborers, where those who only work in people's places to work on the fields. The income of these farm workers is usually paid daily with an average of Rp. 20,000 or later when the harvest arrives, the owner of the fields will pay the harvest.

### Development of Coal Mining in Bayah District in 1999-2015



*Source: Banten Province Mining and Energy Agency*

Mining is a series of activities in the context of seeking, mining (excavating), processing, utilizing and selling minerals. Mining materials such as minerals, coal, geothermal, oil and gas. Coal mining is one of the most common mines in Bayah District. Coal mining in Bayah District is one of the livelihoods that supports the economy of the surrounding community.

Coal mining has existed since the Japanese Occupation. Mining activities have started. Activities at the coal mining stage include forest clearing activities to be used as mining areas and workers' settlements, excavation of main tunnels, construction of roads, bridges, the Saketi-Bayah railway,

mining or Stingkul railroad, and construction of supporting infrastructure for mining companies, such as offices, housing employees, electricity substations, clean water facilities, and hospitals. (Hermawan, 2016: 37)

Coal mining in Bayah District returned to activity in late 1999 to 2015. In 1999 traditional coal mining in Bayah District began to be busy again because there were many coal mining entrepreneurs or investors to carry out coal excavation, coal mining entrepreneurs believed that the coal in Bayah District was of good quality, this is known from the history spread in society during the Japanese Occupation.

Coal mining has been running for a long time, because the coal produced in Bayah District is very tempting for entrepreneurs and really helps the economy of coal miners. This is because the coal in Bayah District has high selling power, and has good quality too. Over time, coal began to run out due to continuous mining. In 2015 coal mining began to decline, this was due to the fact that many coal mine holes had been dug so that there was no more land that could be used for coal mining. but it is undeniable that coal mining in Bayah District still exists today.

### **The Impact of Coal Mining on the Socio-Economic Changes of Bayah District 1999-2015**

Coal mining business activities have an impact on human life, namely the complexity of environmental, social and economic problems in society. The impact of coal mining business activities in terms of the area impact and distribution pattern has two impact spaces, namely mining and the second space in product transportation / transportation. In the first space, the important sources of impact are stripping and mining, while the shape depends on the mining material.

These impacts can be direct or indirect. Changes in land productivity, namely there is a difference between the productivity and economic value of land without mining activities with the productivity and economic value of minerals along with their environmental impacts and productivity of mining land, changes in microclimate and air quantity, namely increasing the concentration of dust particles in the air due to mining, processing and transportation, increased air temperature and decreased local air humidity due to land stripping activities, increased exhaust

emissions from fuel use on heavy equipment, increased noise intensity due to drill, excavator, blasting or grease activities in management / transportation.

Mining business activities have damaged environmental sustainability, which in turn has implications for social, economic and cultural problems in the community. As a result of activities in the mining sector, some of the roads in Lebak Regency were severely damaged due to the transportation of minerals that exceed tonnage, as well as the complexity of environmental problems caused by business in the mining sector, one of which is coal mining. The variety and size of coal mining potentials in Bayah District, inviting investors to open mining businesses in Bayah District.

It is hoped that the coal mining in Bayah District can provide jobs and increase revenue to the regional treasury of Lebak Regency but still be able to preserve the environment. However, from this potential natural wealth there are several problems in its utilization. the impact of coal mining on the socio-economic life of the people of Bayah District.

The majority of the people of Bayah District are farmers and fishermen, with the

presence of coal mining that has opened up new jobs, the existence of coal mining has reduced people who work in the agricultural sector which in turn will cause the production of the agricultural sector, especially food crops and plantations to decline.

After working in a coal mine, each coal miner or entrepreneur is more fixated on his job. As for the social impacts of coal mining in Bayah District, namely: First, the discovery of coal in Bayah District led to job shifts for most of the people of Bayah District. Lots of miners started out as farmers. The large number of job shifts from farmers to miners has resulted in idle land due to being abandoned to work in coal mines. Agricultural production, which generally requires a long waiting period, causes people to prefer to become miners that are more instantaneous and are considered more profitable with more lucrative value. This was revealed by one of the coal miners in Bayah District, Mr. Sahip (48 years old).

Second, the people of Bayah Subdistrict, whose main livelihood is farmers, get negative impacts from the existence of coal mining, one of which is the impact of digging coal mine pits which results in soil

structures that are no longer fertile and damaged due to coal excavation, resulting in fields or gardens no longer fertile before the existence of coal mining, and resulted in farmers failing to harvest. Not only the negative impact that is felt, there are also positive impacts that are felt by the existence of coal mining, even though the fields or gardens of the farmers are no longer fertile, but there are other jobs as a substitute, namely becoming a coal miner, resulting in a transition of professions, from being farmers to changing professions become a coal miner, but do not completely change professions, when there is a cultivated or a farmer's job, the people of Bayah District will work as farmers again, because their main job is indeed a farmer.

The economic impact felt by coal miners is regarding the income they get. The income of each miner is quite large, the miners are usually paid per week. As expressed by Mr. Otang on July 20, 2019, that: "Working as a miner because, he is paid a week, is not like being a farmer or a farm laborer, which produces it every season. Usually a miner's wages per week can reach Rp. 500,000 - depending on how much coal is obtained or not".

Coal mining has a wide impact on the people of Bayah District, both for coal miners and for coal mining entrepreneurs. In a business, there must be such a thing as the ups and downs of a business, this can occur due to uncertain coal production. As explained in Keynes's theory.

This theory argues that high wages make workers more productive. The effect of wages on worker efficiency may explain the failure of firms to cut wages despite an excess supply of labor. When coal productivity increases, the wages earned by coal miners will increase, and vice versa. Most of the miners enjoy economic improvements, the mining community is in accordance with the habits of the newly developing areas, so the additional income initially tends to be used for consumptive activities such as building new houses or renovating them, buying new motorized vehicles, increasing consumption of electronic and communication devices more expensive and others.

So it is not surprising that the houses in Bayah District and its surroundings appear to be mostly permanent, larger and more fully equipped. Most of the people of Bayah Subdistrict with the main livelihood of being farmers have turned into mining

communities, other effects usually extend to various other economic activities, there are many jobs and sources of income that arise directly or indirectly from coal mining activities.

The existence of coal mining has been able to improve the economy, especially the expansion of employment. Likewise with social life, with an increase in income plus health improvements that they are more able to get due to the large additional income from coal mining. In addition to these things, it is easier to prepare education costs for their children so that it is hoped that it will affect the education of the next generation in Bayah District.

## CONCLUSION

Bayah Subdistrict In general, Bayah Subdistrict is categorized into plains, beaches and slopes / hills. The lowlands are generally agricultural and plantation areas. Bayah is an area that has potential mineral and coal content. Districts that have abundant natural resources, one of which is coal. It cannot be denied that coal in Bayah District is quite potential, as proven when there were experts who researched coal in Bayah during the Japanese occupation, and

coal was exploited by Japan for its needs in the Pacific war. Until now, coal has become one of the favorite natural resources in Bayah District.

The people of Bayah Subdistrict are dominated by people whose livelihoods are farmers and fishermen. After the opening of coal mining in Bayah District, some of the people of Bayah District chose to change professions, who were originally farmers or fishermen, to become coal miners. This happens because, miners think that working as a miner can get money per day, in contrast to farming, not getting wages or results every day.

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