

## The Role of the Village Head in the Covid-19 Pandemic Period (A Study in the District of West Bangkala, Jeneponto Regency)

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**Abstract.** This study aims to find out and then describe the role played by the Village Head in dealing with Covid-19 as well as what obstacles he faced and what efforts were made by the Village Head in West Bangkala District, Jeneponto Regency, in this case, Beroanging village, Barana village, and Bulu village. Jaya. The type of research used is descriptive qualitative. Data collection techniques include observation, interviews, and documentation. And as for the data analysis techniques, namely data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing. This study's results indicate that the village head's role during the pandemic has been perfect because the village head has taken precautions related to Covid-19, such as establishing a post at every border entering and leaving the village, conducting socialization, distributing masks, making hand washing stations at several points, and providing BLT assistance from village funds. And spraying disinfectants. The obstacle faced was that village infrastructure development was hampered because funds were diverted to cope with the impact of COVID-19 and limited community activities, so it also had an impact on the community's economy. The efforts offered by the village head, such as continuing to socialize and educate the public about the importance of complying with health protocols and conducting surveillance in places that have the potential to cause crowds, such as in markets.

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**Keywords:** Role; Village head; Covid-19

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### INTRODUCTION

In general, work performance is defined as a person's success in doing work according to his strengths and abilities. People who excel mean people in carrying out their work can provide good results, as well as in the specified time and with quality. The high work performance of a person is influenced by the drive caused by the ability that a person has, which is a potential that requires a driving force. The role means someone who performs an action where the action is expected by society. This means that every action that each individual has an essential meaning for some people. While the Village Head is the person who is given the authority and responsibility to

carry out the government's mission, then the provision of good service to the community is expected to be more responsive to the interests of the community itself, where the paradigm of community service that has been running so far has shifted from centralized services to services, which focuses more on community satisfaction-oriented management.

The law that regulates Villages is Law Number 6 of 2014. What is meant by Villages are villages and traditional villages or what is called by another name in the future referred to as Village, which is a legal community unit that has territorial boundaries that are authorized to regulate and manage affairs. Government, local community interests based

on community initiatives, origin rights, and/or traditional rights recognized and respected in the government system of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. This Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Villages also regulates the Principles of Village Regulation, Position and Type, Village Arrangement, Village Authority, Village Administration, Village Rights, and Obligations, Village Regulations, Village Finance, and Village Assets, Village Development and Rural Area Development, and Village Owned Enterprises, Village Cooperation, Village Community Institutions and Village Traditional Institutions, as well as Guidance and Supervision. In Law Number 6 of 2014 in article 26 paragraphs (1) and (2) it regulates the Duties and authorities of the Village Head.

The Covid-19 Pandemic has had an impact on various aspects of life, including economic aspects, at the global level. The performance of most industrial sectors declined. In order to reduce the negative impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on the national economy, the Indonesian government implemented several programs to strengthen social protection and economic stimulus, including the Family Hope Program (PKH), Pre-Employment Cards, Social Assistance, Micro and Ultra Micro MSME Stimulus, and a reduction in electricity rates. Most of these programs are programs that the government has routinely carried out. Regarding Covid-19, the government then increased the number of

beneficiaries from the programs mentioned above.

Until now, the spread of Covid-19 in Indonesia is not only in big cities but has penetrated into villages, resulting in thousands of deaths and tens of thousands of people being infected. In addition to health impacts, other impacts are economical and social problems everywhere. Therefore, the central government has made many rules to prevent the spread and overcome the impact caused by laws, presidential regulations, ministerial regulations, and circulars to the National Police Chief number Mak/2/III/2020 regarding compliance with government policies in the spread of the coronavirus. (Covid19). With these problems, strategic steps are needed from the village government to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Likewise for Beroanging village, Barana village, and Kel. Bulu Jaya, West Bangkala District, Jeneponto Regency. Various strategies were carried out, starting from budgeting village funds to help affected communities, making guard posts for people in and out of the Village, buying equipment such as body temperature gauges, disinfectants, hand washing tools, and urging the community to follow health protocols. Issued by the government, requires a letter of vigilance for people from outside the District of West Bangkala, and restrictions on various religious, social, and cultural activities.

However, the village government's strategy has not yet been implemented

properly. This can be seen from the guard posts that are only enforced for 1-2 weeks so that people entering and leaving are not automatically monitored; there are still association activities involving more than 20 people, many people unaware of the existing health protocols. In addition, the Covid-19 Pandemic has also suppressed the economy from various angles, including the village economy. Villages have the potential to become the primary support for national economic growth during the Covid-19 Pandemic, especially in the field of food security. Villages are the areas that rebound the fastest during the Covid-19 Pandemic, with fewer data on areas affected by Covid-19, so the economic potential is still very large. For now, The impact of Covid-19 is felt more by people in urban areas. However, since seasonal workers have quite high mobility, from Village to city and back to the Village, the Covid-19 outbreak can also spread in villages. In addition, suppliers of scattered urban needs such as food and other agricultural products come from villages. The same is the case in Beroanging village, Barana village, and Bulu Jaya village now the economy in these Village is slowing down due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Here, it is hoped that the village government, especially the village head, can improve the efficiency of its performance both in finding sources of assistance and others to help stabilize the economy of the community in this Village. Based on the above background

and some previous research results in terms of initial research or initial observations, the researchers are very interested in knowing the role of the Village Head in the Covid-19 Pandemic Period (A Study in West Bangkala District, Jeneponto Regency). In addition, through this research, the researcher intends to show a general description of the role of the village head in the Covid-19 Pandemic. And it does not demand the possibility not only in one Village but maybe its role in the Pandemic Period is the same as the role of the village head in other regions, or perhaps it can be a reference for other regions to do positive things during the current Pandemic. In addition, through this research, the researcher intends to show a general description of the role of the village head in the Covid-19 Pandemic. And it does not demand the possibility not only in one Village but maybe its role in the Pandemic Period is the same as the role of the village head in other regions, or perhaps it can be a reference for other regions to do positive things during the current Pandemic. In addition, through this research, the researcher intends to show a general description of the role of the village head in the Covid-19 Pandemic. And it does not demand the possibility not only in one Village but maybe its role in the Pandemic Period is the same as the role of the village head in other regions, or perhaps it can be a reference for other areas to do positive things during the current Pandemic.

## RESEARCH METHODS

The method used in this research was the qualitative method. This research was conducted in the District of West Bangkala, Jenepono Regency, Beroanging village, Barana village, and Bulu Jaya Village. There were two sources of data in this study, namely primary and secondary data sources. In this study, the informants the researchers took were as many as 24 people, with details: 9 village governments From 3 villages And 15 communities from 3 villages. Data collection techniques in this study used the following data collection methods:

1. Interview. The interview technique in this study used a guided free interview technique. Questions will develop during the interview. Researchers get direct information with interview techniques from the Village Government and the Community.
2. Observation. The type of observation used in this study was non-participant observation. In conducting observations, the researcher selected the observed things and recorded things related to the research. Observations made in this study were to pay attention to the village environment that you wanted to study to determine the village head's performance in carrying out his functions and roles during the Covid-19 pandemic.
3. Documentation. The documentation used in this study was an image

obtained during interviews and observations. Furthermore, the data analysis techniques used in this research were data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and conclusions.

## DISCUSSION

The Ministry of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Regions and Transmigration (Kemendes PDTT) encourages village officials to take special functions and roles in overcoming the Covid-19 outbreak caused by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus.

First, the village apparatus must process the flow of data and information for all its citizens. Data and information cover the economic conditions of citizens to maintain their quality of life and health during the outbreak.

Second, Village officials must be able to manage information control related to Covid-19. Don't let people worry about this outbreak because of the lack of clarity of information. Third, village officials take initiatives to mitigate residents' social and economic impacts. What is the social impact of the Covid-19 emergency on religious and cultural activities?

Fourth, village officials can create new social institutions that suit the village's needs. This is to prevent social conflict during the pandemic. Lastly, the village apparatus can

provide information related to Covid-19 every day, for example, by creating a WhatsApp group or the official village portal.

### **The Role of the Village Head in The Covid-19 Pandemic Period in West Bangkala District, Jeneponto Regency**

Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that cause disease in humans and animals. In humans, it usually causes respiratory tract infections, ranging from the common cold to serious illnesses such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) (Safrizal et al, 2020).

The function and role of the village head are essential, especially during the current pandemic. The role of the village head is very much needed to regulate the community during the COVID-19 pandemic. The following are some of the roles performed by the village head in Beroanging village, Barana village and Bulu Jaya Village :

1. Make a Security post each the border in and out of the village. Make posts at every border in and out of the village. To prevent the spread of covid-19 as an early detection prevent the spread of covid-19 in the Beroanging village, Barana village, and Bulu Jaya Village.
2. Make the village government's hand washing place making hand washing places at several points. This aims to increase

public awareness of how important it is to maintain cleanliness during the pandemic.

3. Spraying disinfectant in addition, the village government also sprayed disinfectant in the community, which is one step toward sterilizing the community environment.
4. Distribute masks. This distribution of masks aims to increase public awareness about how important it is to wear masks, especially when traveling outside the village.
5. Socializing. The village government also carried out socialization. This was aimed at how the community could understand that covid-19 was very dangerous. That's why the village government has set up posts, built hand washing stations, sprayed disinfectants, and distributed masks so that people can better understand that COVID-19 is very dangerous for human life.
6. Give BLT assistance from village funds. As an effort made by the government to suppress the impact of COVID-19 on the economic sector, the village head transferred part of the village budget into direct village fund cash assistance (BLT village funds). The target is given to affected people, especially in terms of the economy.

The above steps are in line with the Ministry of Villages, Development of Disadvantaged Regions, and Transmigration (Kemendes PDTT), where village officials

take on special functions and roles in overcoming the Covid-19 outbreak caused by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus. Such as: First, the village apparatus must process the flow of data and information for all its citizens. Data and information cover the economic conditions of citizens to maintain their quality of life and health during the outbreak. Second, village officials must be able to manage information control related to Covid-19. Don't let people worry about this outbreak because of the lack of clarity of information. Third, village officials take initiatives to mitigate residents' social and economic impacts. What is the social impact of the Covid-19 emergency on religious and cultural activities? Fourth, village officials can create new social institutions that suit the village's needs. This is to prevent social conflict during the pandemic. Lastly, the village apparatus can provide information related to Covid-19 every day, for example, by creating a WhatsApp group or the official village portal.

### **Constraints of the Village Head in Carrying out his Role in the Covid-19 Pandemic Period in the District of West Bangkala, Jeneponto Regency**

The village government, in carrying out its role, has several obstacles. Below are presented some of the barriers faced by village heads and the efforts made in dealing with obstacles during the pandemic.

The following are some of the obstacles faced by village heads:

1. Village infrastructure development is hampered because funds are diverted to cope with the impact of COVID-19
2. Community activities are limited to impact the community economy.

### **The efforts of the village head in dealing with obstacles in the CenturyCovid-19 pandemic**

The following are the efforts offered by the village head:

1. Continue to socialize and educate the public regarding the importance of adhering to health protocols.
2. Supervise in place- places that have the potential to cause crowds, such as in markets.

### **CONCLUSION**

Based on research conducted in West Bangkala sub-district, Jeneponto district, in this case, Beroanging village, Barana village, and Bulu Jaya village, it can be concluded that the performance of village heads in carrying out their functions and roles during the COVID-19 pandemic includes make the posts at each border in and out of the village. Make a place to wash hands, spray disinfectant, handing out masks. Do socialization, as well as give BLT assistance from village funds. Obstacles to village heads in carrying out their functions and roles during the COVID-19 pandemic include the development of village infrastructure being hampered because funds are diverted to cope with the impact of

COVID-19, and community activities are limited so that it also impacts the community economy. The efforts made by the village head to overcome the obstacles faced during the COVID-19 pandemic are by continuing to disseminate and educate the public regarding the importance of complying with the health protocol. As well as supervising in places that have the potential to cause crowds, such as in markets.

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