

Implementation of the Rubber Farmer Profit Sharing System in an Islamic Economic Perspective

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Abstract:

This study aims to analyze the implementation of the profit-sharing system between rubber farmers and landowners in Parit Culum II Village from an Islamic economic perspective. The profit-sharing system is a common practice among rubber farmers; however, the application of justice principles in accordance with Islamic law is often questioned. This research employs a qualitative approach with a descriptive-analytical method. Data were collected through direct interviews with farmers, landowners, and local community leaders. The findings indicate that the profit-sharing system applied is mostly in line with Islamic economic principles, such as justice, transparency, and deliberation. However, some practices need improvement, particularly in the aspect of initial agreements, which are often not formalized in writing. This study is expected to serve as a reference for improving a more equitable and Sharia-compliant profit-sharing system, thereby providing optimal benefits for all parties involved.

Keywords:

Profit-sharing system, rubber farmers, Islamic economics, justice.



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INTRODUCTION

Islamic teachings suggest that if a person owns land or agricultural land, he must utilize it and cultivate it (Muslimah, 2023). The cultivation of agricultural land can be carried out in various ways as taught by Islam as well as by cultivating it itself by those who own it or by lending it to others to be cultivated using profit sharing (Amalia, 2022). It is no different from rubber plantations. Rubber plantations in Indonesia have an important role, both from a social and economic perspective (Utami, 2022). This is because in addition to its wide distribution and business spread across various regions, rubber plantations involve a lot of labor needed at various stages of management or activities.

Rubber is an agricultural commodity that is closely related to human daily needs. As is the case in the Parit Culum II community, it has long carried out a profit-sharing system in rubber plantations with the term rubber profit sharing. This study aims to gain a deep understanding of the application of profit-sharing in community rubber plantations from the perspective of actors who live the occurrence of rubber profit sharing in the Parit Culum II rubber plantation through participatory observation.

We can see and feel processed rubber which provides many benefits and greatly contributes to the community's economy. There are two types of rubber, namely synthetic rubber and natural rubber, synthetic rubber is rubber that requires crude oil in the formation process, while natural rubber is obtained directly from rubber plants, the quality is seen in its resistance to heat, cracking and elasticity (Simbolon, 2021).

Natural rubber comes from the sap of rubber trees which are raw materials for various industries. Such as the shoe industry, equipment, households, sports equipment, medical equipment, to military equipment. The largest use of rubber is for the manufacture of vehicle tires. The need for rubber, both for production and for public consumption, is very high and relatively continues to increase (Lestari, 2024).

Many land owners do not have the ability and time to manage agricultural land, so the residents whose main livelihood is farming, are encouraged to cooperate with the land owners, in the hope that they will help each other and benefit. In this case, the cultivator is allowed by the owner to organize a plantation business on the owner's land, with the distribution of the proceeds between the two parties. The implementation of the *paroan* system (profit sharing) is an application of *the practice of musaqah*. The contract system is based on the traditional habits or customs of the local community with the principle of mutual trust and family to help each other, making an agreement contract is done orally.

METHOD

In this study, the researcher used qualitative research because the data obtained from the field was more informational and information rather than in the form of symbols or numbers. This is in accordance with the definition of qualitative research, which is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from people and observable behaviors (Sugiono, 2018). The nature of this research is descriptive, namely research conducted by making a description or painting systematically, factually and accurately about the facts, properties and relationships between the phenomena being investigated. In this study, the researcher determined the research participants, including people who work as rubber tappers in Parit Culum II village.

Then the Implementation Procedure carried out by the researcher is by collecting data; to collect data and information obtained in this study, the author uses Primary data. Primary data is data obtained from the results of interviews or observations or data obtained directly from the field by the person conducting the research or the person concerned needs it. The collection of information data from rubber farmers goes through the first stage of the planning framework, where the researcher prepares to prepare a planning framework for several things that are needed in conducting research. The second stage of observation is where the researcher makes observations as a beginner step or tracking the research location. In this study, the author uses non-participant observation, non-participant observation is a technique for collecting information individually without having to be directly involved with the object being studied. The third stage of implementation is the stage where the researcher as the executor of the research as well as a human instrument seeks data information, namely interviews with rubber farmers and rubber plantation owners.

The interviewer uses guidelines which are an outline regarding the things to be asked. Furthermore, the interview technicalities are left to the discretion of the interviewer. The fourth stage of data analysis is that the researcher conducts networking and analyzes the data found from the results of observations, interviews and documents. Data analysis is a method or way to process data into information so that the characteristics of the data become easy to understand and also useful for finding solutions to problems, which are mainly information that can later be used to draw a conclusion. The fifth stage of data processing is that the researcher conducts data processing by presenting and describing the results of the data that has been analyzed as the results of the research, then drawing conclusions to the problem being studied.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Result

Based on historical excavations with community leaders, the history of Parit Culum II sub-district began in 1982, it has begun to move and cultivate land in the Parit Culum sub-district transos area, Parit Culum II sub-district, the community is placed in the central hamlet which is now known as the transos area to attract people to live in this area, two elementary schools were built, including in the transit area and talang Rimbo, the proposed expansion was proposed by Anwar Bustasmi, the head of the Parit Culum village to Dendang District and by mutual agreement agreed for the boundary of Parit Culum I sub-district and Parit Culum II complaints after the first name was not used the name of Parit Culum II sub-district in 2004 and currently the government office is located on Jalan Jenderal Sudirman RT 04 Parit Culum II sub-district in the first land clearing of the community to open land with plantation crops such as rubber hamlet betel nut palm because the Parit Culum sub-district area II has clay texture soil in the form of peat areas in the HLG area.

In this case, the researcher obtained data from the results of interviews with several farmers in Parit Culum II Village And what happened in Parit Culum II Village was that the rubber revenue sharing system carried out in Parit Culum II Village broadly referred to Islamic teachings, this was due to the majority of the people of Parit Culum II being Muslims. However, in theory, they do not know and do not even know whether the rubber profit-sharing system and pattern that they apply daily is in accordance with the concept of agricultural profit-sharing in Islamic economics or not. Agricultural cooperation carried out by the community of Parit Culum II Village can be categorized as a form of application of musaqah practices. In this system, profit sharing is carried out between two parties, namely the owner of the rubber plantation land and the rubber plantation cultivator. The harvest is divided equally, namely 50% for landowners and 50% for cultivators, according to the agreement.

Discussion

a. Initial agreement agreed upon

In a cooperation between the two parties, of course, there is an initial agreement that is mutually agreed upon by each other (Purqona, 2023), there will not be a cooperation if the initial agreement in the cooperation has not been agreed upon by one of the parties, as conveyed by several informants in the research on cooperation in the management of rubber plantations in Parit Culum II Village, it was found that the results obtained from the harvest were divided in two with the agreement that the manager was not on duty Not only tapping rubber trees but also taking care of the rubber plantations that are managed and the owner provides maintenance costs.

b. Distribution of Proceeds from Each Garden

From the results of the research conducted by the researcher in Parit Culum II Village, there are several informants who said that related to the distribution of results in the rubber plantation management cooperation, which is 50% of each party or often called divided in half, so if the cultivator gets a harvest of 2 million, it will be divided in half with the owner of the land becoming 1 million per person.

c. How to sell rubber plantation tapped products

From the results of the study, it shows that there are several informants who say that the management in collecting the results of the taps which will be sold for 15 days once, so in one month the cooperation in the management of the rubber plantation can be sold 4 times, the statement is strengthened again based on the results of interviews with several informants.

d. Equipment in rubber plantation management cooperation

Equipment is very important in cooperation in the management of rubber plantations because equipment is the most important thing to manage the rubber plantation, there are several equipment that must be prepared in cooperation in the management of rubber plantations in Parit Culum II Village, including spoons, stools, tubs of rubber molds, severe vinegar, chisels for tapping, and buckets for lifting rubber sap. And from the results of the research, the researcher found data that said that all the equipment was from the rubber plantation manager, the owner only left the sayak and spoon that were still in the rubber tree before the owner managed his own rubber plantation before there was a manager to manage it.

e. Strategies in improving the quality of Rubber

Strategy is a holistic approach that deals with planning an activity with a fixed time (Yusfa, 2021). Where in a strategy must be prepared in such a way that later the desired results can be achieved. This strategy certainly aims to improve or develop things in a certain activity. Just like in a rubber plantation management collaboration in Parit Culum II Village, from the results of the interview, there are several informants who have a certain strategy to improve the quality of production from rubber sap in its management. However, there are also parties who do not have a problem or do not plan a strategy to improve the quality of production, they think that while they can

still produce production, the strategy cannot necessarily help in improving the quality of production

f. Maintenance costs

Maintenance is very important in the management of rubber plantations (Rozy, 2021). Because good maintenance will result in good production and quality of rubber sap as well. So in carrying out maintenance must require a cost to carry out the maintenance, if seen from the law of the profit sharing contract or the musaqah contract which states that the responsibility of the manager in carrying out work related to maintenance, garden irrigation and everything needed for the good of the plant, it can be interpreted that all work for plant care is carried out by the manager, However the law does not stipulate that the management must pay for treatment. However, what happened regarding the cooperation in the management of rubber plantations in Parit Culum II Village saw the results of the research conducted by the researcher stating that for financing everything is collected by the plantation owner and cultivators only do their work

g. Obstacles faced by rubber plantation owners and managers in cooperative activities in Parit Culum II Village.

A collaboration must have several obstacles or obstacles in advance to achieve the goals desired by both the owner and the manager (Suparlan, 2020). Similar to the research conducted by the researcher, from the results of the research, the researcher found that there were several obstacles faced by the owner and the manager in the cooperation in the management of rubber plantations in Parit Culum II Village. From the results of interviews with informants, both from the owners and managers of the plantation, there are several obstacles or obstacles experienced by both parties. These include:

The first statement about the obstacles that are usually faced in the management cooperation of rubber plantations is with one of the owners first (Rahmi, 2023). Where the results of the researchers' interviews with the owners of the rubber plantations show that the usual thing that is an obstacle to cooperation is related to the rubber plantation management in the collaboration. Among them are the management party who does not take care of the garden land. From the results of the research conducted by the researcher in cooperation with the management of rubber plantations in Parit Culum II Village with the informants of the owners, there are several informants who employ the management to take care of the rubber plantation land in addition to tapping trees, but many of the informants complained that the management was slow in caring for the rubber plantation land. The management of the Garden

The second statement about the obstacles that are usually faced in cooperation in the management of rubber plantations is with one of the managers. Where from the results of the researchers' interviews with the rubber plantation managers, it shows that the usual thing that is an obstacle to cooperation is related to the management process in the collaboration. Where among them are that, the weather often changes, the production and quality of rubber sap often decreases and the lack of maintenance for rubber plantations From the results of the research conducted by the researcher related to the obstacles faced by the informants from the owner's side, namely, the weather that often changes where the weather here is uncertain, the manager encounters such as not

the rainy season but suddenly it rains and results in the results of the taps not being collected in the shack. Then for wild and old trees, it results in a decrease in the quality and production of the sap of the tart, and finally maintenance that takes too long to be considered from both sides, resulting in the land becoming more lush with weeds and can result in a decrease in the production of rubber sap (Dikha, 2022; Ely, 2023; Etfina, 2021; Padilah, 2022; Reski, 2022; Saputri, 2020).

CONCLUSION

Agricultural cooperation carried out by the community of Parit Culum II Village can be categorized as a form of application of musaqah practices. In this system, profit sharing is carried out between two parties, namely the owner of the rubber plantation land and the rubber plantation cultivator. The harvest is divided equally, namely 50% for the landowner and 50% for the cultivator, according to the agreement made during the contract. However, from the point of view of Islamic economics, this profit-sharing practice has not fully met the requirements stipulated in Islamic Law. There are several basic reasons:

1. The land owner does not provide the work equipment needed by the cultivator to manage the garden, even though according to the sharia, in the musaqah contract, the owner should play a role in providing facilities or at least part of the capital.
2. The contract is only carried out orally based on the principle of family, without witnesses, and without a clear determination of the period of cooperation. In Islam, the contract should be carried out with a more structured formality, involving witnesses to avoid potential disputes in the future, and there must be clarity about the duration or period of cooperation. This kind of practice, even though it has followed the basic elements of profit sharing, still needs to be improved to be more in accordance with sharia provisions that emphasize fairness, transparency, and written agreements to provide protection to both parties involved in cooperation.

This practice, even though it has followed the basic elements of profit sharing, still needs improvement to be more in line with sharia provisions that emphasize fairness, transparency, and written agreements to provide protection to both parties involved in cooperation

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