

# *Waduk Jatigede*: microfinance, rich and poor, poverty and local wisdom

Dr. Junardi Harahap<sup>1,\*</sup>

\*Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Padjadjaran University;

\*Corresponding author: junardiharahap@gmail.com

## ABSTRACT

Development is a necessity that brings many benefits to the community. Indeed, the purpose of development is to provide welfare and benefits to the people and the society. The construction of *Waduk Jatigede* has a very good purpose, which is to provide welfare to the community, especially for irrigation in several districts in West Java. On the one hand, the effect of development also does not lead to positive change, but on the other hand, it also leads to negative influences. That is the aim of this study, to investigate the factors that bring out any positive and negative effects of such developments and to identify the positive and negative effects of the construction of *Waduk Jatigede*. The questions of this study are regarding the positive and negative influences that rise with the construction of *Waduk Jatigede*. The study used the qualitative method by conducting interviews and observations. Data were obtained through the support of the *Academic Leadership Grant (ALG) Jatigede*, Padjadjaran University. The results of the study show that the community does not become prosperous with the construction of *Waduk Jatigede* and the emergence of new entrepreneurs who become the new rich of the more developed microfinance. However, on the negative side of this development is the presence of the people who became poor due to this project since they do not have other skills than farming or their previous profession. In addition, there are various losses of local wisdom such as regarding health, religion and also of the history of places which was submerged.

Keywords: anthropology, development, local wisdom, microfinance

## INTRODUCTION

*Waduk Jatigede (Jatigede Reservoir)* is a government program that inevitably has to be implemented and followed by the people who live around the area. People have become aware to follow the program that is managed by the government whether they like it or not. The construction of this kind of program is actually performed by all countries around the world. The society has its own views on all sorts of development provided by the government. Development is a model that has become an integral part of community life. The community generates diverse phenomenon in causing changes in social life and views. Development is a continuation of various programs fully supported by the government and local communities that have an impact on such development. Furthermore, development is like two sides of a coin, contradictory on one side bringing many benefits, but on the other side leading to changes.

Society is a foundation that brings about many changes that will necessarily benefit the society. The influence of society and culture will be of benefit to the people. Community, society and development are affecting the community and leading to a lot of influence on society. Furthermore, society and development is a process that will have an impact to the community, to the people. It brings out changes in society, due to the construction carried out by development.

Meanwhile, society is an object of development which sometimes leads to changes good for society as a result of implementation of the construction. Sometimes it will also lead to changes that are not beneficial to development. What should be done by the public is to accept the program as