

FAILURE OF MODERNIZATION: JOURNEY OF DEVELOPMENT IN INDONESIA

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ABSTRACT. Development is an object that is never lonely to be appointed as a study theme. Several theories of development and implementation in several countries are worthy of study for debate, including in Indonesia. One of the interesting themes is the story of the journey of modernization in Indonesia. Modernization at the beginning of its emergence was considered the best paradigm, because physical development was considered a success. This paper examines modernization and its failures in the development process in Indonesia. The author also describes the design of existing development in Indonesia. The method used is literature study, by taking data and references from books and scientific journals. The results of the analysis show that modernization has failed to be implemented in Indonesia. The results of the development that should be dripping and enjoyed by all elements of society, actually leaked everywhere. In the end, there is no equality and inequality is getting more and more striking, so it is necessary to think about and apply an alternative paradigm that does not only focus on physical development but also human development as a subject.

KEYWORDS: modernization, development, failure

1 INTRODUCTION

Development is defined by Todero, an economist as a process of community welfare. Underlining the word process in the definition, it is inevitable that development cannot only be seen from the beauty of the plan or the sad results. Development includes planning, implementation, results to evaluation and back to planning again. Regarding the definition of development, there is one opinion from Hettne (2001) which states that there is no final and standard definition of development, only suggestions about what development should imply in certain contexts. In other words, Hettne explains that development is defined very contextually and must be an open concept.

Thus, talking about development can be said to be very dependent on the problems and solutions that exist in society. Although it looks abstract, actually development can be described systematically, but again, of course, one person will be different from another. One example of a chart that the author offers related to the dimensions of development can be seen in figure 1. To make it easier to digest the chart, the author will describe it in narrative form in the next paragraph.

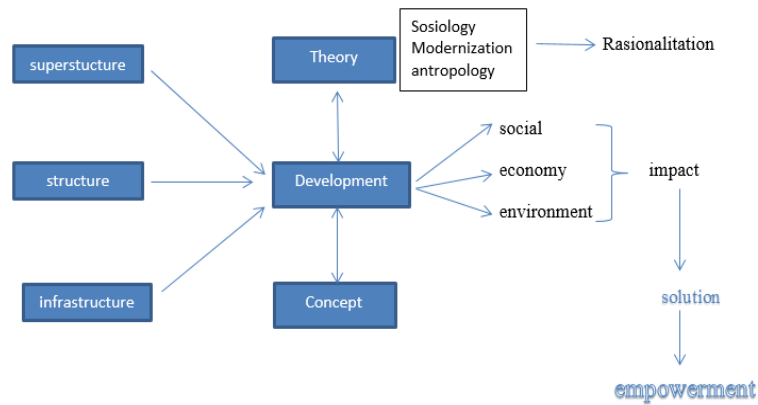


Figure 1. Development Design in Indonesia

Source: Researcher Analysis (2022)

Development includes 3 basic dimensions, namely: superstructure, structure and infrastructure. Superstructure can be said as a big idea or the right and right reasons related to what will be done in development. The superstructure is also referred to as the ideological foundation that contains planning and goals. For example, when the government plans to carry out development in the economic sector by providing direct cash assistance (*Bantuan Langsung Tunai/BLT*) for the poor, before this plan is implemented there must be a reason or big idea why the program is needed. Several questions regarding the reasons and predictions of what will happen as well as development goals fall into this dimension. Then the second dimension is the structure, where in this structure it must be clear who is being built and who is building it, lest the builders join in wanting to immediately enjoy the results as they were built. Within the structure, the relationship between elements and their relationship to the built environment must also be clear. And the third is infrastructure, this is the cause that can regulate production activities (Plummer and Macionis, 2005) or can be interpreted as development material that appears physically or materially (procurement of goods). Examples of infrastructure are the construction of school buildings, toll roads, and others.

In addition to the three basic dimensions of development as described earlier, development is also related to theory as well as concepts. A series of theories or thoughts about development have experienced many developments, namely classical sociological theories, Marxist views and modernization. Theories related to development were born because of the many inequalities that occur in third world countries. Theories related to development problems in developing countries include modernization theory, dependency theory (Hatu, 2013). All of these theories are basically a rationalization of the situation that occurs in society. at the concept level there is a trickle down effect which is quite well known as a development slogan, where development must be beneficial to the bottom, even though in reality development does not only trickle down but leaks everywhere.

The explanation of the last picture on development there is a development impact that must be considered, both from the field or social, economic and environmental perspective. First, from the social side, development covers the social sector and must pay attention to impacts in the social sector. An example is how the impact of development is aimed at the community, whether it will change the structure and function or not. Another meaningful word for this is the existence of technology assessment, where technology (or infrastructure) before being given to the community must be assessed first, whether it will be useful or will cause new problems (Nuryanti, 2020). From a social perspective, it must be clear what benefits will be obtained by the community. Second, from an economic perspective, what is the expected and should be avoided impact on the economy. The consideration of whether development will bring prosperity or even cause economic inequality must be the thought of the development initiator, the thing

that must be realized from this perspective is that the rulers are those with large capital. No less important than the impact of development that must be considered is the environmental field. Development must be sustainable, meaning that there is continuity. The meaning of sustainability here is how nature or the environment will not run out and be damaged due to development reasons.

Research question

Based on the background described above, the development dimension is an ideal thing that should follow the development process. Then, if it is related to the existing development conditions in Indonesia, the author finds several inequalities that go beyond the word they should be. Real conditions in Indonesia are often not synchronized between superstructure, structure and infrastructure. Development is often done without any big ideas or philosophical reasons why it needs to be done. But here the author will not discuss the three-dimensional inequality, the author actually sees the failure of development in Indonesia that applies modernization theory. The question arises in the mind of the author, what is wrong with modernization in Indonesia?

2 METHOD

This article was written using a qualitative approach. A qualitative approach is characterized by research objectives that seek to understand symptoms that do not require quantification, or because these symptoms are not possible to measure accurately (Abercrombie, et al. in Garna, 2007). The method chosen is literature study, namely research conducted by collecting a number of books, magazines related to the problem and research objectives (Danial and Warsiah, 2009). In addition to using books, this paper also uses journal articles as reference material.

3 LITERATURE REVIEW

Development and Modernization

Development is basically a change, ideally from old conditions to new or bad conditions to be better. A fairly popular development theory is modernization. This theory emphasizes the factors of human resources and cultural values that exist in a country that affect the country's development (Yamin and Haryanto, 2017). Modernization is the application of science in all aspects of life (Evers, 1973 in Yamin and Haryanto, 2017) and making the western world a beacon of knowledge so that third world countries will apply knowledge that has previously been applied in the western world. In contrast to the thinking of Rogers, 1976 (in Yamin and Haryanto, 2017), he revealed that modernity is a change in the way of life of traditional people towards a more technologically advanced way of life where these changes occur rapidly. In the end, modernization has become one of the infrastructure-oriented development paradigms.

Lirner (Lauer, 1993) views that the modern characteristics of a society include the following components: (1) A sustained level of economic growth, at least a growth rate sufficient to increase production and consumption on a regular basis; (2) The level of people's participation in government is adequate; (3) Diffusion of secular-rational norms in culture; (4) Increasing a mobility in society and (5) Transforming the individual personality, so that it can function effectively in a social order that is in accordance with the demands of modernity.

4 RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The concept of modernization is actually a theory that is directly involved with the cold war between the socialist schools and the capitalist schools. Modernization as a representative of capitalism is competing to attract the hearts of newly independent countries to implement this understanding. Likewise with socialists, developed countries that adhere to this understanding also continue to persuade other countries

to follow this socialist paradigm. Over time, the modernization paradigm can be said to have succeeded in inviting many countries to agree with this paradigm. Not to mention, Indonesia is one of the countries that participate or are "forced" to use the modernization paradigm in the development process.

At the beginning of implementation, Indonesia can be said to have successfully adopted this paradigm. Development in the sense of physical buildings is growing everywhere, the economy is increasing and industrialization is starting to swell. But over time, it turns out that modernization leaves homework which is quite tiring. Some of the expectations that modernization offers are distorted. In the modernization paradigm, the communication process carried out by the initiator to development targets tends to be one-way and top-down, this is what causes modernization to lose its credibility.

Huntington (in Suwarsono and So, 1994:21) says that the theory of modernization is a child of the metaphor of the theory of evolution. The theory of evolution explains that social change is basically a unidirectional, linear, progressive and gradual movement, bringing changes in society from primitive to modern, and making society have similar forms and structures (homogeneity). Likewise at the micro level or individual psychology. The assumption of modernization which states that religious people are considered as obstacles to development, women are considered not to play a role, indigenous peoples are considered to be hampering progress, all of these things underlie the need to change the values and attitudes of local people to follow modern society.

Rogers (1976) also summarized the same concept of modernization, according to him, the basic elements of the modernization paradigm are the quantitative measurement of economic growth, the dominance of the positivist scientific method and technology, the development process is planned and controlled by economists and bankers, and economic problems are caused by developing countries' faults, despite the fact that developed countries exploit them. At the beginning of the 20th century, it was not surprising that almost Asian and African countries were competing to build infrastructure, including Indonesia.

Development with the concept of modernization in Indonesia was applied during the New Order and had weaknesses which in the end made the ideals of Indonesian human development entirely and completely not achieved. Several factors that cause the failure of the concept of modernization in Indonesia can be broadly explained in four ways. First, the failure occurred because of the generalization of development policies between regions on the island of Java and outside Java. The different socio-cultural aspects between regions are less of a consideration for the government in implementing development programs. For example, the policy of planting rice because of the ideals of self-sufficiency in rice. The government requires all Indonesian people throughout the territory of the Republic of Indonesia to plant rice. This crop may be suitable for most agricultural areas in Java, but for eastern Indonesia and elsewhere it is not suitable for growing rice. As a result, many people are forced to change their lifestyle so far, for example changing their staple food from non-rice to rice.

Second, the failure of modernization in Indonesia is caused by the direction of government communication which tends to be one-way and top-down. Policies are centralized in Jakarta and are directly instructed to the regions with one command. As a result, the articulation of the interests and needs of the community from below is not accommodated. The government implements policies according to the analysis of policy makers in theory but does not pay attention to the empirical conditions of society. For example, the transportation needs of the people of Kalimantan are more on ferries or water transportation, but because the policy from the center is the construction of roads as a means of facilitating community access, the local government of Kalimantan also focuses on road construction. Some of these discrepancies interfere with the success of the development itself.

The success of unidirectional development communication in the 70s to 80s could be because the communication media at that time was controlled by one government TV, namely TVRI. Information dissemination and policy reduction at lower levels is carried out by the government through one channel. However, along with the emergence of private television and various print media, the top down direction

in development communication becomes something difficult. People are starting to be able to choose and sort information that is diverse, not just uniform. And this makes the people more intelligent, critical and demanding of the government in everything. So that in the 90s, public protests began to emerge regarding government policies, especially development policies.

Third, the failure of modernization in Indonesia is due to Indonesia's large dependence on donor countries or developed countries. This is not only experienced by Indonesia, but many other third world countries also experience the same thing. Foreign loans that are mostly used for infrastructure development not for production costs have caused the Indonesian government to be unable to repay loans and interest on loans. Finally, debt is piling up and the industrial sector becomes dependent on foreign loans.

Fourth, the failure that occurred was that there was a too stark economic gap between the poor and the rich. The capitalist economy and rampant corruption, collusion and nepotism among bureaucrats, both executive, legislative and judicial, have caused the poverty rate to increase. The poverty experienced by most of the community eventually led to upheaval or protests against the government which eventually led to a vote of no confidence in the government. The four things above are some of the causes of the failure of development in Indonesia that uses the modernization school, of course, there are many other things that cause the failure of modernization.

5 CONCLUSION

The failure of modernization in Indonesia has led to the emergence of an alternative paradigm. This is actually not only happening in Indonesia, the wave of failure of modernization in other parts of the world has caused experts to flock to propose empowerment as an alternative paradigm. The problem of development according to Melkote & Steeves (2001) is the injustice of power.

Melkote revealed that at the community level, empowerment is defined as the process of increasing the group's ability to manage the important involvement of group members in a wider community (Fawcett et.al 1984 referred to in Melkote 2002). Meanwhile, at the individual level, empowerment is the ability to control self-influence from social influences (Rappaport, 1987).

The active community participation arises from the concept of development, that prioritizes the process of community empowerment (Nuryanti, 2020). Development does not always have to be about physical and visible buildings, because a complete human being is a human being as a subject or actor (Waskita, 2005).

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