

"Water Politics": Gampong Lengkong Existence in Langsa City 2000-2021

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Abstract

Water is a natural resource that has a very important function for the life of living things on earth. The existence of Gampong Lengkong has brought its own changes since 2000 after the existence of a clean water industry by managing clean water that is in the ground. This study aims to obtain a complete and integrated understanding of the clean water household industry in Gampong Lengkong, Langsa City, which affects the community both in terms of politics and existence. Using qualitative methods with data collection techniques literature study, observation, interviews, documentation. Based on the research results, it is concluded as follows: In 1995 marked the emergence of a water industry being developed in an area which is a peat land area, the Gampong Lengkong area was developed into a small household industrial area. At this early stage the area did not exploit so many clean water. In its existence, the people of Gampong Lengkong are greatly helped by the clean water industry. Besides, there is a political element in every policy taken for the implementation of economic activities in Lengkong Village. Political activity is characterized in three dimensions, namely: activity, decision making, and distribution of clean water.

Keywords

water politics;
existence; and
gampong lengkong



I. Introduction

Water is a natural resource that has a very important function for the life of living things on earth. Water is the main important element for human development and therefore also has strong connection with security (Keskinen in Woldemaryam, 2020). This is in accordance with Millah's statement (2019: 13) where there is no life if there is no water on earth, because water is the main need for life processes. On that basis, we need to continue to protect water so that it can be useful for human life and other living creatures. This indicates that water must remain available and sustainable. Life cannot exist without water. Clean water is very important in urban areas, given the very large activities of urban life compared to villages. To meet the water needs of residents in urban areas, they do not only rely on direct water sources such as rainwater or surface water, because the water has been polluted as a result of human actions. Groundwater is one of the solutions for urban residents to meet these needs, but it has limitations in quality and quantity. In addition, excessive groundwater extraction can have an impact on land subsidence.

Langsa City is one of the youngest autonomous cities born in Aceh Province. The city is approximately 400 km from the city of Banda Aceh. Langsa City previously had the status of an administrative city in accordance with the government regulation of the Republic of

Indonesia Number 64 of 1991 concerning the Establishment of Langsa Administrative City. Langsa Administrative City was elevated to the status of Langsa City based on Law Number 3 dated June 21, 2001. The anniversary of Langsa City was set on October 17, 2001. Langsa City has many villages or villages, one of which is Gampong Lengkok. Judging from the Langsa City area, Gampong Lengkok itself is located to the southwest of Langsa City. This region has land that produces the cleanest water in Langsa City. In general, people often use shallow groundwater for their daily needs by making wells to a certain depth.

The existence of Gampong Lengkok has brought its own changes since 2000 after the existence of the clean water industry by managing clean water that is in the ground. According to Amin (2015: 10) the processing industry is an economic activity that carries out activities to change basic goods mechanically, chemically, or by hand so that they become finished / semi-finished goods, and / or goods with less value become goods of higher value. Included in this activity is a service industry and assembly work (assembling). Community Langsa feel terba n tu with clean water, along with the development of the times use of clean water in the Village Lengkok begin packaged in the form of domestic industry. Economically, this activity has an impact on the income of local residents. This directly becomes a way to open up the employment sector. Many residents (especially men) supply clean water from Gampong Lengkok to various areas in Langsa City. This problem has led to the existence of Gampong Lengkok in Langsa City and its surroundings.

According to Rizkia (2017: 71-72) existence is important for every business and community, because through the existence of a social community it will last and be recognized for its existence. Meanwhile, according to Hariri (2018: 256) between communities that one with the other communities of course have a different existence depends on how the strategies they use to defend eksistensi in his efforts. The existence of the home industry in managing clean water in Lengkok Gampong gives the Gampong its own strength. The political dimension slowly emerged. Gampongengkok has often become an icon, or (symbol) of regional uniqueness in the regional political arena. With this existence, Gampong Lengkok will indirectly apply the value of political power such as: clean water management activities, clean water management decision making and clean water distribution to various areas in Langsa City. The same thing is also found in Achdian's research (2020: 99) which states that there are groups or private citizens who often conflict with the government on the issue of the vision of managing clean water.

Indeed pemerin tah especially local government in some areas trying to address the problem of clean water and sanitation a community, but sometimes do not implement the program to the fullest because it tends policies made partial and momentary. It is not continuous, so the problem is patchy, as a result the results obtained are not optimal (Farid. 2017 : 73) . The political power of Gampong Lengkok with the existence of a clean water household industry often raises its own problems. Among these issues are sociological and geological aspects related to environmental damage.

Sociological problems are marked by debates that arise, both from the people of Gampong Lengkok and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) engaged in environmentalists, the surrounding communities are generally worried about the condition of the damage to the land they live in. Based on these problems, research was conducted to obtain a complete and integrated understanding of the clean water household industry in Gampong Lengkok, Langsa City, which affects the community both in terms of politics and existence. Health care system because it deals with various policies made by each country (Shinta, 2020).

II. Research Methods

The method is a guide on how the research is carried out, using what tools and materials, how are the procedures (Widi, 2010: 24). This research uses a qualitative approach. According to Moleong (2006: 6) research which intends is to understand the phenomenon of what is experienced by research subjects, for example behavior, perceptions, actions, etc. holistically by means of descriptions in the form of words and language in a special context which is natural. This study intends to obtain a complete and integrated understanding of the clean water household industry in Gampong Lengkong, Langsa City which influences society, both politics and existence.

The data collection techniques used are (1) literature study, which is a process of searching for literature and reading sources that can facilitate the research process. (2) Observation, in obtaining data that is more complete, sharp, and to know the level of meaning of each behavior seen. (3) Interviews are questions and answers to informants who can really provide data that is in accordance with the research problem. (4) Documentation so that it is easier for the author to obtain the required data in a short time.

III. Discussion

3.1 Historical Background the Emergence of Clean Water Treatment Household Industry in Lengkong Village

For the first time in 1995, the emergence of a clean water treatment household industry in Gampong Lengkong was developed by Pak Sofyan . In this area, groundwater is very abundant, by drilling a depth of one meter and a half, it has released water. This is inseparable from the structure of the peat soil in the area. In the beginning, not many people exploited clean water. However, several years later the community followed the steps taken by Pak Sofyan in drilling for water to be traded. Precisely in 2000 onwards the clean water treatment household industry began to develop as a clean water industrial area which was well known by the people of Langsa City and Aceh Tamiang.

In 2005, this clean water treatment household industry was further developed in various activities, such as supplying water in the City of Langsa and its surroundings. In trading activities, this industry uses tank cars and rickshaws to reach all areas of Langsa City and Aceh Tamiang (Samsul Bahri). Some of the factors that have influenced the development of the clean water treatment home industry to date are as follows.

a. Geographical Factors

Gampong Lengong has actually been around since 1999, but previously the village was called Gampong Lengkong Gedubang Jawa which means a combination of two villages, namely Gampong Lengkong and Gampong Gedubang Jawa. However, after the Gampong division process, it could be separated and since then Lengkong became a separate Gampong which was finally given the name Gampong Lengkong . The reason why the Gampong is called “Lengkong” is because in ancient times the Gampong had soil characteristics which tended to be black, soft and also contained a lot of water, so that the land resembled grass jelly (Lengkong). This is what makes the village named Gampong Lengkong (KPM UNSAM Report. 2018).

Geographically, Gampong Lengkong is located slightly higher than sea level. In addition, this area has a peat soil texture which contains abundant clean water. This can be seen when in the process of making sewers, water comes out of the dredged soil walls

(Samsul Bahri) . This advantageous location makes clean water treatment the main activity of the community in this area. The availability of abundant groundwater in this area makes Gampong Lengkong a center for clean water.

When viewed geographically, Gampong Lengkong is one of the villages located in the Langsa Baro sub-district, Langsa City, Aceh Province. The Gampong Lengkong area is surrounded by oil palm plantations belonging to a state-owned company known as PTPN. Lengkong Village is divided into 5 hamlets, namely Dusun Mulia, Dusun Keluarga, Dusun Karya, Dusun Sejahtera, and Dusun Rukun.

b. Economic Factors

In line with the development of the City and the rapid growth of the population in Langsa City, there is a demand for clean water needs which continues to increase. For this reason, the growth of the clean water treatment industry in Gampong Lengkong is the answer to this problem. That way, it is able to serve the needs of clean water for both commercial, household, agency and water filling business owners in Langsa City. In connection with clean water supply planning efforts, it is necessary to have economic factors in determining the price of clean water in the clean water processing household industry in Gampong Lengkong. For this reason, the owner of a clean water treatment home industry determines the price according to the capacity of the community (Putra). The existence of a clean water treatment household industry in Gampong Lengkong has many advantages, one of which is from an economic perspective. The community can use clean water as a source of income, especially industrial owners, workers, and businesses around industrial areas such as food stalls and restaurants.

c. Educational Factor

The existence of a clean water treatment household industry in Gampong Lengkong does not really affect education. This can be seen from the employees who work in the clean water treatment industry who are not experts in the field of drilling. However, on the other hand, there is an interesting thing when viewed from the development of the clean water treatment household industry here, which affects the differences in the level of income received, among others: education level, work experience, expertise possessed, business sector and business location sector. Like what Pak Umar, who owns a clean water processing household industry, said. Most of those who work in industry only graduate from junior and senior high school. Even though this industry should have experts in their fields, the reason is related to the environment and soil ecosystem which will be used as a clean water treatment household industry.

It is very unfortunate in the management of the clean water industry in Gampong Lengkong that they have never provided guidance and education in the employee development process by the industry with the aim of developing the ability to properly manage water. The need for education and training if created by the water industry in Gampong Lengkong is actually beneficial for the industry itself, be it employees, consumers, or the community. The purpose of education and training is actually a guideline in implementing and properly monitoring water quality in Lengkong Village (Putra).

In fact, providing education or training to employees will affect the quality of water consumption patterns at the income level in the management of home industries, besides that it will also affect water consumption patterns and work in the field. However, public awareness is still lacking on the virtue of experts in clean water management. According to Trisnaini (2018: 30) the conditions show that the educational level of employees who are

in charge of filling gallons are those who have received education up to the high school level, so they should be able to understand well if given information and instructions in the process of filling gallons that meet the requirements of good hygiene and sanitation. From the above statement shows, if the owner and employees have received courses/training, it is expected that they will have acquired knowledge about hygienic and sanitation clean water management. Furthermore, they have the awareness to apply to industrial businesses.

3.2 Political Dimensions Gampong Lengkong as a Provider of Clean Water Treatment Home Industries

Water is a natural resource that is very important for living things in the world. The availability of good water resources will support growth and prosperity, because water plays a major role in various aspects that can maintain survival and support economic growth. This is what makes the availability of clean water sources often become the agenda of state policies as well as political interests. The political dimension exists in water resources management, which is not merely a matter of water resources management or an operation and maintenance issue but is related to the socio-political structure. There is a close relationship between power and social networks in water governance. In Gampongengkong itself, the government's interest is not very visible, marked by the absence of a meaningful regulation and also special assistance for the household water treatment industry.

The clean water treatment household industry in Lengkong Village plays an important role in economic, social and environmental development. Along with its role as a center for clean water, some people are worried about the large number of boreholes and excessive water exploitation that has an impact on the environment (Abdul Kahar). Dependence on water as the main factor becomes the dynamic of political relations between industrial owners, government, consumers, and society. The interests here create conflicts that often experience ups and downs. Economic interests have become a political issue, causing problems in society and become an important issue every day in Lengkong Village. Conflicts between communities and industrial owners often escalate, leading to other problems. This requires the Gampong government to strive to ease tensions between industrial owners and the community (Samsul Bahri).

Even though from 2015 to 2019 the existence of a clean water processing household industry in Lengkong Village remained as usual there was no significant addition of drilled wells. This is due to limited permits from the Gampong Government which are feared to have fatal consequences for the environment and result in conflicts among the people who want the clean water industry to be closed immediately. Local residents assess that the existence of businesses selling raw water in their Gampong has harmed the surrounding community. This is because some of the residents' houses have reportedly cracked in the bigian walls due to the impact of excess water exploitation. Langsa City Government has been urged to close this business, because the walls of their houses are cracked. "Apart from the impact of house damage, another impact is that it is difficult to get water to wash clothes" said one housewife. Dozens of local residents admitted that they were ready to be relocated to another place, if the Langsa City government did not immediately make a decision to close their businesses selling raw water in their village (Serambinews.com).

As the researchers found in the field when conducting interviews with clean water treatment home industry owners. The owner of the industry refuses to be interviewed because he is afraid to get into the newspaper and so on. This occurs due to conflicts that occur between the community and the owners of the clean water processing home

industry. The interest in managing the home industry in Gampong Lengkong is full of interests. One of the highlights of this management is the support from the Gampong government. The Lengkong Gampong government imposes a taxpayer on every industrial owner. The tax is calculated from every sales amount to tank cars, rickshaws, even every one gallon. This seems to show that the Gampong government is taking advantage of this industry, which seems to illustrate that there is cooperation between the Gampong government and the industry.

In early 2018 there was an interception by the people of Gampong Lengkong against a tanker that supplied water to the Teulaga Tujuh area. However, this did not last long due to reasons for the Teulaga Tujuh community who could not get access to water from PDAM (Samsul Aswar). From this explanation, it can be seen how the conflict that occurred in the community of Gampong Lengkong. On the other hand, the need for clean water in Langsa City and its surroundings is very much.

3.3 Existence Gampong Lengkong s sa Provider Household Industrial Water Treatment

The problem of clean water continues to be a major factor in the community in Langsa City in general. Starting in 2000, the clean water treatment household industry in Lengkong Village began to be widely recognized by the people of Langsa City. With the number of growing and developing clean water industries here, economic activities are starting to come to life in Lengkong Village. Many unemployed youth turn to become clean water suppliers to the hinterlands of the Gampong in Langsa City by using tank cars, pick-ups, and rickshaws. In fact, the impact of the clean water industry becomes income for the Gampong Lengkong Government by requiring each industry to be taxed for every sale of one tank car, gallon, and jerry can (Supomo).

In its existence, the clean water treatment home industry often experiences ups and downs, there are many problems in its development. This can be based on factors of natural resources, human resources, production equipment technology, and the lack of training for small and medium enterprises. Gampongengkong is well known for its clean water industry, which until now is still considered promising by some people, because it is still consistent. The clean water treatment household industry here has progressed. It can be seen that along the entrance to Lengkong Village, there are several water industries that are active in buying and selling water to tank cars and rickshaws. Although it has been around since 2000 until now, it started from ordinary drilling to become advanced and promises to be sufficient in income. So far, the clean water industry has become the identity of the people of Gampong Lengkong, and has become a source of income for the community. Although it is known to be the center of the clean water industry in Langsa City, this clean water processing home industry is only used as a side business because the average industrial owner works as civil servants, plantation employees, and farmers (Syahri a l).

Business competition also occurs, many water industries offer the same products and are of course needed by consumers. This competition also occurs in isotonic beverage products, various kinds of isotonic drinks are circulating in the market offering various types, innovations, and benefits. However, the production of clean water in Gampong Lengkong remains a top priority for the people of Langsa City and is used for various needs.

IV. Conclusion

1995 marked the beginning of the emergence of the clean water industry which was developed by Sofiyan in the peat land area of Gampong Lengkong . This area contains a lot of water with drilling one meter and a half already discharging water. Initially, not many exploited clean water . Over time, the exploitation of clean water increased. This has an effect on geographical, economic and educational factors.

The existence of the clean water treatment industry in the household is very influential on society. Besides that, there is a political element in every policy that is taken for the implementation of clean water management. It is characterized by three dimensions, namely: activity, decision making, and distribution of clean water in Lengkong Village . With various activities carried out by the people of Gampong Lengkong, especially those who have a clean water treatment household industry. Every day, people who have clean water industries are taken from the ground and sold to various areas in Langsa City and its surroundings.

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