The Movement of Bali Reject Reclamation

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# THE MOVEMENT OF BALI REJECT RECLAMATION

(The Phenomenological Study Of Balinese Society Movement Rejects Benoa Bay Reclamation Among #ForBALI Alliances)

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Abstrak. Bali dikenal sebagai kawasan wisata, dengan budaya dan seni khas yang membuat wisatawan tertarik untuk berkunjung ke Bali. Bali sejak tahun 2012 dihadapkan dengan rencana proyek Teluk Benoa Reklamasi seluas 838 hektar yang menuai pro dan kontra dari masyarakat. Pro dan kontra yang muncul dan menjadi polemik karena berbagai pertimbangan jika proyek dibangun. Salah satu reaksi yang diberikan oleh kebanyakan orang Bali terhadap kebijakan reklamasi Teluk Benoa adalah penolakan terhadap reklamasi, kemudian membentuk aliansi komunitas yang tergabung dalam #ForBALI (Forum Rakyat Bali Tolak Reklamasi). Aliansi #ForBALI bergerak secara masif dan konsisten menyuarakan penolakan terhadap rencana reklamasi. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mencoba mengetahui motif #ForBALI menolak proyek reklamasi Teluk Benoa dan untuk mengetahui arti penolakan terhadap rencana proyek reklamasi Teluk Benoa. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif dengan pendekatan fenomenologi. Informan kunci dalam penelitian ini adalah dari para aktivis, mahasiswa, dan musisi yang sadar akan masalah lingkungan tentang reklamasi. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa lima motif di balik penolakan reklamasi adalah dorongan rasa ingin tahu, perasaan cinta, ketakutan, ingin mempengaruhi orang lain, dan merasa dibohongi. Gerakan reklamasi penolakan memiliki simbol yang mengepalkan tangan kiri ke atas.

Kata Kunci: #ForBali, gerakan, motif, makna, tolak reklamasi

Abstract. Bali known as tourism area, with a distinctive culture and art that makes tourists interested to visit Bali. Bali since 2012 faced with 838-hectare Benoa Reclamation Bay project plan that reap the pros and cons of the community. The pros and cons that arise and become polemical due to various considerations if the project is built. One of the reactions given by most Balinese to the reclamation policy of Benoa Bay was the rejection of reclamation, then formed a community alliance incorporated in ForBALI (Forum Rakyat Bali Tolak Reklamasi). The #forbali alliance is moving massively and consistently voicing rejection of the reclamation plan. The purpose of this research is to try to find out the motives of ForBALI reject the reclamation project of Benoa Bay and to know the meaning of rejection to the plan of reclamation project of Benoa Bay. This research uses qualitative method with phenomenology approach. The key informants in this study are from activists, students, and musicians that aware with environment issues about reclamation. The results of this study indicate that the five motives behind the rejection of reclamation are the urge of curiosity, the feeling of love, the fear, want to influence others, and feel lied to.

Keywords: #forBali, Movement, Motives, Meaning, Reject Reclamation

#### INTRODUCTION

Bali is a province in the Republic of Indonesia located between Java island and Lombok island. The island holds incredible natural beauty such as verdant rice fields and provides peace and tranquility, towering volcanoes that look great and close, and the beauty of the beach and the amazing expanse of sand and cultural uniqueness that is still

attached to the present day. Balinese society has a distinctive culture and art. Culture and art is closely related to the Hindu religion that some people in Bali adheres to Hinduism. For Balinese people, art has become part of their daily life. Art is always needed and always exist in every social activities in Bali whether it is religious, social, cultural and other activities. Culture in Bali can indeed be said to be preserved from

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generation to generation, not because of the many tourists who visit it, but indeed the commitment of the Balinese who will continue to maintain the culture so that it becomes characteristic of Bali.

Bali since 2012 faced with the Benoa Bay Reclamation project which has plan 838-hectare that reaps the pro and contra of the society. The Pro and contra that arise and become polemical because of many various considerations if the project is built. Many studies conducted on the Benoa Reclamation Bay project are whether feasible to continue or not to continue and how impact of this project in the future. Reclamation in general definition can be interpreted as making a new land on land be composed of water and previously the land is useless or in other words reclamation is an attempt to utilize useless and aquatic land to be more useful, such as in coastal areas, bays or swamp In the middle of the river or in the lake. Basically the reclamation activity is the activity of turning the waters into a new land.

Appearance of Presidential Regulation No. 51 2014 which allowed reclamation to take place in the Bay of Benoa conservation area, as if a new chapter for the society for fighting and keeping Bali from reclamation. In this regulation, the Bay of Benoa region, originally an L3 zone or conservation zone, is now included in a P or buffer zone in which it allows activities such as marine, fishery, tourism, economic development, settlement, and even reclamation activities.

One of the reactions or responses most of the Balinese have given to the policy of the Benoa Bay reclamation is rejection. From there the beginning of the formation of a society alliance incorporated in ForBALI (Forum Rakyat Bali Reject Reclamation). ForBALI was born from the initiative of young Balinese who come from various ethnic. religion, class. profession. ForBALI is a cross-sectoral Bali civil society alliance composed institutions individuals. both and NGOs, students. artists, youth, musicians, academics and individuals who care about the environment and have confidence that the Benoa Bay Reclamation is a policy of Bali's destruction (www.ForBALI.org).

Since the issue of reclamation has been rolling, conducted a demo calling the rejection, which initially only a handful of people joined to the streets, the longer the more demostrants joined to the streets to thousands. Regarding the reclamation conflict in Benoa Bay, previously there was a study that discussed the social movement in Bali. The study by Tri Anggara Vali (2017) regarding the #ForBali movement used the theory of the New Social Movement, the Resource Mobilization Theory. Vali's research conveys the results that the refusal of the reclamation movement in Benoa Bay was much influenced by cultural factors of the Balinese people. The findings in this study indicate that, ForBALI in organizing movements is influenced by leaders, supporters, financial assets, talented professionals and non-mainstream media. In this movement there was an interesting attraction between the people who refused and supported the reclamation of Benoa Bay. In contrast to Vali's research, this study seek the motives of the #Forbali movement members in rejecting the reclamation of Benoa Bay, and how the members of this movement interpreted the #ForBali movement.

Resistance to the Benoa Bay reclamation plan came from various

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groups of society, like ethnic group, religion, academics, and art activists. The resistance were through demonstrations start from negotiations, seminars and dialogues in society, the creation of Balinese song clip Reject Reclamation and production of clothes rejects reclamation and production of kites reject reclamation being flown in Bali. Various kinds of resistance carried out by the Balinese are carried out in a sustainable manner and structure.

This is a phenomenon occurring in Bali. the rejection movement incorporated in ForBALI, which is doing almost every week, whether it is demonstrations, music shows with reclamation, themes that rejects seminars on reclamation and etc. Therefore based on the phenomenon the researchers want to raise about the reclamation into the object of research. Based on the above background, the researcher formulates the problem of "Movement of Bali Society Rejects Reclamation of Benoa Bay". Based on the background of problems, the focus of this research is the motives of ForBALI alliance members to reject the Benoa Bay reclamation project. This research also want to reveal how the people who rejected the reclamation of Benoa Bay interpreted the rejection activities they did.

#### Research Methodology

The method used in this research is qualitative research with phenomenology approach. Bogdan and Taylor (in Moleong 2002 : 3) defines a qualitative method as a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or oral of people and observable behavior. The main purpose of qualitative research is to understand the phenomenon of social phenomena by focusing more on a

complete picture of the phenomena being examined than to detail them into interrelated variables (Maudia, Hafiar, & Sani, 2018).

This research phenomenology study, to reveal the motives and meaning behind the rejection movement of the Bay of Benoa Reclamation project in Bali, therefore the writer wanted to know how the perspective of activist refusal. Phenomenology comes from the word phenomenon, which means appearance of an object, event or condition in the perception of individual. Phenomenology (phenomenology) uses direct experience as a way of understanding the world. The main purpose of phenomenology is to study how phenomena are experienced consciousness, mind, and in action, such as how the phenomenon is valued or accepted aesthetically (Kuswarno, 2013: 2). Phenomenology seeks to understand how humans construct meaning and important concepts within the framework of intersubjectivity. Schutz argues that interpretation is a way of understanding social action. Where, social action is an action oriented to the behavior of other people or people in the past, present and future. This social action is based experience, meaning and consciousness (Kuswarno, 2013: 17).

In this study, there are 4 informants, consisting of several people who are different fields of work, selected in this study are those that fit with characteristics that have been established by researchers. The limitations of the informants in this research are men, 20-30 years age, refuse reclamation and have been directly involved in the movement to

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refuse reclamation, so the informant has its own experience, and willing to be interviewed and tell the experience.

## **Findings and Discussion**

At this stage we will discuss the results of interviews and link the relevant theories, in order to get a understanding of clearer the phenomenon of the Balinese society movement reject the reclamation of Benoa Bay. Benoa Bay reclamation South Kuta, Badung transformed into a prolonged polemic. Pros and cons began to emerge against the Benoa Bay reclamation project plan, but the focus in this study are people who contra against the plan of the Bay reclamation project Benoa. Those who consider licensing to refuse reclamation are unfair, many fraud committed to issue this reclamation license

Nyoman Angga Yudista or often called Man Angga is the first informant, he is a musician who is quite famous in Bali, Man Angga is a guitarist of the band named Nosstress. Man Angga knows about reclamation issues from his friends because he is a musician while musicians hang out with many communities and one of the community is WALHI (Forum for the Environment). According to reclamation is not the right way to promote tourism in Bali, the main reason Man Angga was chosen to be an informant, because the character owned by Man Angga in accordance with the character set by the researcher.

The second informant is I Ketut Gede Yoga Pustaka or Yoga, Yoga knows the existence of the reclamation project plan since 3.5 years ago. At first Yoga only heard the issue of his friends then he was interested in depth and as much information as possible about reclamation of Benoa Bay through friends and information circulating on the internet. He never took to the streets. he voiced his aspirations through social media that he had. The third informant is I Wayan Saniyasa or Sani. Bli Sani is now 25 years old, and works in a private company in Bali. In addition to work Bali Sani is a youth leader in Sidakarya Traditional Village, he was the pioneer of the formation of a youth community in Desa Adat Sidakarya that rejected the reclamation plan at bay named Jalak Sidakarya. The last informant is I Wayan Adi Jayanata or Adi Beh, his job is a contract employee, Adi is 26 years old. Adi is also a youth leader in Desa Adat Sidakarya, together with Sani moves and spearheads the formation of youth community in Desa Sidakarya which rejects the plan of Benlam Bay reclamation project named Jalak Bali.

From that informants of this research, those who refuse to assume that permits issued by the government are done in a silent and seemingly manipulative, that is what underlies forBALI formed. Although the rejection of the plan came from various circles of Balinese society, the Governor of Bali persisted with his decision to issued the decree about permit for reclamation. Along with the issuance of Presidential Regulation Number 51 of 2013 which wants the reclamation in Benoa Bay, this movement is still the spirit to refuse policy. This movement widespread even all professions take part to voice Bali Reject Reclamation in their own way.

Musical performances were held with the aim of voicing their aspirations to refuse reclamation, then establishing hundreds of more billboards stating the

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reclaiming of Benoa Bay. The spirit of rejection reclamation is not only done in the real world only, through social media such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Path, and others. Resistance is indicated by the number of votes rejection reclamation by using Bali hastag refuse reclamation and reject The Presidential Regulation no 51 of 2013.

## **Motives of Reclamation Rejection**

The result of the interviews found that the motives of the informants who rejected the reclamation of Benoa Bay were divided into two historical phases seen from the movements carried out during the rejection, namely the impact caused would be by reclamation. When the researcher ask the informant what the underlying reason for the informant refuses reclamation. Man Angga explained that he refused reclamation because the reclamation of Benoa Bay would affect the environment. The most important thing is that if the Benoa Bay reclamation occurs, it will certainly make some environmental damage to Bali because Benoa Bay is a trough, a container for rivers in Bali.

The reason was later reaffirmed by Man Angga why he refused the Benoa Bay reclamation plan. The reclamation project actually looks forced, because investors who will conduct reclamation must get approval, especially from residents who live around it. Even though all the people of Banjar (village) and Pasubayan who moved, it means that the indigenous people there have expressed rejection.

Meanwhile, Yoga explained the reason why he refused the Benoa Bay reclamation plan. From the beginning of the reclamation project there was a suspicion that many licensing and

management permits were manipulated. in the sense of the employer and the government there are some regulations that are misused.

Meanwhile, Bli Saniyasa rejected the plan for the Benoa Bay reclamation project because when Benoa Bay was not piled up, there were frequent tidal floods, what if it was piled up. Sidakarya becomes the crossing of two major rivers that are directly connected to the sea, so that if there is rob water there will be a flood.

From various reasons put forward by informants, can be summarized several reasons rejection of Benoa Bay reclamation. First reason is the fear of environmental damage and the future impact that will be caused by the reclamation of Benoa Bay. The second is that they feel they have been cheated and considered cheating to the launch plan of the Benoa Bay reclamation project.

Some motives that underlying the rejection of Benoa Bay reclamation by Balinese people incorporated in the forBali movement can be summarized as follows:

### **Curiosity Motive**

The motives by informers who originated from their curiosity can be because motive or motive for (past) or as suggested by Alfred Schutz in the phase of action perpetrated by the individual. Because of the urge to know them about the issue of reclamation that informants took the decision to reject the reclamation of Benoa Bay.

One of the motivators that became the initial motive of the informant conducted the rejection of the reclamation plan started from the

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> scattered issues then find out. All informants agreed on the impulse. Man Angga as the first informant explains how early he knew about the reclamation project plan issues since 4 years, he knew from his friends musicians who joined in one of them WALHI a community engaged in the environment, because often meet with the community he scours as much information so he declares that he rejects Benoa Bay reclamation plan. In accordance with the informants responses, understood that one of the motives reclamation project rejection plan is the curiosity of the informant, with which the informant can know and understand what the intens and purposes of the reclamation project plan is.

#### The Sense of Love Motive

Researchers found another result that there is a motive of love that underlies Balinese society reject the plan of the Bay reclamation project Benoa. The motive is the love of Bali. When the researcher asked one of the informants namely Man Anga, the question asked by the researchers is the reason what underlies the informant refused reclamation, he answered one of them is the love of Bali land.

This love motive is characterized by a boost of three of the four informants where they love Bali, which means they do not want Bali to be over consumption of tourism in particular. This impulse is owned by three informants because it is seen from the results of their interviews bored with Bali as it is now, traffic jams, pollution, many buildings unlike previous Bali, therefore informers reject the reclamation plan of Benoa Bay. This motif can be regarded as the motive of cause (because motive). Because this motif became one of the reasons and the driving force behind the informants in taking the decision to reject the reclamation of Benoa Bay.

#### The Fears Motive

The informants conveyed the fear of the impact of the Benoa Bay reclamation plan, one of which if the Bay of Benoa is a place for the flow of river flow, imagine if it is dumped then the water will go where it will cause flood, besides that Angga mentioned learning from previous experience namely the reclamation of Benoa Bay, which mangkrak and cause abrasion and damage to existing ecosystems in it so that fishermen and coastal communities become victims

The existence of this fear motive belongs to a sense of security that is characterized by a person wants to feel a sense of security for his or her present and future self. In this motive the informant feels himself threatened with the Benoa Bay reclamation plan. This motif became one of the motives for (because motive), where fear looms over the society causes them to reject the reclamation plan.

Saniyasa and Adi Jayanata say that they are afraid of the impact if the Benoa Bay reclamation is underway, Benoa Bay is not stockpiled and their villages adjacent to Benoa Bay have been

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affected, in 2009 their village of Sidakarya village has been flooded, which is caused by Benoa Bay, which is undergoing sedimentation.

#### **Want to Influence Others Motive**

interviews. From the the researchers found that this motif is one of the objective motives purpose by informants (in order to motive) in reject reclamation. Where the goal here is the informant wants his existence is considered and can be influence for others. It also deals with one of the goals communication to move others to do something. The existence of motives to influence others is characterized by a sense of wanted to raise themselves through the activities reject the reclamation of Benoa Bay and then informants also want the general people to know what Benoa Bay reclamation plan.

## **Feel Lied Motive**

The drivers of the informants engaged in the movement to reject the reclamation were marked by their feeling of being lied by the government's decision to grant permission for reclamation, whereas the surrounding community rejected reclamation plan of Benoa Bay but why the license had been issued without their knowledge. That is where those who feel they have been lied to have made up their mind to refuse reclamation of Benoa Bay, but not

all informants are only three out of four informants who feel that way.

# The Meaning of Rejection of Benoa Bay Reclamation

From the interviews, all informants said the true meaning of reclamation, but the facts that exist in the field is different from their expectations. The informant said that the reclamation was an action aimed at restoring the land area to the previous extent, and improving the existing ecosystem within the Bay of Benoa but the reclamation project plan that will be done in Benoa Bay is not like the meaning of the reclamation issued by the informant, so the informant rejects against this project plan.

Meanings are created in human interaction. This assumption explains that the individual forms meaning through the process of communication and its purpose is to create the same meaning. The statements disclosed by informants in the results of the study in accordance with one of the assumptions of the theory of symbolic interaction. This becomes important because if it does not create the same meaning, then the communication will be difficult or even not happen. The same answer was expressed by the informants with this assumption because the informants sought to create the same meaning as the others, from the information they got in detail and the reclaimed results in Benoa Bay did not match their expectations, they ultimately rejected the reclamation plan.

The last meaning, the researchers found the meaning possessed by the three informants that they feel proud, they can be in a the place of movement rejection reclamation called ForBALI. Viewed from the theory of symbolic

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interaction, one of the great themes of the relationship between individuals and society, associated with this meaning. This relationship can occur because of the interaction between an individual with another individual and from the interaction form a meaning. That is, with the interaction of each other they form a group, where the group can accommodate the aspiration and get a positive response from the group. Everyone voiced their aspirations under the name of the group, and they were proud that they could fight for their decision together.

#### **CONCLUSION**

After the researchers conducted observations and interviews selected informants then association with relevant theories. researchers draw conclusions that there are five motives behind the informant in rejection reclamation. The motive occurs because of the motive for (because motive) that is with the curiosity, the sense of love, the fear and feel lied to. And there is a motive purpose (in order to motive) that wants to influence others. The curiosity motive from the reclamation project rejection plan is with which the informant can know and understand what the intent and purpose of the reclamation project plan is. The motive for love means that the Balinese do not want Bali to be an over-tourism area. and tend to ignore the preservation of the environment. Fear motive marked by someone wants to feel a sense of security for now and in the future, where the Balinese feel threatened by the Benoa Bay reclamation plan. The feel lied motive were marked by their feeling of being lied to by the

government's decision to grant permission for reclamation, whereas the surrounding community rejected the reclamation plan of Benoa Bay. The motive for influencing other people was marked by a sense of wanting to improve themselves through activities to reject Benoa Bay reclamation and then the Balinese also wanted the public know what the Benoa reclamation plan was.

In addition, this research found two meanings of reclamation, ie reclamation is not in accordance with expectations and the name of the #ForBALI movement as a marker and pride for people who rejection reclamation.

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