ABSTRACT

ABD. QADIM HS. Political Ecology in Managing National Park of Meru Betiri Jember Regency and Banyuwangi Regency in Reform Era of National Politic. Supervised by HADI S. ALIKODRA, HARIADI KARTODIHARDJO, dan SUMARDJO.

National park of Meru Betiri (TNMB) is 58,000 ha. Since 1960, more than 2,000 ha of national park of Meru Betiri (TNMB) has given to PT. New Sukamade Banyuwangi and PT. Bandealit Jember as Cultivation Rights Title/HGU. Through the Director General of PHPA Decree and Forestry Minister Decree No: 131/Kpts-II/1998, the government lengthened HGU of 2,155 ha in buffer zone of TNMB (Director General of PKA Decree No: 185/Kpts/DJ-V/1999). The lengthening of HGU in chaos national political condition triggered people to loot land of TNMB. This action occurred as a result of imbalance and scarcity of property right and narrow life space of community. Realizing chaos sociopolitical condition (2001-2003), TNMB invited national and local NGOs in order to take back looted/occupied land through rehabilitation program based on community development. Ramifications were social consequences of political co-operation of rehabilitation. Rehabilitation cooperation legalized access for planting. Impact of this cooperation was tenure issues lead to insecurity tenure for both parties. This study applied political ecology analysis to find that there was conflicts of access and natural resources benefits of and impact load caused by disparity of power, land ownership, and income between community groups in buffer villages with TNMB and community groups given access and privilages. This conflict triggered looting and occupation of land. The policy to legalize land distribution for planting resulted positive implication to socio-economic people but negative to socio-culture people (local wisdom) and to ecological aspects (fail rehabilitation program) as results of conflict interests and treatment difference in rehabilitation.

Keywords: ramifications, legal access to planting, land occupation, tenurial insecurity