Peruweren System: Local Wisdom Manifestation For The Gayo Peoples

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ABSTRACT

Peruweren was known as a farm system which use the buffalo and let it survive by itself the wild. Some facts showed that the system is becoming obsolete because insistence on a variety of things, including the insistence on a policy to modernize the farm system. Peruweren System is a manifestation of local cultural values that contain traditional wisdom about raising wild buffalo of the Gayo people who reflected the condition of the social and cultural system and environment in order to protect this local wisdom, so that the identity of Gayo’s in Gayo Lues will saved. Peruweren manifestations can be seen from the values of traditional wisdom which implemented by the rules on cooperation and mutual openness and believeness. In peruweren system, buffalo gave credence to breeders maintain buffalo in large numbers. There is a cooperative relations hip with the level of high trustness between owner and buffalo breeders which trusted by farmers will bring a good values for the livestock. Data needed in this research will obtained through observation, interview and using the technique of Focus Group Discussion (FGD).

Key words: Peruweren, local wisdom, Gayo peoples

I. INTRODUCTION

Almost all cultures also have their own systems in supplying the availability of food with protein elements. The system is in line with the food supply system which contains carbohydrate elements. Ancient human civilization who used to food gathering which carbohydrates and protein as a consistent element consumed simultaneously. From many production systems of animal protein sources owned by ethnic groups in the archipelago. One of them is buffalo livestock systems (Kerbau Lepas Liar) in Gayo Lues, Aceh. That system is known as peruweren.

As long as the development of population and needs, peruweren began to be abandoned. The existence of buffalo in Gayo Lues is not only as source of protein, but also as social value. Buffalos are released wildly in the forest and if there is a need from owner, they called the buffalo to be collected in order to be sold or consumed. Every group of livestock which released in the forest is handled by a "handler". Often the owner of the buffalo also has double job as handler, who can tame the buffalo released in the forest.

The process of collecting Buffalos is also followed by mystical rituals, such as burning incense and making selengsung. Buffalos which release for several years could be called back by the handler. In many stories it is mentioned that the buffalos released by their owners in the forest can not be caught by anyone beside the handler. Referring that, the effort to develop a peruweren becomes a relevant thing in supporting the sustainability of protein for public consumption. In addition, The function of peruweren is as savior for the Gayo peoples from insistence on economic needs. In the middle of the globalization, Peruweren is relevant to answers the age.

II. RESEARCH METHODS

A. Data Collection

Primary data were obtained through in-depth interview techniques and participant observation which aimed to capture information about peruweren, also sharpened by focus group discussion technique (Moleong, 2000). This FGD technique is used to derive a strategy to revitalize the peruweren livestock system in Gayo community based on more applicable local wisdom that allows to be developed in the context of broader community empowerment by conducting conditioning with local contexts.

B. Research Sites and Data Analysis

The research location is set in the hilly area of Gayo Lues. Gayo Lues as a district which some people still maintain peruweren as a buffalo breeding system, so local wisdom becomes something very urgent for people in Gayo Lues. The determination of the location of the study was purposively: Gayo community with the greatest potential of local wisdom, especially some villages in Teragun sub-district (Desa Kuta Sange) and Pining (Desa Gajah).

This observation used simultaneously analysis method combined with cultural ecology analysis, which the concepts and theories could be different from the
situation in the observation area. Every new information will be drawn inferences, so the inferences are used to build and sharpen the another questions. This analysis is carried out following the process, among others: presenting the data and drawing conclusions based on the presentation of data performed during the data collection process takes place.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

C. The Peruweren System On Gayo Society: Past and Present

In Gayo society, buffalo is a livestock used for plowing rice fields. The Peruweren system in Gayo Lues is centered in Elephant Village. Buffalo owners took it from Blangkejeren City and Lintang City, where the two cities were rice fields requiring buffalos to hijack rice fields. However, the limited land to release the buffalo, then the Elephant Village became an option to carry out pureweren to release kerbunya on a vast expanse of field.

In the Gayo society, this way of is called peruweren (a cage specifically used for buffalo cattle). Peruweren is a Gayo society farming system by grazing cattle in the middle of the forest and away from the settlements. There are several points of peruweren in Gayo which the average can be reached by 2-3 days on foot. In addition to the number of farm animals that can reach hundreds of amounts is not possible if transported by modern means of transportation. This will also affect the enormous of the production costs. This condition will certainly not worth the cost of livestock production. This system is done Gayo society at the time the community is in cultivation or agricultural season. The farm here is rice. Farms that have been pastured into the middle of the forest (peruweren) are left to feed itself and will be taken back after the rice harvest season.

In the historical development of Gayo’s culture, the peruweren system is not only manifested into the fulfillment of food needs, but also into the form of traditional wisdom. One of the manifestations of traditional wisdom can be seen from socio-cultural values that are implemented in social capital of gayo society. Gayo people prefer buffalo farmed instead of oxen or sheep. There is a correlation between buffalo and the price of buffalo investment is more expensive than oxen and sheep. In addition, buffalo is useful to plowing vast rice fields in Gayo Lues this particular in Blangkejeren area. Buffalo is an animal that fits perfectly with the job of plowing different fields with cow or oxen that do not like mud.

Peruweren manifestations can be seen from social-cultural values that are implemented in social capital in the form: rules about cooperation and mutual open and trust each other. In a peruweren system, buffalo owners give trust to the breeders or handler who keep the buffalo in a lot quantities. Trust is given when the owner of a buffalo has a kinship relationship with a breeder or handler. Proved by regional bonds.

IV. CONCLUSION

Peruweren system is a manifestation of local wisdom inherited from generation to generation in the frame of social capital of gayo society. Gayo people prefer buffalo farmed instead of oxen or sheep. There is a correlation between buffalo and the price of buffalo investment is more expensive than oxen and sheep. In addition, buffalo is useful to Plowing vast rice fields in Gayo Lues this particular in Blangkejeren area. Buffalo is an animal that fits perfectly with the job of plowing different fields with cow or oxen that do not like mud.

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