

ABSTRACT

This study is focusing on the phenomenon of the remittance accumulation strategy performed by circular migrants of the Javanese and Sundanese ethnic groups, who are engaged in the informal sector of Jakarta urban labor market. The object of the study are the hawkers or petty traders, housemaids or household assistants, and prostitutes.

The study was conducted in several villages of Central Jakarta, in the Subdistricts of Tanah Abang and Gambir. The study was carried out from mid June until the end of October 1992.

The study shows that factors concerning income disparities, transport facilities, the limited employment opportunities in the village of origin, and the dynamic economic development of Jakarta all have stimulated the aspirations of the villages people to try their luck in the capital city which is full of the challenges of life.

The field study also shows that, on the whole, there is no significant difference between the strategy of the Javanese and Sundanese ethnic groups in finding sources of occupation in Jakarta. Most of the migrants make use of kinship or friendship network, either between relatives or friends of the same home village. Even so, the partial analysis shows several exceptions. Many prostitutes arrived in the city through disguised inter-organization. In facing the tight competition in the places of destination, these migrants have to be hardworking, industrious, and unyielding; they have to be most efficient to meet the basic day-to-day subsistence needs in the city. The settlement strategy and the efforts to provide the bare essentials to enable migrants to live each day have forced most of them — though as a whole shows some difference in dimension — to move in groups in the slum areas. But this exception only works for household servants. Further more, the strategy of meeting the basic items of every needs such as clothes, recreation, transport facilities, and medical services does not shows any significant difference. The same phenomenon also goes with efforts to increase the migrant's income, as observed either through partial analysis or in the general sense. The study even shows that, unlike the income earning strategies; the Javanese migrants tend to be more economical in spending money for their every day living costs. This phenomenon, in turn, gives some reflections on the remittances which could be enjoyed by the family back home.

As the end, the study also shows that there are some similarities among migrants in making their savings. Most of the migrants make their saving in the house. On the other hand, concerning the strategy of sending remittance home, the study clearly shows that there is a significant difference in dimension. It can thus be concluded that, essentially, the strategy of remittance accumulation is one of the alternative strategies of the village people in their efforts of enjoying the results of the country's development which has so far been more concentrated in the big cities like Jakarta.

Key words: 1). Accumulation Strategies of Remittance
2). Informal Urban Labor Market
3). Circular Migration

INTISARI

Penelitian ini memusatkan perhatian pada fenomena strategi akumulasi remitan, yang ditempuh migran sirkuler etnik Jawa dan Sunda di pasar tenaga kerja informal Jakarta. Objek yang diteliti adalah pedagang kaki lima, pembantu rumah tangga, dan wanita tuna susila. Penelitian dilakukan di beberapa kelurahan Kecamatan Tanah Abang dan Gambir, Jakarta Pusat. Pengumpulan data sejak pertengahan Juni hingga akhir Oktober tahun 1992.

Dari hasil penelitian diperoleh kejelasan bahwa faktor disparitas pendapatan, kemudahan sarana transportasi, masalah keterbatasan usaha di daerah asal, dan dinamisnya situasi perkembangan ekonomi Jakarta, merangsang aspirasi penduduk desa untuk mengadu nasib di ibukota, yang penuh dengan berbagai tantangan kehidupan.

Lebih jauh survei lapangan ini menunjukkan bahwa secara umum tidak ditemukan perbedaan yang signifikan antara strategi migran etnik Jawa dan Sunda, dalam mendapatkan sumber penghidupannya di ibukota. Kebanyakan memanfaatkan hubungan kekerabatan; baik antar jalur sesama keluarga, maupun antar teman sekampung. Dalam analisis parsial diperlihatkan suatu perkecualian. Sebagian dari wanita penghibur, memperolehnya melalui jaringan kerjasama antar-organisasi terselubung.

Dalam menghadapi kompetisi usaha di daerah tujuan, mereka berusaha bekerja keras, rajin dan ulet, serta bertindak seefisien mungkin dalam menekan anggaran pengeluaran. Strategi pemukiman dan pemenuhan kebutuhan pangan yang ditempuhnya, kendati dalam konteks secara keseluruhan mengisyaratkan ada perbedaan, kebanyakan berdomisili mengelompok di kawasan pemukiman kumuh. Dengan kekecualian hanya berlaku pada segmentasi pekerjaan pembantu rumah tangga. Selebihnya strategi penekanan biaya hidup yang terkait dengan aspek pemenuhan kebutuhan pakaian, hiburan, sarana transportasi dan pelayanan medik, tidak menunjukkan perbedaan nyata. Hal yang sama juga berlaku pada upaya dalam meningkatkan taraf pendapatan dan tingkat penghasilan yang diperoleh, baik dibuktikan melalui analisis parsial, maupun secara keseluruhan. Berbeda dengan strategi dalam memperoleh penghasilan, ternyata pada cara menekan anggaran biaya hidup terdapat kecenderungan bahwa; migran etnik Jawa lebih intensif daripada etnik Sunda. Fenomena ini pada gilirannya memberikan refleksi terhadap kapasitas remitan yang dapat dinikmati anggota keluarga di daerah asal.

Akhirnya, hasil penelitian juga membuktikan bahwa strategi migran dalam menabung banyak memiliki kesamaan. Umumnya dilakukan dengan cara menyimpan sendiri. Namun pada bagian lain, dalam strategi pengiriman remitan tampak perbedaan yang sangat signifikan. Terlepas dari adanya perbedaan ini semua, pada hakikatnya strategi akumulasi remitan merupakan strategi alternatif penduduk desa, dalam upaya mencicipi hasil-hasil pembangunan — yang selama ini lebih banyak terkonsentrasi di kota-kota besar seperti Jakarta.

Kata-kata kunci: 1). Strategi Akumulasi Remitan
2). Pasar Tenaga Kerja Informal Perkotaan
3). Migrasi Sirkuler