

Conference Paper

Social Status and the Behavior of Palm Farmers in Community Life

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Social status is a level or the position of a person in a society as derived from the level of education, level of employment, level of income and wealth and expenses. Social status is often directly proportional to the behavior of rice farmers. For instance, The spread of agricultural innovations in the countryside depends on the nature of the innovation and the type of societal decision-making. If individual innovation decision-making is more dominant, the positive relationship between social status and the rice field farmer's behavior is acceptable, but if collective decision-making is more dominant, the spread of innovation depends on the suitability of the rice field farmer's innovations for village communities. This study aims to look at the determinants of social status and observe the relationship between social status and the behavior of rice farmers in their social liveslife in Taman Fajar Village, Purbolinggo District, East Lampung Regency. This study used a qualitative research method with a descriptive approach. The population were rice farmers in this area. Data collection was done using observation, interviews, and documentation techniques. The results of this study indicate that there is a significant influence on the social status and behavior of rice farmers in society. This means that the higher the yields the rice farmers obtain, the more positive impact they can have on society, one of which is giving alms to people in need.

Keywords: Social Status, Peasant Behavior, Community.

1. INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is an agricultural country where most of the people live from farming or farming. Agriculture is an activity of utilizing biological resources to produce food. The agricultural sector has an important role in the welfare of life. This can be seen from the dominance of the agricultural sector in employment. This sector is still a source of livelihood, especially for people in rural areas, besides that if there are no farmers, the basic needs needed by Indonesian people will not be fulfilled, therefore people who farm can supply their economic needs for their own people. If everyone relies on

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supplies from abroad, the cost of living will be even more expensive, which does not match their income.

Sastramiharja said the phenomenon of the reduced number of rice farmers resulting in the small number of young people farming cannot be separated from the view that rice farming as a profession has not been able to provide a satisfactory income, farmers as a status have also not been able to give birth to pride and farmers as the largest number of Indonesian citizens have not been able to create well-being for life. However, when viewed during the harvest season, farmers experienced a very significant increase compared to other professions. Everyone in society has different and stratified socioeconomic status, some are high, medium to low. Status has an important meaning in the social system of society. Status can also be said as the position occupied by someone in a group.

Humans as creatures that live in the world not only have their own lives but humans also cannot be separated from other humans. Humans basically always want to socialize and gather with other human beings and because of that nature, humans are called social beings. Likewise, farmers as a human profession, farmers have associations and associations both in small and large scopes. In this case, the farmer's family is the smallest scope owned by a farmer, while the community is the largest scope.

A rice farming business is a business in which someone allocates existing resources effectively and efficiently to obtain high profits at a certain time. It is said to be effective if someone called a farmer can allocate the resources they have as well as possible and can be said to be efficient if the use of these resources produces output that exceeds input. The term farming can also be interpreted as a production organization carried out by farmers by managing production factors such as land, labour, capital, seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, technology and management to be able to generate production and income in the agricultural sector. So it can be concluded that rice farming is an effort to manage rice production factors including land, labour, capital, seeds, and fertilizers.

One of the factors that influence the behavior of rice farmers is the level of socio-economic status. Socio-economic status has the meaning of a condition that shows the financial ability of the family and the material equipment owned. More than that, Santrock states that socioeconomic status can be seen as a grouping of people based on similar characteristics of work, and economic education. The socio-economic status of paddy farmers shows certain inequalities, where members of the community have jobs of varying achievement, and some individuals have greater access to jobs with higher status than others, different levels of education, greater access to better education

compared to other people, different economic resources, and the level of power to influence societal institutions.

Differences in the ability to control resources and participate in societal rewards result in unequal opportunities. Socioeconomic status describes the condition of a person or a society from an economic point of view, such as level of education, income, and occupation. Every individual or society definitely wants a better socioeconomic status. However, in reality, there are still many individuals or communities with low socioeconomic status, which can influence people's social behavior.

In general, changes that occur in the knowledge, attitudes and skills of farmers are summarized in terms of changes, namely changes in the behavior of rice farmers. In this case, the success of rice farmers will be seen from three aspects, namely cognitive (knowledge), affective aspects (attitudes), and psychomotor aspects (skills). According to Rogers changes in human behavior include three things, namely: 1. Additional knowledge 2. Formation and change in attitude and 3. Visible changes in behavior. In fact, changes in the behavior of each individual in the social system have the possibility of differences between the responses in the form of changes in behavior to a new innovation. One of the causes of changes in behavior is due to changes in individual social status in the social system.

In behaving, usually, people who work as rice farmers will show various kinds of attitudes in society. But the majority of people who farm and get good results will give some results as their gratitude for the abundant results so that the community environment can also feel the harvest. From several research results and temporary observations empirically there is a positive relationship between several determinants of social status (eg crop income, agricultural land area). However, there are still many questions that arise, whether an analysis carried out has taken into account the interaction between the determinants of social status and the behavior of rice farmers in society, and if there is a response to existing innovations, it is further broken down into three components, namely knowledge, attitudes, and application to society. The existence of differences arises because of people's assessment of social status, which will lead to a system of social stratification in various regions.

As long as in a society there is something that is valued, it is certain that a multi-layered system will emerge in society, this is parallel to what Taneko stated about social stratification, namely the division or vertical classification of society from community members based on the level of social status. . because the strata of society are people who are of the same rank in a series of units in social status. There are several basic social layers for society because many people think that determining the criteria or

measurements used can be measured by groups of community members who are in layers starting from wealth, power, education, and knowledge.

Factors that can affect the level of socioeconomic status in society include education level, type of work and income.

2. Education

Education is an activity and effort to improve personality by fostering personal potential, namely spiritual (mind, creativity, taste and conscience) and physical (the five senses and skills in each individual). Education is carried out through school education (formal education) and non-formal education (non-formal education). The path to school education or formal education is the school education level, the school education level basically consists of pre-school education, basic education, secondary education and higher education.

3. Work

A person's work will affect his personal life, the work that is occupied by each person is different, this difference will cause differences in low-income levels to high levels of income, depending on the work occupied.

4. Income

Sumardi argues that the income received by residents will be influenced by the level of education they have. Income is the total income of the head of the family and other members in the form of money and goods. Based on the classification.

The purpose of this study was to look at the determinants of social status and see the relationship between social status and the behavior of rice farmers in social life in Taman Fajar Village, Purbolinggo District, East Lampung Regency. The hypothesis in this study is that there is a relationship between social status and the behavior of rice farmers in society. Taman Fajar Village is a village located in Purbolinggo District, East Lampung Regency, located at the Longitude coordinates of 536,554,146 and the Latitude Coordinates of -4,979,898. Taman Fajar Village has a population of 3,393 people inhabited by 1053 families and is divided into 6 hamlets with a total of Rt 18. Most of the people in Taman Fajar Village live from farming or trying to farm rice fields. Agriculture is an activity of utilizing biological resources to produce food. The

agricultural sector has an important role in the welfare of life. This can be seen from the dominance of the agricultural sector in employment. This sector is still a source of livelihood, especially for people in Taman Fajar Village who depend on rice farming for their livelihood.

5. METHODS

The research method is a scientific method for obtaining data for a specific purpose. The term scientific method indicates that research activities are based on scientific characteristics, namely rational, empirical and systematic. The basic idea of research is that research is carried out in a meaningful way and not on mediation results. Empirically, research activities can be perceived through the human senses so that other people can observe and know the methods used. A system is a process used in research using certain reasonable steps.

The research method used in this research is qualitative research, according to Strauss and Corbin, Qualitative research is research that produces findings that cannot be obtained by statistical procedures or quantification or measurement methods. In qualitative research it requires the identification of participants and places based on the ability of the community, as well as providing in-depth information related to this research, in qualitative research, it requires in-depth access to participants and places but in this study, it does not limit the views of participants.

In terms of its nature, this research is descriptive research, meaning research that describes certain objects and explains things related to or systematically describes facts or characteristics of certain populations in certain fields factually and accurately. This research is descriptive in nature because this research merely describes an object to draw general conclusions.

The subjects in this study were the people in Taman Fajar Village, Purbolinggo District, East Lampung Regency. The objects in this study are rice farmers who are active in agriculture. The sampling technique used purposive sampling technique.

In this study, the authors collect data as material that will be used as a reference. Data and materials that need to be collected in this study through field research (Field Research) with qualitative research methods with a descriptive approach. The population in this study were rice farmers in Taman Fajar Village, Purbolinggo District, East Lampung Regency. Collecting data in this study using the form of observation, interviews, and documentation. Most of the data were collected through direct interviews

using interview guidelines. The data from this interview guide will be supplemented by data from informal interviews.

6. RESULTS

The social status of rice farmers in society is shown by the behavior of rice farmers when they get very good yields and do not experience failure in farming so that rice farmers can enjoy the yields they get from farming on their agricultural land. After that, to express gratitude for the harvest obtained, the rice farmers give a little of their harvest to give alms to the people around them, so that the community can also feel the results of the harvest they have obtained.

Paddy field farmers also sometimes feel the low selling price of their crops, so agricultural production is sold outside the village and even outside the area. This shows that development and progress in this area have not been able to encourage the behavior of paddy farmers to increase the productivity of their farming business. Internally, behavior is influenced by attitudes toward behavior, subjective norms of behavior, and control over behavior through behavioral intentions.¹ If explored further, the farmer's behavior is related to the implementation of counseling, social capital, human capital, and farmers' access to market prices, technology and capital.

This situation illustrates that the people's agriculture in Taman Fajar Village has not been managed intensively. This causes agricultural productivity in the research location to be relatively unstable, sometimes rising sometimes low. Postharvest by farmers is limited to primary postharvest, not leading to secondary postharvest. Thus, farmers lose the opportunity to get added value from their farming business.

Factors Influencing the Behavior of Rice Farmers. In forming the behavior of paddy farmers in farming, post-harvest is not a determining factor in the farming behavior of farmers. One that determines the behavior of rice farmers in terms of social status is education, where high social status is indicated by a high level of education (although this is not always the case). So it can be concluded that highly educated people are rulers in social status, especially will encourage high yields obtained in agriculture, so it is certain that people who are educated and people who know how to farm will get the average profit.

In fact, in Taman Fajar village, Purbolinggo sub-district, a farmer group has been formed which plays a major role in agriculture, from stocking seeds, fertilizers and other necessities. This farmer group plays a major role in providing various agricultural needs but for the marketing division of rice farmers who have to find where to sell their

agricultural products. However, with this farmer group, the community does not have to be confused about selling their agricultural products.

Seeing the history of people's lives with supportive social status, people who are experts in agriculture provide tips and ways to get good seeds and planting. The main factor is how to give something different to the community. For example, providing assistance to the community in the form of material assistance because will look more tangible, both from oneself and those provided by third parties. If the community provides assistance to other people in any form whatsoever, then when the person being helped will repay it in the future if the person providing assistance experiences difficulties.

Social status is the position of society in a hierarchical social system, which determines a person's social role. According to Soerjano Soekanto, in every society everywhere there is always and definitely something that is valued. Something that is valued in ordinary society is in the form of wealth, knowledge, job status, blue blood status or descent from a certain respectable family or anything that has economic value.

Social status shows certain inequalities, where community members have jobs of varying achievement, and some individuals have greater access to higher status jobs than others, different levels of education, greater access to a better education than others, different economic resources, and the degree of power to influence societal institutions². Differences in the ability to control resources and participate in societal rewards result in unequal opportunities.

Society generally develops two kinds of status, viz³:

1. ascribed status, namely the position of a person in society without regard to spiritual differences and abilities. This position is obtained by birth, for example, position as a nobleman, as a Brahmin caste in India, as a boy and so on.
2. achieved status, is a position achieved by someone with deliberate efforts. This position is not obtained on the basis of birth, but is open to anyone, depending on their abilities.

In everyday life the head of the rice farming family always from morning to evening works with nature because they always feel erratic from the hot rain. With this uncertain condition, the rice field farmers are physically strong under any circumstances. This uncertain situation also makes the social status they receive in the lowest social class place.

According to Kephard, the stratification of a population is influenced by factors of income, education, type of position, population and social status. Social status is divided into three⁴:

1. High class

The upper class is an influential and strong segment of the population sometimes they show little tendency to relinquish influence or to share influence with others besides that upper-class families live in a strict environment.

2. Middle class

The middle class is the class below the class above. Within the middle class, the head of the family tends to work as a professional workforce or business executive.

3. Lower class

This class is below the middle class where most of the people work with expertise, namely factory workers, electronics, bus drivers and farm labourers.

Social status often forms communication patterns in social systems and usually, this kind of communication is more effective for people who have the same social status, thus social status will affect the speed of adopting an innovation. In this study, the social status to be studied includes land area, income and wealth.

A function is a set of tasks that a person performs and a goal is something that an individual or a group of individuals really want to achieve. Social status determines how a person's role in social life. In social status, there are those who are of high value but there are also those who are of low value. However, it cannot be denied that almost everyone aims for high social status. If a person cannot get a high social status it is usually caused by the impact of social problems. Social status has a function and purpose.

Each type of social status has a different function. The followings are the functions and objectives of social status: (a.) To achieve what has been fought for. (b.) As a sign that the person has succeeded in proving his ability. (c.) As a reward for those who have tried. (d.) For the nobility, it was important to distinguish between them and their subjects. (e.) As a form of appreciation for what someone has done.

The status level of paddy field farmers and other professions is not distinguished. In the past, this discrimination may not have been seen or felt since the development of the times began to rapidly begin to appear gaps. That's because of different social statuses and rice field farmers who have low incomes are not good at getting along and have a role in the wider community, but in this hamlet, our fellow farmers never hesitate

to interact because of the similarity of work and income. In social life, there are social strata (social stratification), namely the classification of a person according to the social status of wealth, income, and occupation so it is right to say that there is discrimination in the life of the rice farming community.

7. CONCLUSION

The determinants of social status in Taman Fajar Village consist of material and immaterial factors. Material factors consist of the condition of the house, income, and land tenure. Immaterial factors consist of: the ability to give something to others, the ability to set a real example, the ability to communicate, and the strengths within oneself. In addition to these factors, there are also supporting factors, namely heredity.

The relationship between social status and farmer behavior depends on the innovation material and the type of innovation decision-making. In a society where innovation decision-making tends towards the individual, social status is directly proportional to the behavior of farmers.

In societies where the collective harvesting type is more dominant, the social status and behavior of farmers are not positively correlated. Under these conditions, the dissemination of information depends on innovative materials. If the material is 'acceptable' to the elites, the dissemination of information will run smoothly and evenly, but if the opposite is the case, the information will not flow smoothly and the farmer's behavior tends to be uniform and not good. That is, the dominant collective decision-making causes uniform farmer behavior.

There are several efforts made by rice farmers to improve family social status in Taman Fajar Dalam Village, North Lampung Regency, namely by opening a business such as opening a food stall, clothing store and so on (income), sending their children to higher education (education), having an income. more like maximizing paddy fields, borrowing money from village cooperatives to expand land, and taking care of goats and cows to increase income (work).

Supporting factors for the efforts of rice field farmers to improve family social status in Taman Fajar Dalam Village, East Lampung Regency, namely having high social capital, and strategic business opening locations, while the inhibiting factors are lack of knowledge, lack of interest in children going to school, narrow land less than 1 hectare, erratic yields, lack of attention from leaders and excessive discrimination.

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