

Memories in Indonesia

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10/ Feb

This is the first day of my visit in Indonesia. We visit a village, which name is Arjowilangun. Residents in this village are composed of children, young and senior. This composition is very different from that of Nichinan town in Tottori, Japan, which I visited in 2012. Most of residents in Nichinan town are senior. What is more, many houses are gathered in Arjowilangun. On the other hand, depopulation was processing in Nichinan town and distance between houses was large. This is my first impression of this village. Today, I heard episodes of 2 residents.

First episode is from an executive of a plantation farm of sugar cones. He lives in Panggang Lete Hamlet. 'Hamlet' is a community or a district which is smaller than a village. He has started a plantation since 1999. Until then, he had worked as a truck driver. Workers in his farm had not worked with him until he started the plantation. Until then, for the purpose of earning money, they had gotten milk from their cows every day and had been to a distant farm to help a farm work some time once a week. So, their salary was less stable and was smaller than it is. Arjowilangun is composed of 5 Hamlets and workers in his farm are from different Hamlets (not limited from Panggang Lete Hamlet). He visits a worker's house when the worker is injured, and participants in a wedding of his worker.

The second episode is from an executive of a factory where workers make wooden furniture. Before he has started the factory, his son had been to a factory in a distant area to earn money. About 30 years before, he has started the factory. The factory had used trees to make furniture until 1997, and then, the factory has obtained timber from outside and processed it. There are 8 workers in his factory. 5 of them are from Arjowilangun and others are from outside village (about 15minites to commute by bike).

In these two cases, working in a group reduces the number of individual workers. The farm's workers and factory's workers are not limited from one community, and from a different communities including outside the village. Group working might have effects to attract workers and to prevent workers from going outside to work. After today's research, I have a question. Why workers of the farm or of the factory work at the group? Is that only because the farm or factory gives a good salary or working condition is good? I will listen about it in the next visit.



11/ Feb

I attend a joint seminar in University of Brawijaya. The seminar is on disaster mitigation and its adaptation. In this seminar, I present my research on government's decision making in volcanic disaster and have chances to discuss about the difference between Indonesian risk management and that of Japan. After my presentation, I recognize that I have to improve my presentation skill and have to consider more about listeners. Thanks to lot of supports, I had a productive day.



12/ Feb

Today, we check the way of research, what questionnaire should we ask. We will research hardly from tomorrow morning. Tonight, we stay at a house in Arjowilangun village with students of University of Brawijaya. They attended my seminar yesterday, and we

can discuss the disaster mitigation of each country. In Indonesia, researches on volcanic disaster are not proceeding than tsunami. This is same with Japan that volcanic disasters don't draw people's attentions. (In Japan, earthquakes and tsunami are more famous)



13/ Feb

I've visited houses in Arjowilangun village and have researched about their lives all the day. I have researched with a student of University of Brawijaya. Most parts of our job are done by him. (I ask some questions with supports of him...) Many people whom I visited today have lived the village since they were born, and they put value on supporting relationship with neighbors. Because of this reason, they don't have willingness to go outside the village. What is more, the most parts of willingness of relatively richer respondents are that they want their children to take an education. In the research, people who had not educated are relatively poorer. In addition to that, people who are relatively poor seem to have few relationships with neighbors. I have got enough time to learn and research with supports from my parents. So, I should pay great thanks to them.



14/ Feb

Today, we visit a bank company for migrants who go out this village to get money. This company accepts money when migrants send money to their family in this village. What is more, this company does not send all accepted money to migrants' families, but it manages this money. The company prevents families from spending all money only for their daily lives. The company lends this money when a family member of a migrant wants to start new job in the village. Now, this company lends this money only to families of migrants who use this bank system. But, the company wants to expand its job to lend money to all residents in this village. This company considers how it should manage the assets of migrants and how it should increase these assets.

Yesterday, an eruption happened in Indonesia. I heard from Indonesian students that the area less than 10 km distant from the top of the mountain has been districted to enter since the eruption had not happened. But, I also heard that some people were dead because they went back to check their farm. I think it is important to prevent residents from going back to their house in a districted area. To accomplish this goal, government should disclose how government will allow residents to go back with keeping their safety, and should force residents to obey government's order when they go back their houses.



15/ Feb

Juanda airport from which I've reserved to leave Indonesia had been closed because of ash by the volcanic disaster. So, I had felt anxious whether I could go back to Kyoto safely. In the night, I can get news that the Juanda airport restarts its job from February 16th. To make me go back safely, I got great help from Ari san (a graduate of our laboratory) and Gunawan san.



16/ Feb

Today, I could leave Indonesia safely. All Indonesian people are very kind. So, I can have spent precious days in Indonesia. And, I've been supported by many people in this trip. I should show great thanks to them.

Terima Kasih

