

# Sociological Review of Farmer Family Welfare in Malat Village, Gemeh District, Talaud Regency

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**Abstract.** The problem in this research is about the welfare of coconut farmers in the village of malat seen from the sociological perspective, while the focus in this research is that the farmers of the town of Malat cannot be said to be prosperous following the understanding of prosperity from the government by using qualitative research methods. Data collection techniques using observation techniques and questionnaires, and interviews. The data analysis technique in qualitative research is a data processing process by arranging the data sequence, organizing it into a pattern, categorizing, and describing it. The results of this research are as follows, the level of welfare from a sociological point of view for the farmers in the village of Malat is still far from prosperous, and there are other unmet needs such as clothing and food needs which they still ignore to fulfill different needs, namely children's education and food needs as long as they eat from garden produce. They already feel very grateful, and also their clothing needs do not have to follow the model as long as there are clothes to use, they feel enough and for their board needs some are independent. Some still live with their parents in the same house because the place they live belongs to the family.

Keywords: Sociological Review · Farmer Family Welfare

# 1 Introduction

Indonesia is a developing country that plans changes in a just and prosperous society, materially and spiritually, to alleviate social problems that are increasing daily. There are three essential (primary) human needs: clothing, food, and shelter. Every human being must own this vital or immediate need. If one component is not fulfilled, humans can be said to have failed to cover their shortcomings as economic beings. In other words, a person will experience the destruction of life if the primary needs are unmet.

The village of Malat is one of the villages in the Talaud archipelago located in the Gemeh sub-district, the village of Malat has the majority of the population working as farmers. Still, if you look at the development of the life of the farmers in the village of malat from year to year, there is no change, and there is no welfare in the village. The life of the farmer itself, there are still many farmers who have to look for side jobs to meet their daily needs is still not sufficient; this can be seen from the harvest that is

sometimes very far from the income expectation nor is it enough for everyday needs, children's education and other health costs.

Based on data obtained from the village of Malat, most of the residents of the town of Malat work as farmers, and the plant that is the source of fulfilling their family's needs is coconut, almost every head of the family owns this coconut garden from the total population of the village of malat about 200 families, who work as farmers There are 80 families of coconuts, the rest are artisans and fishermen as well as civil servants. Malat village farmers with all the limitations because the distance from the village to the copra selling place is not easy to have to travel long distances and of course at high costs so that the harvest does not always provide welfare for them due to factors including distance, and unstable prices and pests that occasionally damage their crops.

The welfare of farmers in the village of Malat is still not good because, based on the results of observations of clothing needs, it can be seen that farmers in everyday life do not follow trends or developing styles; this can be seen in the clothes they use while it is safe to wear this still because if they have to follow the style, then their family will have difficulty in terms of economy and also about the fact that there are still many farmers who complain that their economic condition is still not balanced in the sense that they cannot do much for their family because of economic limitations.

In terms of food, coconut farmers where their lives are entirely dependent on this plant, so they take good care of this coconut plant, harvesting it per three months at a price that is not always good; the current price of copra is 3 thousand-3500 rupiah per kilo. (data source for the village of malat in 2020). From the perspective of the board, it can be seen that the houses of the farmers in the town of Malat are far from luxurious; even in 1 place, they accommodate several heads of households in it; this is because to build a house, they must have enough money.

Research that is relevant to this research is the research of Gugule and Mesra [1]. The results of this study are as follows: viral legal cases are handled more quickly, netizens escort viral legal issues, many viral legal cases are revealed and resolved, and the TikTok application is one of the social media that plays a vital role in law enforcement in Indonesia.

Then also research by Windi et al. [2], The income level is one measure to see the status of community welfare. Especially for lowland rice farmers with narrow lands, whose access to land owned is minimal. However, it does not mean they belong to the poor group because they have other accesses (education, labor) and can be utilized.

Then it is relevant to Edwin [3] the results of this study, the economic life of seaweed farmers is different from other garden farmers because working as a seaweed farmer has different difficulties for seaweed farmers, starting from the obstacles they face, namely the weather, to unexpected price drops that affect income. In a seaweed farming hunt, there are also obstacles, namely the results obtained and insufficient income to meet the family's economic demands.

Based on the description above, researchers are interested in researching the Sociological Review of Farmer Family Welfare in Malat Village, Gemeh District, Talaud Regency.

## 2 Research Method

Qualitative research methods are often called natural research methods because the research is carried out in natural conditions, also known as ethnographic methods. The reason for their appointment as key informants is because they are people who know a lot about the problem being studied. According to [4] that the determination of the sample unit (informants) is considered adequate if it reaches the level of saturation (redundancy).

Data collection techniques using observation techniques and questionnaires, and interviews. Observation techniques were carried out to obtain data on the number of history teachers and students spread across schools. Questionnaires and interviews were used to collect data related to the focus of the research, namely optimizing the role and function of teachers in history learning during the pandemic.

Data analysis technique in qualitative research is a data processing process by arranging the data sequence, organizing it into a pattern, categorizing, and describing it. [5]. In this study used a data analysis model from Miles and Huberman [6]. Miles and Huberman divided data analysis in qualitative research into three stages, namely:

In the first stage of data analysis, codifying the data, which is the coding stage of data, the researcher rewrites the field notes made when the interview was conducted. The second stage is the advanced stage of data analysis, where researchers categorize or group data into classifications based on data codification carried out in the early stages of data analysis. The third stage is an advanced stage where at this stage, the researcher looks for the relationship between the categories that have been made in the previous data analysis stage so that the researcher can then conclude.

### 3 Results and Discussion

After conducting research using interview and observation data collection methods, the researchers found the following research results.

One aspect that affects the socio-economic conditions of farming families is the absence of an accessible market in order to market their agricultural products. The market is the last key in business development for farmers because if there is no market, the production produced by farmers will not provide benefits and contribute to increasing income and living standards for farming families.

A farming family is a family whose head of the family or family members make a living as farmers. Farmer families get the main income from farming activities to meet their daily needs.

Based on the results of data analysis on farming communities in North Malat Village regarding farmers' work in improving the welfare of their families in meeting the needs of clothing, food, and housing, information was obtained that they can meet their needs from the three depending on how their harvests are. As is known, the farming community in North Malat Village are mostly coconut farmers, and they can meet the needs of all three depending on the good harvest and the price of the farmers' crops they sell has a high price; thus they will live well because their needs are from all three will be fulfilled.

a. In your opinion, is your income as a farmer enough to meet your needs? Primary needs are needs related to maintaining a decent life, which is essential and must be met by humans. Primary needs consist of clothing (clothing), food (food), and shelter (place to live).

Humans must fulfill primary needs to live a decent life. Without these needs, human life will be disrupted. Humans will also find it difficult to survive. Generally, primary needs can be interpreted as basic or primary needs humans need to run life. Other needs are challenging to fulfill if the primary needs are not met.

Based on data analysis, the farming community in North Malat Village in fulfilling the three needs has not been fully met; they have not been able to meet the needs of the three because it is caused by several factors such as poor plantation yields that have caused them not to be able to fulfill them, the price of coconut harvests is not reasonable. Stable, and the many needs they have to meet, especially the cost of their children's education.

## 1) Clothing

Clothing in the Big Indonesian Dictionary has two meanings: the material of clothing. While the second means a rope (from leather, cloth, rattan, and so on) which is used to carry something draped over the shoulder or crossed over the chest. Initially, humans used clothes from bark and animals available in nature. Then humans developed the technology of spinning cotton into threads to be woven into clothing. These clothes then serve as protection from hot and cold temperatures. Now, clothing provides comfort according to needs, such as work clothes, home clothes, sleepwear, etc.

Clothing or clothing is one of the basic human needs. Clothing is needed by humans to cover the body and protect the body from the air and cold as well as disease. Initially, humans used clothes from bark and animals, but often times, humans began to wear cotton and threads as clothing materials.

Based on the results of data analysis regarding the adequacy of clothing needs in the farming community of Malat Village, it was found that the farming community in Malat Village had not fulfilled their clothing needs. Their clothing needs have not been met because they live not depending on the growing fashion (trend), the farming community in North Malat Village they only wear simple clothes because it is better and more comfortable.

### 2) Food

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, food means food, but drinks are also included in it. Food is defined as the most important need for humans, this is because food is needed by humans continuously. Humans need food to survive, if not fulfilled, human life can be threatened. Food needs itself refers to staple foods and beverages, in Asia the staple food needed is rice. While in the western region, staple foods can be in the form of bread and wheat.

Based on data analysis, the farming community of North Malat Village regarding their food needs, from data analysis, it can be seen that are fulfilled food problems. This can be seen from the results of interviews that obtained information that the farming community of North Malat village is prosperous in terms of food; because of their food problems, it is not difficult to obtain it because they also farm, so that in terms of the food they do not have too much difficulty in obtaining it. Thus, in

terms of food, the farming community of North Malat Village does not experience any problems.

# 3) Residence

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, planks are wood (iron, stone, etc.) that are wide and thin. The following understanding is about whether a board is a place to live or a house; a board is a human need to make a place to live. At first, the function of the house was only for self-defense, but over time it turned into a family residence. Therefore, the need to beautify the house is increasing.

Humans need boards or shelters for shelter. A residence or house becomes a place to rest and protect yourself from bad weather, sunlight, and others.

Following the data analysis, the need for housing in the farming community of North Malat Village has a place to live and a house even though some of their houses are inherited from their parents. In addition, they also have a plot of land to build a house, but they still survive with the house left by their parents by continuing to repair it if there is damage. Thus, the board needs of the farming community in North Malat Village are met; they do not experience problems and difficulties regarding the board problem.

b. Factors inhibiting Farmers in meeting family needs

Farmers are a strategic sector in the economy in Indonesia, especially to spur an increase in national income [7]. In the constraints of farmers related to meeting the needs of their families it is caused by several factors such as poor harvests every year, plants that are often affected by pests, and also unstable market prices, which result in farmers being hampered and their needs are not met.

Based on the data analysis results on farmers' inhibiting factors in meeting family needs in the Farmer community in North Malat Village, information was obtained that they experienced obstacles in meeting family needs. Moreover, what hinders the farmers in North Malat Village in meeting the needs of their families is when their crops are attacked by pests, besides that what becomes an obstacle for them to meet the needs of their families is when the price of the harvest they sell in the market decreases which also results in them not being able to fulfill their needs. Their family's daily needs. Because their needs are not met due to some of these factors, they can also not meet the costs of their children's education.

- c. What is the average income of the Head of the Family?
  - High-income people will experience a good level of welfare because they can meet their needs. In the farming community in North Malat Village, based on the data analysis carried out, farmers have high incomes every time they harvest. 3,000,000 (Three Million Rupiah). But if their harvests decline, they can only get a little, and even then, it is not enough to meet their daily needs because they have to pay for their children's education. Based on the results of data analysis, it is known that the farming community in North Malat Village, which has a high income per harvest, is Rp.
- b. Sociological Overview of farmer family welfare in North Malat Village, Gemeh District, Talaud Regency
  - Welfare or prosperous can have four meanings (Big Indonesian Dictionary); in general terms, prosperous refers to a good state, a human condition where people are prosperous, healthy, and peaceful.

In economics, prosperity is associated with material gain. Prosperity has a particular official or technical meaning (see welfare economics), as in the term social welfare function. In social policy, social welfare refers to the range of services to meet the community's needs. This is the term used in the idea of a welfare state.

Farmers in North Malat Village in their level of welfare are not all said to be prosperous because based on the results of the research that has been carried out, there are various aspects that they are not entirely fulfilled, namely aspects of food and clothing which for them is still far from the intended welfare following the facts found in the farmer's field. in the village of Malat is still very dependent on their livelihoods.

Based on the results of data analysis conducted on the people of North Malat Village, they are not yet fully prosperous from the issue of clothing, food, and housing. Based on the interviews with the people of North Malat Village, some are not yet thoroughly prosperous. The welfare of the people of North Malat Village depends on the yield of their crops, so their needs for clothing, food, and shelter have not been met. From the problem of clothing, they prefer to prioritize other needs rather than the problem of meeting the needs of the clothing problem. This style issue can be seen from the answers they gave when interviewed, that they did not care about the style problem. They thought it was about the future of farmers prospering. Community in North Malat Village or not.

Structural functionalism is one of the understandings or perspectives in sociology that views society as a system consisting of parts that are interconnected with each other and parts of which one cannot function without a relationship with the other parts [8].

Structural Functionalism is a general sociology and anthropology perspective that seeks to interpret society as a structure with interrelated parts.

Functionalism interprets society as a whole regarding the function of its constituent elements, especially norms, customs, traditions, and institutions. Structural Functionalism is also an understanding or perspective in sociology that views society as a system consisting of interconnected parts and parts of which one cannot function without a relationship with the other parts.

According to this theory, society is a social system consisting of parts or elements that are interrelated and unified in balance. Changes that occur in one part will also bring changes to other parts. The basic assumption is that every structure in a social system is functional concerning the others [9].

Society consists of various elements or institutions that are interrelated and united in balance. Then, changes in one part will cause an imbalance and, in turn, will create changes in other parts. This theory assumes that all elements or elements of community life must be functional or functional so that society can carry out its functions properly.

According to Stephen K. Sanderson in [10] The main principles of Structural Functional Theory are:

1) Society is a complex system consisting of interrelated and interdependent parts; each part significantly affects the other parts.

- 2) Every part of society exists because that part has an essential function in maintaining the existence and stability of society. Explained if its function for society as a whole can be identified.
- 3) All communities have a mechanism to integrate themselves, namely a mechanism that can glue them together; an essential part of this mechanism is the commitment of community members to a common set of beliefs and values.
- 4) Society tends to lead to a state of equilibrium or homeostasis, and disturbances in one part tend to cause adjustments in other parts to achieve harmony and stability.

In this theory, they argue that social systems are governed by four functional interests: adaptation, goal attainment, integration, and latency or better known by the acronym AGIL. [11]. According to this theory, to survive, the social system must be structured to ensure that its needs can be met appropriately and efficiently.

The welfare in question is following the existing facts that farmers in Malat Village, in order to meet the needs of their families, must have side jobs, including having to go out and earn a living so that other needs such as children's education or school fees and other household needs can be met. Fill it out while waiting for the next harvest.

According to this theory, the wider community will generally run if each element or institution performs its function correctly. Congestion in one institution will cause congestion in other institutions and, in turn, create congestion in society as a whole [8].

Viewed from the point of view of natural wealth and human resources, economically rural Indonesia is a potential area for the foundation of national development. Considering that villages in Indonesia are still agricultural/agricultural in nature, industries that have developed in rural areas and can meet the community's economic needs are the types of industries that can obtain agricultural products. At least in rural areas, there is potential for human labor that can be utilized as a productive force in small and handicraft industries as well as in service industry activities.

Poverty is a problem resulting from deficiencies in humans for social groups originating from economic, socio-psychological, and cultural factors, every society, and norms related to material welfare, health, and adjustment of individuals or social groups. The problems of social welfare that are developing today indicate that there are citizens whose rights to their basic needs have not been adequately fulfilled because they have not received social services from the state. As a result, there are still citizens who experience obstacles in the implementation of social functions so that they cannot live decent and dignified life.

Social welfare, according to [12] social welfare is: an applied science that examines and develops a framework of thought and methodologies that can be utilized to improve the quality of life (condition) of the community, among others, through the management of social problems; meeting the needs of the community and maximizing the opportunities for community members to develop.

Friedlander also expresses another opinion about social welfare in Sukoco, 1991 [13] that social welfare is an organized system of social services and institutions which aims to help individuals and groups to achieve satisfactory standards of living and health, as well as individual and social relationships that enable them to develop their full potential and promote well-being farmers in line with the needs of families and communities. Humans

always want their needs to be fulfilled; how to fulfill these needs can not be separated from the various norms that apply in society.

These norms avoid conflicts and tensions between individuals and individuals, individuals and groups, and groups with groups. Survival as an effort to fulfill their basic needs cannot be separated from the physical and spiritual aspects. Growth or maintenance requires food, shelter, water, air, health maintenance, and adequate rest.

The level of welfare from a sociological point of view for the farmers in the village of Malat is still far from prosperous because there are other unmet needs, such as clothing and food needs which they still ignore in order to fulfill other needs, namely children's education and food needs as long as they eat from garden produce. They already feel very grateful, and also their clothing needs do not have to follow the model as long as there are clothes to use, they feel enough and for their board needs some are independent. Some still live with their parents in the same house because the house they live in is family owned.

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