

# THE ROLE OF THE INDONESIAN AUTOMATIC FINGER PRINT IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (INAFIS) IN IDENTIFYING PERPETRATORS OF MURDER CASES (A CASES STUDY IN THE REGIONAL POLICE OF WEST SUMATERA)

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## Abstract

Indonesia Automatic Finger Print Identification System (Inafis) is a unit that plays a role in identifying a person through scientific means, by examining fingerprints at a crime scene. As stipulated in Article 15 paragraph (1), Law Number 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police states that, "taking the first action at a crime scene, taking fingerprints and identities and other photographs, seeking information and evidence, receiving and keeping findings for a while ". Indonesia Automatic Finger Print Identification System (Inafis) is a unit that plays a role in identifying a person through scientific means, by examining fingerprints at a crime scene. The police, especially the Inafis unit itself, are looking for fingerprints in the vicinity of the crime scene (TKP) which will later assist investigators in finding and arresting the perpetrators of the murder. The problems raised in this study are, How are the roles and constraints of the Indonesian Automatic Finger Print Identification System (Inafis) of the West Sumatra Regional Police in uncovering the perpetrators of murder.

**Keywords:** Role, Inafis, Murder, Fingerprints, Constraints

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## INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a *Rechtstaats* that always puts the law as the foundation in all activities of the state and society. Indonesia's commitment as a state of law has always been and is stated in writing in Article 1 paragraph (3) of the 1945 Constitution as a result of the amendments. Actually, in terms of society, the law can not move alone to achieve its goals. For this reason, state aid is needed in enforcing the law in order to achieve legal goals. These tools include the police, which have a main role in preventing and dealing with crime and security sirruption.

The National Police of the Republic of Indonesia (*POLRI*) is said to be a state instrument that plays a role in maintaining public security and order, enforcing the law and providing protection, shelter, and services to the community in the context of maintaining domestic security as regulated under Laws number 2 of 2002 Article 2 paragraph (2)

concerning the Indonesian National Police. In this case, the Indonesian Police are always the guard at the forefront in terms of protection, service, and security for the people of Indonesia.

Especially in the security sector, the police should always be quick and responsive in finding, hearing, and receiving reports from every community indiscriminately related to criminal acts which are increasing every day and in various ways, along with current technological developments. The rapid development requires law enforcement officers to adapt to mechanisms/methods, techniques, even with sophisticated tools in dealing with criminal acts that occur.

The Indonesian automatic finger print identification system, hereinafter referred to as Inafis, is a work unit under the Criminal Investigation Agency (*Bareskrim*) of the Indonesian National Police. The Inafis Unit plays an important role in identifying a person through a scientific method, namely by means of fingerprint examination. The Inafis unit is almost always involved in the process of examining and investigating criminal acts. As regulated in Article 15 paragraph (1), Law no. 2 of 2002 concerning the Indonesian National Police which states that, "to take the first action at the scene, take fingerprints and other identities as well as photographing a person, seeking information and evidence, receiving and temporarily storing the findings".

Regarding the disclosure process that is criminal conduct or law enforcement, the purpose of involving the Inafis unit is to secure fingerprints attached to the criminal place / *locus delicti* (in Indonesia *TKP*). In the event of a natural disaster, the Inafis unit can also help identify victims without identities or whose faces are no longer recognizable. In addition to disclosing criminal acts, the Inafis unit also has functions in the service sector, namely identifying missing persons, identifying Indonesia Worker (*TKI/TKW*), and processing bank transactions.

Various ways are carried out by the perpetrators in carrying out their criminal acts, especially the crime of murder, which can harm the victim, both property and even one's life. The crime of murder committed by the perpetrator is not only limited to killing, but the perpetrator is also looking for ways to eliminate his tracks such as mutilation, cementing and even burning. Actually, after all the tactics of criminals in eliminating traces of their crimes, especially in the case of murder will usually be discovered or exposed. Here, professionalism and hard work are demanded from law enforcement officers, especially the Inafis unit in carrying out their duties.

The police, especially the Inafis unit itself, are looking for fingerprints around the crime scene (*TKP*) which will later assist investigators in finding and arresting the perpetrators of the crime of murder. If the identity of the victim is known later, it will be easier for investigators to make a list of people who should be suspected and the list will be reduced if it is known at the time of the victim's death and the tools used by the perpetrator, especially for the crime of murder. Like the murder case that occurred in the Simpang Empat area, West Pasaman. The murder was carried out by R against Iqbal (R's brother-in-law), because Iqbal had a debt for buying and selling marijuana to the suspect. Iqbal bought 1 ounce of marijuana to the suspect, but the money was not directly given by Iqbal to the suspect. Another time, the suspect asked for the money back, but Iqbal still had not paid the debt and kept promising it. The suspect asked Iqbal to return the debt with the amount of one million rupiah and Iqbal returned home with the excuse of taking the money. After several hours, Iqbal had not returned, the suspect headed to Iqbal's house to meet him. The suspect immediately took Iqbal's hoda beat, because the debt had not yet been paid. Iqbal took the suspect to the new Psaman Street and an argument broke out between Iqbal and the suspect. The suspect immediately stabbed a knife at Iqbal several times. Iqbal was injured and wanted to run away, but was kicked and hit directly by the suspect. The suspect immediately stabbed

a knife into Iqbal's body until he died. The suspect took the initiative to dump Iqbal's body into an oil palm plantation near the scene. The police managed to obtain the identity of the victim, through a fingerprinting process using the Mobile Automated Multi-Biometric Identification System (Mambis), thus getting a bright spot for the murder case. The Inafis unit also obtained the identity of the suspect. The suspect brought a beat motorbike and a Kornam cellphone which was sold to Yayan. The West Sumatra Regional Police (Polda) succeeded in uncovering the perpetrators of the murder crime above by using digital technology called the Mobile Automated Multi-Biometric Identification System (Mambis), which of course, at the resort police (polres) level, there is no adequate tool in finding and trace the whereabouts of the suspect.

This study will discuss the role and obstacles faced by the Indonesian National Police, especially the Indonesian Automatic Finger Print Identification System (INAFIS) Unit in uncovering the perpetrators of the crime of murder in the West Sumatra Regional Police.

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

This study uses a sociological juridical approach, a sociological juridical approach, namely legal research that seeks to identify the law by looking at the effectiveness of law enforcement in society. The primary data used in this study is the result of interviews with 2 police officers in the West Sumatra Regional Police Inafis unit, namely Inspector Police One (*IPTU*) Syafrizal, SH, as Head of Unit 2 Identification Section and Mr. Police Brigadier Two (*BRIPDA*) Hadi Ihsan as a member of the West Sumatran Blood Police Identification Section Unit (Polda). The secondary data used is the data on the crime of homicide taken at the office of the Directorate of Criminal Investigation/Inafis Police Unit West Sumatra Province in 2017 to 2018.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The use of fingerprints as evidence in uncovering a criminal case is considered very effective considering that currently the facilities and infrastructure are very adequate and supported by modern technology and operated by competent personnel in their field (Sulyanwar, 2020). Through fingerprints will greatly assist the process of a criminal case because of its usefulness to prove in addition to other evidence that can support or complete everything (Rifai, 2019). Everyone's fingerprints are not the same, fingerprints don't change from birth to death, and fingerprints can be formulated (Prehantoro, 2017) The strength of fingerprint proof can be seen in the position of fingerprints as evidence of expert testimony, letter evidence and evidence of instructions as contained in Article 184 of the Criminal Procedure Code (Kereh, 2016)

### **A. The role of the Indonesian Automatic Finger Print Identification System (INAFIS) in Revealing the Perpetrators of the Crime of Murder in the Regional Police (Polda) of West Sumatra**

The Indonesia Automatic Finger Print Identification System (INAFIS) is a work unit under the Criminal Investigation Agency (Bareskrim) of the National Police. At the Regional Police (*Polda*) level, the Inafis/Identification unit is under the Directorate of General Criminal Investigation headed by the head of the identification section (*Kasi*). There are two requirements for police officers to be able to join the Inafis/identification unit corps, which are as follows:

- 1) Members of the Indonesian National Police (*POLRI*) and Civil Servants (*PNS*) of the Indonesian National Police.

Police officers who wish to join the Inafis/identification unit must be an active police officer, even though the police member previously joined the Brimob corps Samapta Bhayangkara (Sabhara), Security Intelligence (*Intelkam*), and other corps. No restrictions age/career during entry into the Inafis unit and for Civil Servants (*PNS*) the police are also not limited by age/career.

2) Participate in Identification Specialist Development Education (*Dibangspes*).

Every member of the police/Civil Civil Service (*PNS*) of the police who wants to join the Inafis unit, is required to attend identification specialist development education (*Disbangspes*) by being given various trainings such as, how/method of taking fingerprints, comparing fingerprints, and taking photos of places. case incident (Zainal. 2007).

Coordination between the Inafis unit and other units at the crime scene such as the Police Doctor (*Dokpol*) and the Forensic Laboratory (*Labfor*) is needed, in order to facilitate the disclosure of criminal cases. In fact, the Inafis unit and the Dokpol unit and the Labfor unit already have their respective roles/tasks. When conducting crime scene processing, the Inafis unit will work according to its role, namely taking fingerprints and shooting crime scenes, the role of the Forensic Laboratory is to look for evidence to be examined.

In forensic laboratories, such as murder as a result of poisoning, burning, and others, and the role of the Police Doctor is to assist in medical matters at the crime scene, such as DNA testing. The duties/authorities of these units have been regulated in Law no. 2 of 2002 concerning the Police of the Republic of Indonesia, Article 14 paragraph (1) letter h, which states that "to carry out police identification, police medicine, forensic laboratories, and police psychology for the purposes of police duties".

Coordination at the level of the Sector Police (*Polsek*), Resort Police (*Polres*), Regional Police (*Polda*), and Police Headquarters is very much needed, given the lack of equipment and expertise of Inafis unit officers in the field. As an illustration, if later a crime occurs in the Polsek area and the Polsek itself is difficult or unable to handle it, then the *Polres/Polda* level can assist in disclosing the case. In fact, even if later at the *Polda* level there are still many obstacles, the officers of the Inafis Center (*Pus Inafis*) at the National Police Headquarters can handle the case.

The West Sumatra Regional Police (*Polda*) itself has 5 police officers who are in the Inafis unit and in the the Head of Section (*Kasi*) of the Inafis unit. The West Sumatra Regional Police Inafis Unit (*Polda*) has handled 36 cases of murder crimes for the West Sumatra region during 2017-2018. Among these cases are the murder cases that occurred in the Simpang Empat area, West Pasaman. The murder committed by R against Iqbal (R's brother-in-law), because Iqbal had a debt for buying and selling marijuana to the suspect. Iqbal bought 1 ounce of marijuana to the suspect, but the money was not directly given by Iqbal to the suspect. Another time, the suspect asked for money back, but Iqbal still had not paid the debt and kept promising him. The suspect asked Iqbal to return the debt with the amount of 1 million rupiah and Iqbal returned home with the excuse of taking the money. After several hours, Iqbal had not returned, the suspect went to Iqbal's house to meet him. The suspect immediately took Iqbal's Honda Beat, because the debt had not yet been paid. Iqbal took the suspect to Pasaman Baru Street, and an argument broke out between Iqbal and the suspect. The suspect immediately stabbed a knife at Iqbal several times. Iqbal was injured and wanted to run away, but was kicked and hit directly by suspect. The suspect stabbed the knife back into Iqbal's body until he died. The suspect took the initiative to dump Iqbal's body into an oil palm plantation near the scene. The police managed to obtain the identity of the victim, through a fingerprinting process using the Mobile Automated Multi-Biometric Identification System (*Mambis*). So get a bright spot from the murder case. The Inafis unit also obtained the identity of the suspect. The suspect took Beat's motorbike and the victim's

cellphone and sold it to Yayan. The suspect fled to the Batang Toman area, West Pasaman. Until finally, the police arrested the suspect in the area.

Seeing the frequent occurrence of the crime of murder, it is demanded that the optimal performance of the Inafis unit in handling/revealing the perpetrators of criminal acts, especially the crime of murder. After conducting interviews with members of the Inafis unit, IPTU Syafrizal as Head of Unit 2 Identification Section and Police Brigadier Two (*Bripda*) Hadi Ihsan as Member of the Unit Identification Section of the West Sumatra Regional Police (*Polda*), by providing an explanation of the roles of the Inafis unit towards murder crime at the Place of Case (*TKP*), as follows:

1. Implementation of the processing of the crime scene (*TKP*).

In carrying out the processing of the crime scene, the Inafis unit cooperates with the investigators as a whole, namely by shooting the crime scene (*TKP*) and collecting evidence containing the perpetrator's latent fingerprint, conducting searches and further development if possible (Abdussalam, 2007).

2. Photographing and taking fingerprints of corpses.

The purpose of shooting and taking fingerprints of corpses is to find the identity of the victim, which will later be done by spreading the special characteristics of the victim with comparative data obtained from investigators (Hamzah, 1986).

3. Development and removal of latent fingerprints.

In the process of developing and removing latent fingerprints, there are 2 steps or methods carried out, namely, using color powder or certain chemicals. The use of this color powder and chemicals must pay attention to the type of surface of the evidence, because of the different shapes/types, the materials used will also be different. In the process of removing latent fingerprints using a lifter, officers must be careful, so as not to damage the latent fingerprints. If the fingerprint is damaged, it will be difficult to do a comparison check.

4. Fingerprint examination and comparison.

The stage of examination and comparison of fingerprints is a key process in the identification of criminal acts. At this stage, the Inafis unit officer provides information on whether or not the fingerprints have been checked. For example, in the case of mutilation, comparative examination is carried out using 2 methods, first, matching the fingerprints of the corpse with the comparison data to determine the identity of the victim. Second, match latent fingerprints found at crime scenes with fingerprint data of suspected people. In carrying out a fingerprint comparison examination,

Fingerprints, the West Sumatra Regional Police Inafis unit still uses the manual method, by looking for 12 points of similarity between the two fingerprints being compared. There are four aspects to the comparison process, namely:

- a) Inafis unit officers must pay attention to the latent fingerprint with the comparison having the same basic/principal form. If later it is decided that the basic form is different, then it is certain that it will be different.
- b) The line characters must be the same. This line character is the key in determining whether or not the 2 fingerprints being compared are identical. For example, at a certain position both must have a painting that divides, a line that stops, and so on.
- c) The number of points of equality between two fingerprints must be twelve or at least eleven points of equality.
- d) The number of intervals between the points of the equation must be the same. That is, if in a position

In certain cases, a dividing line is found, then when passing through the three lines above it, another stop line is found, this must be the same in the two fingerprints being compared.

5. Another role is that the Inafis unit is able to identify victims of the crime of homicide by using available tools/applications, such as:

- a) Face searching application, this application is useful for identifying the victim by placing the victim's face on a tool, and later it will be searched through the face searching application. Then, the identity of the victim will be obtained, as long as the victim has been registered on the e-KTP.
- b) Latent editor application/tool. This application/tool is very useful for Inafis units, especially for identification purposes. If later latent fingerprints or fingerprints are found attached to an object at the crime scene (*TKP*), then it can be found who the latent fingerprint belongs to, especially for identify the perpetrators of the crime of homicide.
- c) Search application with retina of the eye.

The eye retina application can identify the perpetrator/victim by utilizing the eye retina of the perpetrator/victim who has been registered on the e-KTP, later data will be found from the victim or perpetrator

#### B. Obstacles to the Indonesian Automatic Finger Print Identification System (INAFIS) in Revealing the Perpetrators of the Crime of Murder at the Regional Police (Polda) of West Sumatra.

In carrying out its duties, the Inafis unit faces many obstacles, especially during the processing of the crime scene (*TKP*) in the form of fingerprint identification. The following are the obstacles faced, namely:

1. The public's fingerprints have not been documented in the police.

In the process of searching for perpetrators in the police database, there are still many people who have not registered with the police. It is not mandatory to register fingerprints at the police, so people feel relaxed. Fingerprint registration is only used for some purposes, for example:

In the case of making a Certificate of Good Behavior (*SKCK*). For this, there needs to be cooperation between the Inafis Regional Police Unit (*Polda*) of West Sumatra and the Department of Population and Civil Registration (*Dukcapil*) in terms of collecting data on residents who already have an e-KTP.

2. Weather factor.

Weather greatly affects the identification process at the crime scene (*TKP*), because it will cause latent fingerprints at the crime scene to be blurred or even lost. For example, someone kills another person by stabbing a sharp object into the victim's body in front of the victim's house (outdoor). The Inafis Unit attempted to find the perpetrator's fingerprints at the crime scene (*TKP*), but due to heavy rain and strong winds, the perpetrator's fingerprints became blurred and even disappeared. This will make it difficult for the Inafis unit to find fingerprints in the form of the soles of the perpetrators' feet.

3. Lack of public knowledge about the crime scene (*TKP*).

Usually if a crime occurs and is known by the public, then the community around the crime scene will immediately respond, by came to the crime scene with great curiosity. However, the community did not know that they had accidentally damaged the *TKP* and made the *TKP* no longer sterile for the identification process. Inafis unit officers find it difficult to identify the actual fingerprints of the perpetrators, due to the large number of fingerprints attached to the crime scene, be it fingerprints of the perpetrators or the public (Lamintang, 2016).

The need for socialization to the community, the importance of the crime scene for the police, especially the Inafis unit in disclosing criminal cases. Currently there is a discourse for the implementation of the socialization.

4. Delay in processing the crime scene (*TKP*).

There are often delays from the identification officer/Inafis unit which results in damaged crime scenes and lack of training for the Inafis unit in the identification process of criminal acts that occur. There needs to be professionalism from the Inafis unit in carrying out its responsibilities, so that there are no delays and warnings must be given to officers who are late for no apparent reason.

5. Lack of Inafis unit personnel.

The Inafis Unit is under the General Criminal Investigation Directorate (*Ditreskrimum*). In the Regional Police (*Polda*) of West Sumatra, there are only 5 personel of the Inafis unit and that includes the Chief Witness/*Kasi* Inafis. This raises concern because it can affect the performance of the Inafis unit in carrying out its duties.

Ideally the Inafis unit consists of 22 people, but there are only 5 Inafis unit officers. The Inafis Unit of the West Sumatra Police has applied several times, but until now the request has not been responded to by the Inafis Center (*Pus Inafis*) of the National Police Headquarters. In the field, the Inafis unit officers cooperate with each other and are always ready, if later a crime occurs, especially the crime of murder.

6. Obstacles originating from the suspect.

Usually, perpetrators who are professional in committing crimes will make it difficult for Inafis unit officers to identify perpetrators or victims. Perpetrators can obscure the crime committed by destroying or obscuring evidence, mutilating the victim, transferring the victim to another place far from the community, so that when it is found the condition of the victim is damaged or decayed, even the bones are left. This makes it difficult for officers to identify (Lamintang, 2016).

Inafis unit officers need to increase their knowledge of crime scene processing by updating crime scene processing techniques/tactics, because every crime always leaves a trail. In fact, apart from fingerprint identification, the Inafis unit is also able to identify by means of identification through footprints found at the crime scene.

7. Barriers to technology/application tools.

The Inafis unit is equipped with various sophisticated tools, with the aim of facilitating the identification process of perpetrators, including the Inafis Portable System (IPS) tool. But this tool still has many shortcomings, namely as follows:

a) Application latent editor

The latent editor application is an application that can determine/identify fingerprints at the crime scene (*TKP*). At the scene of the crime, there are a lot of fingerprints that have been stuck even for too long, so the latent editor application will be difficult identify perpetrators/victims. Another obstacle is that the latent fingerprint cannot be fully removed because the object is porous.

b) Face searching application

Face searching application is an application that can search victim data from face identification. This application cannot work, if there is no network in that place. Another obstacle is that this application can display more than 6 people's faces, due to the similarities or similarities on the faces.

c) Search application with retina of the eye.

The eye retina application can identify the perpetrator/victim by utilizing the eye retina of the perpetrator/victim who has been registered on the e-KTP, later data will be found from the victim or perpetrator. The problem is that this application cannot read the retina of the perpetrator's eye, if the perpetrator has not been registered on the e-KTP and another obstacle is the difficult network at the crime scene (*TKP*).

d) Name/date of birth search application.

The name/date of birth search application can identify the names of suspected murderers. The obstacle is that this application sometimes cannot read/identify the name or date of birth of the perpetrator because the perpetrator's data has not been stored on the server of the Department of Population and Civil Registration (*Disdukcapil*) and the perpetrator does not yet have an e-KTP.

It is necessary to update population data at any time, driven by the Department of Population and Civil Registration (*Dukcapil*), so that it is directly connected to the Inafis unit to facilitate identification. Currently, there is a backup data storage owned by the Inafis *Polda* West Sumatra unit, namely digital Ak23. The data contains the identity of a person, be it fingerprints, photos, and signals.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research and discussion above, it can be concluded that: 1. The role of Indonesia Automatic Finger Print Identification System (INAFIS) in uncovering criminals homicide, namely, the implementation of the crime scene (*TKP*) which aims to collect latent fingerprints belonging to the perpetrator and carry out further searches/developments, photography and fingerprinting of corpses which are useful for finding the identity of the victim by spreading the special characteristics of the victim with data. comparisons obtained from investigators, development and removal of latent fingerprints carried out using color powder, chemicals, and lifters, examination and comparison of fingerprints that are useful for providing information on whether or not the fingerprints have been examined are identical.

2. The obstacles faced by the Indonesia Automatic Finger Print Identification System (INAFIS) in revealing the perpetrators of the crime of murder are the undocumented fingerprints of the public in the police, weather factors that can cause latent fingerprints at the crime scene to be blurred or even lost, lack of knowledge the public regarding the processing of the crime scene (*TKP*), delays in processing the crime scene (*TKP*), the lack of personnel in the Inafis unit which affects the performance of the Inafis unit.

In the field, obstacles originating from suspects such as eliminating traces of the crime of murder, and obstacles in terms of supporting tools/applications in the form of not registering the perpetrators on the e-KTP and networks that are not present at the crime scene (*TKP*).

Based on the conclusions above, some suggestions that can be given are as follows: 1. The Regional Police (*Polda*) of West Sumatra, needs to add personnel to the Inafis Unit because the increase in the number of criminal acts, especially the crime of murder, is not proportional to the number of personnel of the existing Inafis Unit. 2. The West Sumatra Regional Police (*Polda*) needs to increase the competence of Inafis officers by conducting regular training. 3. The West Sumatra Regional Police (*Polda*) needs to socialize to the public about the steps to be taken when a crime occurs. Thus the crime scene (*TKP*) can be sterile and the evidence is not damaged.

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