



Impacts of Gold Mining on the Social, Cultural, and Economic Structures of Kotabunan Village, East Bolaang Mongondow Regency

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Abstract

One of the natural riches that our country has is gold. In managing wealth in a small way, many problems are faced. The problems that are most in the spotlight are related to the social life of communities around mining areas. This research was conducted to analyze the existence of gold mining companies in the social life of the community in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District, East Bolaang Mongondow Regency. The research design used is qualitative. Data was collected through interviews, observation and searching for documents related to the problem object. The research findings show that the existence of a gold mining company in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District, East Bolaang Mongondow Regency has brought about changes in people's lives, both positive and negative impacts which can be seen in the aspects of Social Structure, Cultural Structure and Economic Structure. Changes in Cultural Structure can be seen in changes in cultural structure. Changes in economic structure have greatly influenced people's lives, especially with the existence of corporate social responsibility (CSR) from gold mining companies, enabling people through training, basic food assistance, and changing professions as miners or managing businesses.

Introduction

Mining is an activity carried out by mining companies with the aim of obtaining mining goods and profits from the mining results. It is widely known that mining is carried out in Indonesia based on approval or policy. Likewise, the presence of mining companies in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District, East Bolaang Mongondow Regency. Mining is a type of activity for extracting minerals and other mining materials from the earth. Mineral resources are non-renewable natural resources, meaning that once the mineral is dredged it will not be able to recover or return to its original state (Thomas et al., 2021).

Mining is closely related to the activities of a company. Where a company plays a role in producing an impact in fulfilling the social dignity of the community or families in the area around the company. However, in its development, a company's activities are not only interpreted as a production system. However, company activities are required to provide social activities for the social life of society. Implied in other terms, it is often referred to as corporate social responsibility towards the lives of the community and families around the company.

Many companies do not realize that the local communities around them are part of the environment that greatly influences their sustainability. A poor relationship between the company and its environment has the potential to cause conflict. The existence of local communities is now becoming stronger, and they tend to be more courageous in fighting for their rights, sometimes they even make demands that are beyond reasonable or beyond the company's capabilities, so that many companies are currently threatened with leaving because of the enormous pressure from local communities.

The public also often questions whether companies that are oriented towards maximizing profits have an improvement in the social life of the community in distributing their profits in developing society. As time goes by, society not only demands companies to provide necessary goods and services but also demands them to be socially responsible.

In fact, the existence of a company can have a direct or indirect economic and social impact on local communities. Some of the company's direct impacts are job opportunities/vacancies for local people, assistance programs, and coaching. The indirect impact of the company is that the company's opening of roads and transportation can also be utilized by the community, the needs of the company's workers, such as vegetables, fruit, fish, meat, can advance the economy of the local community. The size of this impact really depends on the level of concern of the company and its workers as well as the readiness of the local community's Human Resources (HR) to take advantage of existing opportunities. So far, the lack of human resources in local communities has always been a major problem so that they are always marginalized by immigrants in taking advantage of opportunities. This problem can actually be overcome by improving education and providing training (Silic & Lowry, 2020).

In Indonesia itself, there are laws that regulate the relationship of the mining process to company activities, namely Law Number 40 concerning limited liability companies and Law Number 25 of 2007 concerning capital investment. In Law Number 40 of 2007 Article 74 Paragraph 2 states that companies that carry out business activities in the field and/or related to natural resources are obliged to carry out social responsibilities. And also in Law Number 4 of 2009 concerning mineral and coal mining, Article 3 Paragraph 5 states that it will increase the income of local, regional and state communities and create jobs for the greatest social life of the community.

What often happens is that areas that have gold mining experience more frequent conflicts, both social and economic. Conflicts around mining sites are usually triggered by the existence of strategic sources of mining materials, competition for access to resources, production equipment, and economic opportunities for non-mining communities. Generally, the conflict is won by the parties who have superior capabilities in terms of natural resources (HR), capital and management.

Before the discovery of gold mining in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District, East Bolaang Mongondow Regency, the people in Kotabunan Village initially made their living as farmers and fishermen. Then, when a gold mine was discovered around 1885, the people of Kotabunan Village began flocking to the mining location to earn a living, but there were also people who continued to work as fishermen and farmers, they also worked as miners and were still managed using traditional tools.

The existence of a gold mining company, namely PT. J. Resource Through its subsidiary PT Arafura Surya Alam in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District, East Bolaang Mongondow Regency, which is currently in the Construction stage, it can open up employment opportunities for gold miners because with the entry of this company it is hoped that it can have an impact on the social life of the community by managing the mine by Companies can also overcome existing poverty rates. The entry of this company, initially the people in Kotabunan Village still carried out traditional processing, but now there is a change in management where it is easier to get gold because the management stage has been carried out in a sophisticated way using large tools.

The existence of gold mining companies on the social life of the community in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District, East Bolaang Mongondow Regency has an influence on many aspects of community life. This is due to several impacts arising from the existence of a gold

mine in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District, East Bolaang Mongondow Regency, namely first, the economic impact which has experienced a tremendous increase in the economy of the mining community, because mining is a source of additional income for people from outside the area and village. Kotabunan itself. Second, environmental impacts that cause long-term environmental damage in the form of water pollution and waste disposal. Third, the health impact felt is a lack of adequate rest, due to working day and night, resulting in the body's defenses becoming more easily fatigued and susceptible to disease.

When viewed from a social aspect, the existence of a mining industry in a region will cause shifts in the community of the region concerned, such as changes in thought patterns and other ways of life. On the one hand, the process of mining industry activities of any type has had a positive impact on the state treasury in terms of taxes and royalties. However, on the other hand, the existence of the mining industry has had a negative impact in the form of environmental pollution and violations of the economic, social and cultural rights of the people living around the mining area. As a result, the government cannot provide prosperity for its people, because the government's profits from these activities are only small compared to other social costs.

A society that experiences social construction in its view from the past, past and future will obtain a social reality that every group in society has a desire to build social reality, and each of these desires must confront each other and try to dominate each other. Society in its life is always involved in efforts to dominate. It is these dominations in the political, social and economic fields that will give rise to conflict.

Conflict will never disappear from a dynamic society that can only be suppressed and become latent so that it does not surface. Implementing PT Arafura Surya Alam's obligations has become a source of conflict for the company and the community. This became very serious when the conflict spread to matters relating to the political, social and economic aspects of the Kotabunan village community.

Social impact is the impact felt by the community in the area where an activity is carried out. Socio-economic impacts can be divided into real impacts and special impacts (Rode et al., 2021). According to Vanclay (2020) in Aughterson et al. (2021), socio-economics is a human position or a person's position which is determined by economic activity, income, level of education, type of residence and position in the organization. Socioeconomics is one of the factors that is greatly affected if an activity is carried out or not carried out.

The existence of mining companies in the midst of society is a manifestation and participation in improving and developing community development. Companies and the people who live around them are two components that influence each other. Where the company needs the surrounding community in developing the company itself and vice versa, the community needs the company to improve the community's economy and regional development due to the company's existence.

From the researcher's observations, there are further effects from the existence of the gold mining company PT Arafura Surya Alam, apart from the positive effects of increasing the economic level of the Kotabunan village community, but the negative effects are also directly proportional to the positive impacts produced, namely health effects, environmental damage and social life effects. a society where social changes occur in village communities both in terms of lifestyle, social interactions and other social changes that tend to be negative.

Methods

This research was conducted in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District, East Bolaang Mongondow Regency, North Sulawesi Province as a gold mining company's area. Meanwhile, the time of this research will approximately last for 3 months. Based on the problem description described in the previous section, the author formulated the research as a type of qualitative research as an effort to answer the problems posed (Hollin et al., 2020; Johnson et al., 2020)

Data collection was carried out through interviews with informants, observation and document review. Research informants were selected with the aim of describing a particular social phenomenon or social problem based on certain considerations. The informants in the research were the community, the gold mining company, the Kotabunan Village Sangadi and the Head of the Community Welfare Section of the Kotabunan Village Government. Activities in data analysis, namely data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. This research focuses on the scope of problems related to the existence of gold mining companies in the social life of the community in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District, East Bolaang Mongondow Regency in terms of social change including changes in Social Structure, changes in Cultural Structure and Changes in Economic Structure.

Results and Discussion

Social problems in gold mining areas are important to study Lottering et al. (2021) in their study explains that the reduction in agricultural land and damage due to drought are the impact of gold mining activities on Rîşteiu et al., (2022) argue that the existence of gold mines has had an impact on the social and economic conditions of the community. Gold mining has a negative impact on aspects of uncontrolled and worrying population movement, increasing levels of conflict, and the shift in people's livelihoods from farmers to miners which means agricultural facilities and infrastructure do not function optimally. Meanwhile, Worlanyo et al., (2022) explained that the positive impacts of gold mining can improve the miners' economy, while the negative impacts cause greater danger, especially the impact on the environment and health. To avoid negative impacts on mining, miners must obtain a Mining Business Permit (IUP) so that they have miners who have work safety standards supported by work facilities.

Mining is an activity carried out by digging into the ground (earth) to obtain something in the form of mining products (Agboola et al., 2020). Based on Article 1 number 1 of Law Number 4 of 2009, mining is part or all of the stages of activities in the context of research, management and exploitation of minerals or coal which includes general investigations, exploration, feasibility studies, construction, mining, processing and refining, transportation and sales, as well as post-mining activities. From this definition, it can be interpreted as various mining activities that can be carried out before mining, the mining process or after the mining process. The existence of gold mining company activities can also affect social life where people are more concerned with mining than participating in social activities. Apart from that, the social impacts that arise include, (1) social misperceptions, (2) reduced social interaction in society, (3) the emergence of social unrest, (4) reduced social function or function (Kim et al., 2021).

Gold mining activities have had both positive and negative influences on the socio-economic aspects of society. By participating in gold mining activities, people can earn additional income apart from waiting for the harvest to arrive. Other impacts in the economic sector resulting from gold mining include (1) employment opportunities, (2) increased community income, (3) business opportunities (kiosks, restaurants, etc.).

Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District, East Bolaang Mongondow Regency, North Sulawesi Province as a gold mining company's area. Kotabunan has the potential for very abundant

natural resources, ranging from mining, fisheries, plantations, maritime affairs, forestry and tourism. However, it is better known as a gold mining area.

Changes in Social Structure

Social life is a life that is always dynamic. In the reality of social life, there are a number of differences in social position. We will always get a picture of the social structure in social life. This social structure then definitively divides, both individuals and groups, regarding the status and roles that must be fulfilled (power distribution). In reality, discussing social structure cannot be separated from the fact that society's social life always forms systems that are interconnected with each other

PT. Arafura Surya Alam (ASA), is a subsidiary of PT J Resources Nusantara which is engaged in gold mining and carries out mining activities in North Sulawesi, located in Kotabunan District, East Bolaang Mongondow Regency. The existence of this mining company has created various perceptions from the community and problems have also arisen for the community around the mine, especially the Kotabunan community, which is located not far from the mining area. The problem that has arisen from the community around the mine is holding demonstrations against PT. Arafura Surya Alam (ASA) to recruit workers from their villages and many other problems arise from the community regarding the company's activities. The existence of a mining corporation in Kotabunan certainly raises the perception of the community, especially the mining area community. The community around the mine really hopes for attention from PT. Arafura Surya Alam (ASA) to prioritize workers in their villages. The existence of a gold mine in Kotabunan Village has had the impact of changes, one of which is the social structure.

Social change is a natural phenomenon in social life. This is because every human being has unlimited interests. To achieve this, humans make various changes. Change does not only mean progress, but can also mean setbacks. In general, societal elements that experience change include social values, social norms, behavioral patterns, social organization, social institutions, social stratification, power, responsibility, leadership, and so on, all of these changes are called social transformation.

Mining has a positive impact on the economy of communities around mining areas, often being claimed by companies or local governments to facilitate mining activities. In fact, providing income for PAD is not necessarily directly proportional to improving community welfare. For example in several cases:

Since PT. Freeport operates in the land of Papua, complaints and complaints from the public have never stopped until now; Buyat Case by PT. Newmont in North Sulawesi actually evicted several heads of families from their villages and those who remained, continued to struggle to survive; Several coal mining concession points in Kalimantan and Sumatra also continue to receive complaints from the community because their agricultural land is becoming increasingly unproductive and actually increasing the economic burden on the community in terms of health improvement costs; Tin mining in Bangka Belitung also has an impact on reducing the productivity of fishermen's catches and increasingly narrowing the fishing space for small fishermen; Welfare guarantees from companies are even more unclear when management is in the hands of the government;

In social anthropology, the concept of social structure is used as a synonym for social organization and is mainly used in the analysis of kinship problems, political institutions, and legal institutions in simple societies. Keesing (1992) said that social structure is a group or community organization seen as a structure of positions and roles; a formal abstraction of the

social relationships that function in a community. The exception is the work of Raymond Firth (1966) who clearly differentiates the meaning of these two concepts; According to Firth, social organization is related to choices and decisions in actual social relationships, while social structure refers to more fundamental social relationships that provide the basic form of society, which provides limits to the actions that are possible socially. Fortes (1949) argued that the concept of social structure is applied to every emerging totality, such as institutions, groups, situations, processes and social positions. Seen from a certain point of view, Fortes argues that social structure is not only an aspect of culture, but is the entire culture itself

A change is said to have a major impact if the change results in changes to the social structure, work relations, livelihood systems and societal stratification. As seen in the change from agrarian society to industrialization. This change has had a massive influence on population density in industrial areas and resulted in changes in livelihoods. In this research it can be seen that there have been major changes in the social structure of society after the existence of PT. Arafura Surya Alam (ASA). Where in the case of the social structure in Kotabunan village, it is in the process of major change, because the mining carried out by the mining company has just started and is not yet at its peak stage.

From the results of interviews with informants, it was found that there are pros and cons among the people of Kotabunan Village and its surroundings, people who refuse look more from a future perspective regarding the impacts that have been and will be caused in the future, for example floods, landslides, disease and loss of livelihood as farmers. . This has brought major changes to the social structure, livelihoods, work relations and community stratification in Kotabunan Village.

So the essence of living in a community or society is the organization of individual interests, knowledge of the attitudes of one person towards another and the concentration of people into certain groups for joint actions. Raymond Firth stated that we can see the relationships that arise from living together as a plan or system which is usually called a social structure; The social structure includes everything: (1) social relations between individuals; and (2) individual differences and social classes according to their social roles. Meanwhile, the ways in which the mechanisms of these relationships regulate the lives of all individuals in the life community and the characteristics of the life community above are their social functions; The concepts of structure and function are very important, therefore an activity will be clear if it is proven to have a function to maintain social structure.

From the results of the research, researchers see that changes in social conditions will create a new order of life for communities around mining locations. As a new job opportunity, mining locations will invite people to undertake immigration, either temporary or even permanent, because one of the reasons for migration is economic. The diversity that comes from immigrants will cause the surrounding area and society to have new habits and will ultimately erode the existing order of life.

Changes in Cultural Structure

Every human society during life must experience changes. These changes can be unattractive changes in the sense that they are less striking. There are also changes whose influence is limited or broad, and there are also changes that are very slow, but there are also those that occur quickly. Changes can only be discovered by someone who has the opportunity to examine the structure and life of a society at one time and compare it with the structure and life of that society in the past.

Sociologists have classified static and dynamic societies. A static society is experienced by a society that experiences very little change and moves slowly. A dynamic society is a society that experiences rapid changes. So, every society in one mass can be considered a static society, while in other societies it can be considered a dynamic society. Changes do not merely mean progress but can also mean decline in certain areas of life (Ergashev & Farxodjonova, 2020).

Culture is the entire system of ideas, actions and results of human work in social life which are made into human property by learning. As for human actions that are acquired not by learning, such as instinctive actions, some reflexes, some human actions which are instinctive abilities carried in the genes with birth (such as eating, drinking, or walking on two legs), are also transformed by him into cultural actions. From the results of interviews with informants regarding changes in cultural structure due to the existence of PT. Arafura Surya Alam, especially in Kotabunan Village, there are pros and cons where some people consider the existence of PT. Arafura Surya Alam does not have a significant influence on the culture of the people in Kotabunan Village, but some also think there is a negative impact of change in the existence of PT. Arafura Surya Alam, especially in Hamlet 5 Panang, Kotabunan village, this is based on the fact that they were directly affected by the relocation of their residence, which affected their entire lives including their culture. From the breakdown of customs and social activities into several cultural complexes and social complexes, for example the breakdown of agriculture into irrigation, land management, land cultivation, planting technology, storing agricultural products, processing and tending agricultural products and so on. Another example is the breakdown of the kinship system into: marriage, mutual help, inter-relatives, social etiquette between relatives, kinship term system and so on. Each sub-element certainly has its own equipment which concretely consists of cultural objects.

From this statement it is clear that the existence of PT. Arafura Surya Alam influences the cultural structure that exists in Kotabunan Village where their agricultural habits, land cultivation and cultivation have also changed due to relocation and also natural disasters caused, the kinship system and manners have also been influenced, since the mining permit was issued, several massive community groups have refused to accept it. various reasons, one of which is changes that will occur in the future. On the other hand, as a mining company that has always complied with regulations, PT J Resources Asia Pasifik Tbk (PSAB) provides guarantees that every stage of activity in its mining assets fulfills all obligations based on applicable laws and regulations. Likewise, to develop the Doup Mine which is operated by its subsidiary, PT Arafura Surya Alam by fulfilling every provision including Environmental Impact Analysis (AMDAL) at every stage, starting from exploration activities to the construction phase. PT. ASA has also carried out several activities involving the public and other stakeholders, namely: Public consultation in December 2017 attended by the East Bolaang Mongondow Regency Government led directly by the Regent at that time, Sehan Landjar and the leadership of the relevant district government and SKPD, sub-district head and Sangadi as well as BPD from 9 villages around the mine and community leaders.

Changes in Economic Structure

On a micro scale, the presence of gold mining in Kotabunan Village has resulted in an increase in the income of the surrounding community which has an impact on increasing transaction processes and increasing people's purchasing power. However, thanks to the mining process which provides increased income for the local community, it can provide a little ability to be able to buy these goods as materials for the needs of the people of Kotabunan Village. Meanwhile, on a macro scale, the presence of the mining industry in Kotabunan Village and its surroundings creates a special attraction for job seekers both from inside and outside the

mining area, so that it will give rise to a diverse society, an increase in income will have the impact of a fast money circulation process which leads to the process of economic growth in the region.

The entry of PT. J. Resource through PT. Arafura Surya Alam to manage existing gold mining can improve the welfare of the community in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District. The economic condition of Kotabunan village before the gold mining opened can be seen from the condition of the houses and the number of unemployed as well as the population growth in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District. The condition of buildings or houses before the mining was opened used wood and only a few permanent houses were built, while unemployment was around 35% of the population.

In this case, most of the people in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District, only rely on agricultural products and marine products to meet their daily needs, even though initially there was gold mining in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District, but it has not been managed by the government even though there is mining in Kotabunan Village. Kotabunan District can help the community's economy, so the government's role is really needed to manage mining for prosperity.

Based on the results of interviews with informants, they revealed that the existence of PT. Arafura Surya Alam has had a positive impact on the economic structure of society, even for those who are against the existence of PT. Arafura Surya Alam admits that these economic changes can improve people's welfare from an economic perspective.

The researcher analyzed that the economic condition of the people of Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District experienced an economic improvement. This can be seen from the family income with the government managing the mining as optimally as possible, so that the community's economic prosperity can be achieved with the results of mining managed by the government and this is also can open up employment opportunities to existing communities.

Researchers also see that the government manages existing natural resources in collaboration with companies operating in the mining sector, namely PT. Arafura Surya Alam. So it can open up employment opportunities and at the same time improve the community's economy, therefore the government pays more attention to the community by being able to utilize existing natural resources for the benefit of improving the lives of the people in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District.

Conclusion

The existence of a gold mining company in Kotabunan Village, Kotabunan District, East Bolaang Mongondow Regency has brought about changes in people's lives, both positive and negative impacts which can be seen in several aspects such as Social Structure, Cultural Structure and Economic Structure. Changes in Social Structure caused by the existence of the gold mining company PT. J. Resource through PT. Arafura Surya Alam can be seen from the change from an agrarian society to industrialization, many people have changed professions from previously working as farmers and fishermen to becoming miners or working in the mining industry, apart from that the presence of new arrivals is starting to fill the lives of the people of Kotabunan Village, some of the people affected Land acquisition affects their social life because they have to get to know a new environment, and some who do not accept the existence of the mining company have an impact on their way of life and also their socio-economic conditions.

Changes in Cultural Structure due to the presence of a gold mining company in Kotabunan Village can be seen in changes in the cultural structure in Kotabunan Village where their

agricultural habits, land cultivation and cultivation have also changed due to relocation and also natural disasters caused, the kinship system and manners also have an influence, Since the mining permit was issued, several massive community groups have refused for various reasons, one of which is the changes that will occur in the future. However, overall it has not had a significant impact on the culture in Kotabunan Village, considering that this mining company is not yet running 100%.

Changes in Economic Structure from the existence of the gold mining company PT. J. Resource through PT. Arafura Surya Alam can be said to have greatly influenced the lives of the people of Kotabunan Village, especially with the existence of corporate social responsibility (CSR) from the gold mining company, making the surrounding community, including the Kotabunan Village Community, gain knowledge through training, some received basic food assistance, and some people changed professions to work at mining companies. , there are also those who open other businesses. In essence, the economic structure is the structure that is most significantly affected by the presence of gold mining companies in Bunan City Village.

Changes in Social Structure with the existence of a gold mining company in Kotabunan Village are inevitable, this is a definite effect as a response to change, but with this it is recommended that the community maintain good relations between the community and the existing community, the local government can hold activities which facilitates the interests of the surrounding community, looking for win-win solutions to accommodate community interests so as not to cause community anarchy and change social conditions around the mining company area, including in Kotabunan village.

To strengthen the culture in Kotabunan Village, it is hoped that the village government can preserve customs amidst changes in society that have occurred due to the presence of a gold mining company in Kotabunan Village. The importance of instilling local culture in the village, so that the community is not easily eroded by changes around them and the community remains solid in facing every difference. To improve people's welfare through the economy, it is recommended that people not easily change their lifestyle in a hedonic direction so that the money they earn doesn't just run out. Furthermore, it is important to provide people with entrepreneurship training or provide skills to improve people's ability to earn money and not be completely dependent on existing mining industry.

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