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Economic Contribution Of Onthel Bike Oject Profession In Urban Communities' Life

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Abstract : The industrial revolution in this 19th and 20th centuries in the world caused the industrial sector to develop rapidly with labor-incentive industrial form. Many rural people migrate to urban areas, which more develop and provide better opportunities for people. The problem is only some labor were hired, especially them with potential skills and expertise, and leave the other unskillful labors that work in informal sectors. For example, in the service provider and trade sectors. The workers in the informal sector do not need the special skills and formal education requirements. Without particular skills, workers in informal sectors gained their experience from friends or relatives who have adapted in the capital city to survive. Although they were not absorbed as employee in the formal sector, they can create new types of work in the informal sector according to the needs of the local community. They work in transportation services as onthel bicycle driver (transportation for person with antique bicycle). This unique means of transportation can only be found in the West and North Jakarta area. This job is easy and does not require a special skill or ability. The minimum income from their long working hours (usually longer than office hour) is better than the income in their hometown and enough for their family need according to their perspective. Their existence (onthel bicycle driver) is a problem for the convenience of urban planning, but on the other hand, it is also a form of independence for newcomers to survive and also provide an affordable and flexible means of transportation for the lower classes of society.

Keywords: onthel bicycle taxis, strategy, economic contribution.

INTRODUCTION

In the era of rapidly developing modernization, many changes that have been felt by the global community. In the 19th and 20th centuries, the industrial revolution resulted in massive changes in the labor sector, especially in the labor-intensive industrial sector.

The pattern of life in urban and rural communities has also changed. Uneven changes in innovation and technology also affect to the skill and knowledge gap. Rural communities are less developed, in the education, employment and development sectors, compared to urban communities. Therefore, many rural communities migrate to the big cities, and it is known as urbanization [1].



Meanwhile, with the rapid development of industry and trade, many new industrial work sector in urban areas began to emerge. The need for labor is absorbed rapidly in urban. This motivates rural communities to migrate and find work opportunities in urban.

The rural community assumes that urban are provide people with larger and easier work opportunities, higher income that meet the daily needs, easier to obtained business loan from the bank, better educational and infrastructure facilities, wider opportunity for skills development, and more heterogenic culture from various social conditions.

The destination is the capital because it is the center of the government. People who have skills and expertise will be absorbed in the formal sector of work, and those who are not absorbed will fill the informal sector jobs. The types of the informal sector are street vendors, motorcycle taxis, food traders and so on.

Onthel has been booming in the capital since the 70s. In the past, onthel bikes were a prestigious and luxurious means of transportation. Usually the aristocratic faction pedaled it. Now onthel bikes have begun to become extinct and can only be found in tourist attractions such as in the Old City of Jakarta. With this onthel motorcycle taxi, the onthel bicycle is preserved.

The advantage of an onthel bicycle is that it does not use fuel, which reduces air pollution and is free of obstacles on the highway. While the drawback is that it has to compete with other public transportation.

Becoming an onthel bicycle ojek driver is an informal job option in the service sector. Easy and inexpensive bicycle maintenance and the absence of difficult requirements make this onthel bike in great demand to become a profession. The location where you are looking for passengers is also a supporting aspect of the existence of this service.

The author's interest in analyzing the contribution of the informal structure of the onthel bicycle ojek to the family economy of the urban community is how onthel bicycle drivers can fulfill the family economy amidst the competition for life in the capital. And to find out what strategies are being carried out in order to survive in this increasingly complex urban area.

LITERATURE REVIEW AND HYPOTHESIS DEVELOPMENT

The paradigm used in this research is the constructivist paradigm, namely the social reality that is observed by a person cannot be generalized to all people as is done by classics and positivists [2].

The constructivist paradigm study puts the position of the researcher as equal and as much as possible enters the object under study, and tries to understand and construct something that becomes the understanding under study [2].

Understanding the meaning is obtained from each statement and behavior. Meaning and

reality depend on the constructivist mind that is obtained from the interaction of the researcher and who is being researched. Truth in constructivists is about the point of view and understanding of the existing conditions. So that there is no independent meaning, and there is no purely objective description[3]. Communication activities are established to be able to obtain data and interpret it according to mutual agreement.

The informal sector shows the urban way of doing something which is characterized by:

- 1. Easy entry in terms of capital and organizational expertise
- 2. Family owned company
- 3. Operates on a small scale
- 4. Labor incentives in the production and use of simple technologies and competitive markets



5. The basic problem of life for informal workers is not poverty but income uncertainty.

Evidenced by the ebb and flow of their business, location, working hours and uncertain daily income[4]. The emergence of the formal sector is the result of an overflowing workforce that cannot be absorbed in the formal sector. To solve the problem of unemployment, this informal sector emerged. This requires a strategy to survive. In the field of management, Hendry Mintzberg defines strategy as 5Ps, namely Perspective, Position, Planning, Patterns of Activity, and Fraud (secret tricks).

The definition of economy is a combination of the word oikos which means household and nomos, which is managing the household. In this case it is not limited to individual households but can also mean family households, villages, cities, governments and the world.

METHODS

Referring to the above research, this study uses qualitative research methods. Qualitative research is subjective and casuistic. Researchers as a human instrument function to determine the focus of research, select informants as data sources, collect data, assess data quality, analyze data, interpret data and make conclusions on their findings[5].

In general, research that uses a qualitative methodology has the following characteristics[6]:

- 1. Intensive, long-term participation in field settings. Researcher is the main research instrument.
- 2. Careful recording of what happened with field notes and other types of documentary evidence.
- 3. Field data analysis
- 4. Report the results including detailed descriptions, quotes and comments.
- 5. There is no single realization, every researcher creates reality as a research process.
- 6. Reality is seen as dynamic and a social construction.
- 7. Subjective and only in the researcher's reference. Researchers as a means of extracting data interpretation.
- 8. Reality can not be selected select
- 9. Researchers produce unique descriptions of the situation and the individual.
- 10. More in depth than breadt
- 11. Unstructured and rational empirical research procedure

The relationship between conceptual theory and data can generate or form new theories.

This type of research is a life history, which is a qualitative approach that is used to obtain information about what is experienced by certain individuals in society who are the object of research[7]. In particular, life history can be done using autobiographies, life experiences, external events, turning points and even events in certain things as a focus.

Life history is useful for obtaining a view from within, through reactions, responses, interpretations and visions of the object under study[7]. These data not only provide information about society but also a part of reality itself. The key to life history is understanding experiences in the life of a person or group.



Determination of informants in a purposive way, namely looking for informants on the basis of certain criteria based on research objectives. People who do not meet the requirements cannot be used as informants[8]. In this study, the criteria established are:

- 1. The informant works as an onthel motorcycle taxi driver
- 2. Informants come from outside the city (research related to urbanization)
- Informants have families to understand the contribution of the economy to family needs
- 4. Informants make their profession their main profession.

This study contained five informants who fit the criteria. In addition to information from informants, researchers also dig information from complementary informants such as family, neighbors, relatives, and users of the onthel motorcycle taxi service.

Data collection techniques used are primary and secondary data obtained from observations and in-depth interviews, as well as documentation. Observation is a data collection tool used to systematically observe and record the symptoms being investigated[9]. Regarding the reality that is seen, heard by the five senses or the atmosphere that is felt or caught by the feeling. Can be found in the behavior during interviews and observations.

The object of observation according to Spradley[5] is called a social situation which consists of three components, among others:

- 1. Place, where the interaction in social situations is taking place
- 2. Actor, the actor who is playing a role
- 3. Activity, activities carried out in social situations

In addition to the five senses, researchers are also assisted by anectodal record or record of behavior history made by researchers and mechanical devices, namely recording devices so that information can be played back.

Then the data is taken through interviews, according to Esterberg[5] the interview is a meeting of two people to exchange information and ideas through question and answer, so that meaning can be constructed in a particular topic. Performed repeatedly and continuously. The interview technique used was guided free interviews. The question and answer process follows the flow of the situation but still has the basic structure of the problem so that it does not lose direction of the conversation. Questions can also arise spontaneously which allows data to be obtained in depth.

As a complement, information from previous reports and research is used to complement the data found in the field. The data analysis technique used is interactive analysis. This model includes three stages, namely deduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. The cycle analysis process is developed on the basis of events obtained when in the field.

The results of data collection are reduced in terms of one particular concept, certain categories, and certain themes. Then organized into a certain form to facilitate presentation and confirmation of conclusions. The data cycle mentioned is not once but interactive depending on the complexity of the problem. Researcher's sensitivity is the blade of research. The collected data will stop at a saturation point where new information will not appear. Furthermore, verifying the truth by considering cases that may exist in the research location.

The validity of the information is obtained by cross-checking with the degree of trustworthiness, transferability, dependability, and certainty. Regarding information from key informants, supporting informants and the circumstances of the



observations. The research was conducted for five months, starting from January 19, 2010 to June 19, 2010.

The research locations were around Jakarta Kota Station, in front of the Mandiri Museum, and in the Kota Tua Tourism area. The location classification is carried out because of the differences in the location characteristics of the three places.

Jakarta Kota Station is a place of high mobility because it is crowded with passengers getting on and off inter-city trains. At this location the onthel ojek must compete with public transport and motorbike taxis. The second location is in front of the Bank Mandiri Museum. Here there are not too many onthel ojegs, they also have to compete with public transport. Usually, passengers are local tourists who are looking for transportation to the tourist area. The third location is the Old City Tourism area. It is a neat and orderly hangout. Onthel ojeg drivers also work as tour guides.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Background information on the profession of onthel bicycle taxi drivers is obtained from the selected informant. Data collection was conducted by in-depth interview and observation of driver's behavior and daily life. The data was recorded to keep it from scattered or lost. Cross-check of data validity was done using supporting informants. Report then were made based on the interview and observation data. The results of this study are:

- 1. The basic problem for driver is not poverty, but income uncertainty.
- 2. It is a problem for the convenience of urban planning, but also a form of independency for immigrant to start a new job to survive in the city.
- 3. It is an affordable and flexible means of transportation for the lower class of society.
- 4. The profession of onthel bicycle taxi drivers can only be found in certain areas such as tourist attractions in Jakarta, Tanjung Priok Bus Terminal, and Sunda Kelapa Harbor.
- 5. Onthel bicycle drivers mentioned that they were often involved in the tourism events that was held by City Office as tour guides.
- 6. Competition among onthel bicycle drivers also often occurs. They solved it by arranged their own queue system in escort the passengers.
- 7. Living in the same profession with all the ups and downs, makes the solidarity among them high.

Onthel bicycle drivers' strategy in increasing their income is to find strategic places to stay. They also try to understand and communicate using foreign languages with the tourists. Their friendly attitude and polite language style are also the main attractions in provide good transportation service.

CONCLUSIONS

The conclusions of this research are:

- 1. Limited skill and initial capital does not always limit people to work, but can be an opportunity to open new job to survive.
- 2. The affordable costs of transportation are still in great demand by the public, it was proved by the number of customers that use onthel bycicle transportation.



- 3. The weakness of this job is on the uncertainty of income to meet the economic needs of the family.
- 4. However, if the onthel bicycle drivers are able to manage their income, it will be enough to meet their basic needs for cloth, food, shelter and children's education.
- 5. Due to the flexible and self-management of their working hours, drivers can arrange their time according to their preference.

The study is expected to provide information and help readers to understand the onthel bicycle driver's life. In addition, it also could provide new insight for policies development for the government, especially regarding the onthel bicycle transportation.

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