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# Rationalism and Antropocentrism in Human Behaviour in Exploiting Natural Resources and Industrial Activities

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**Abstract**—This study aims to explain whether the rationalism and anthropocentric views influence humans in taking their needs from nature and carrying out the industrial activities. The 6 search method used in this study is socio-legal studies, the research approach used is a non-doctrinal approach and the 10 research specifications is qualitative. The data sources used in this study are primary data sources or basic data and secondary data. In this study, it is also used data collection techniques, interview techniques, and library research methods (literature study). Furthermore, qualitative data analysis is used as the data analysis technique. The results showed that the views of rationalism and anthropocentric influence on human behavior in exploiting natural resources and carrying out industrial activities. Thus, that humans in using natural resources to fulfill their needs do not pay attention to environmental sustainability. From this result, it is expected that humans should have the view of rationalism and anthropocentrism because they are influential in exploiting natural resources and carrying out industrial activities because they will damage the environment and deplete natural resources.

**Keywords**—ratio basis; anthropocentric view; human behaviour; needs; industrial activity; exploitation

## I. INTRODUCTION

Discussing about environment the most important problem is the action conducted by human being. Human actions that proposed to massive exploit the natural resources or industrial activities that do not concern with the environmental sustainability, automatically cause pollution and environmental damage [1].

The fulfilment of human interests regardless of the damage to the environment that is embraced is the root of the environmental crisis. The view of rationalism has placed human reason as the only standard that considered to be valid for the activities, work and life of man. The problem that will be discussed here is: Do the ratio - basis and anthropocentric views influence humans in fulfilling their needs from nature and conducting industrial activities [2].

Sustainability is not an end to be achieved, the targets, however, that must be negotiated continuously. Environmental sustainability or environmental sustainability is still in doubt, considering the ongoing environmental problems caused by the negative impact of human activities [2].

## II. METHODS

### A. Type of Research

This study was examined using socio-legal studies that emphasized on making descriptions of social and legal realities, and trying to comprehend and explain the logic of the logical connection between the two aspects.

### B. Research Approach

This research uses a non-doctrinal approach that the law is not conceived as an autonomous normative phenomenon, but a social institution that is directly related to other social variables [2].

### C. Research Specification

This research is classified in qualitative research. It is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or oral words from 9 people and observable behaviour [2]. In qualitative research data collection is not guided by theory, but guided by facts found at the time of research in the field. 16

Qualitative methods are used to get in-depth data. The meaning is the real data, the factual data and the value lies behind the real thing [3]. 17

### D. Source of Data and Data Collecting Technique

6 1) *Source of data*: Data sources used in this study are primary data sources and secondary data. The Primary data is obtained directly from the first source, namely the community while the secondary data includes policy review, books, journals, research findings in the form of reports etc [4].

2) *Methods of collecting data*: In this research, the team uses interview and literature study techniques. The Primary

data is obtained directly from the first source, namely the community while the Secondary data includes policy review, books, journals, research results in the form of reports etc.

In this research, the team uses interview and literature study techniques. In-depth interviews are mainly conducted by asking open and closed questions to someone who is an informant. In addition, the team also collected data through literary study, namely literature studies and documentation studies. Documentary techniques are techniques for collecting data and information through searching and finding evidence. Documentary method is a data collection method that comes from non-human sources.

#### E. Data Analysis Techniques

In this study, the team used the qualitative data analysis, as an effort that can be done by working with data, organizing data, dividing it into units that can be managed, synthesizing, searching and finding patterns, finding important things and what learned, and decide what can be informed to others.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Ratio basis has placed a superior position in human beings with all their intellectual abilities and historically, this has been further strengthened by the rationalist view of Rene Descartes of France (1596-1650) with his philosophy, *cognito, ergosum* (I think therefore I am) [3]. Ratio basis has placed a superior position in human beings with all their intellectual abilities and historically, this has been further strengthened by the rationalist view of Rene Descartes of France (1596-1650) with his philosophy, *cognito, ergosum* (I think therefore I am) [4]. Ratio is the main measure in determining truth [5]. John's views as quoted by Sudharto and FX Adji stated that philosophy had two important consequences. First, the element of *Cognito* (thinking) became very important and got a strategic position, consequently everything else, which is outside the human being, only exists when it is known by humans in a clear and definite way. Second, the element of *ego* becomes very dominant. Ratio basis XX has made human reason very egocentric. According to John, as quoted by Sudharto and Adji Samekto, if Rene's teachings are related to environmental problems, the environment must be known, predictable for development and can be mastered [5]. Rene Descartes's view suggests that the universe is part of human life. The consequences of nature as part of human life, so humans have power over nature [6]. If humans as masters and rulers of nature, means nature as an object to fulfil human needs alone. Humans can act arbitrarily against nature Cartesian puts humans apart from and above nature. The Cartesian's logic places humanity first and is considered valuable to itself, while nature is only regarded as an object and tool for human interest. A view that considers nature to be only human consumption is also implied in the teachings of the Dominion Terrace.

The main thing of Dominion teachings are a mandate to master nature. This teaching emphasizes human power over nature [7]. According to Liek Wilardjo, Dominion Terrae must be accepted as an obligation to preserve nature and utilize its abundance responsibly, as well as for future generations. If

there is a disturbance to nature, the settlement must consider the damaged nature or the danger that will be caused and have a negative impact on this nature [4]. The view of rationalism influences human behaviour in exploiting natural resources and conducting industrial activities to date humans with the view that rationalism will make the most of natural resources to meet the needs of the human economy, without the effort to utilize its sustainability. Natural resources are used as objects to meet the needs of the human economy while environmental needs for sustainability or preservation of environmental functions do not receive attention. Another view also influences human behaviour so that causing environmental damage is an anthropocentric view.

An anthropocentric perspective causes humans to exploit and deplete the universe and carry out industrial activities to fulfil their life's needs and needs, without paying enough attention to environmental sustainability. This explorative and unconcerned nature of behaviour is considered to be rooted in a perspective that only concerns human interests.

This perspective gives rise to greedy and greedy attitudes and behaviours that cause humans to take their needs from nature and conduct industrial activities without considering their sustainability, because nature is seen as only for the benefit of humans.

Anything done by humans to nature, insofar as it does not harm interests, insofar as it does not have adverse effects on human interests. Human interest referred to here is more short-term. That is the root of various environmental crises [7]. Human beings and their interests are considered to be the most decisive in the ecosystem order and in the policies taken in relation to nature, both directly and indirectly. Highest value is human and its importance. Only humans have value and get attention, everything else in the universe will only get value and attention as far as supporting and in the interest of humanity.

The nature is seen only as an object, tool and means for meeting human needs and interests. Nature is only a tool for achieving human goals. Nature has no value for itself.

Anthropocentric view also considers that moral values and principles only apply to human being and even human needs and interests have the highest and most important value. For anthropocentric view concepts, ethics only applies to humans. If all claims regarding the need for obligations and human moral responsibility to the environment are regarded as excessive, irrelevant and inappropriate [4].

The anthropocentric concept illustrates that humans are very consumptive towards nature, but are not balanced to preserve the universe. The anthropocentric concept compresses humans above or beyond nature, in a position that dominates nature. Humans forget if the natural resources consumed continuously can run out, while to renew it requires a long time.

The imbalance between consuming and maintaining nature will affect the quality and quantity of nature. If humans consume too much natural and industrial activities without being balanced with maintenance, it will cause natural damage. The anthropocentric view is practiced today so that a variety of

very serious environmental impacts emerges [8]. If the concept of anthropocentric is used as a foundation for humanity to master nature, then the implications in the long-term dimension will cause damage to human beings themselves. Nature that is damaged as a result of massive exploitation carried out by humans ultimately cannot meet human needs anymore. This will certainly lead to degradation both in the quality and quantity of the environment.

Economist Thoby Muthis as quoted by Sudharto H. Adi and FX Adji Samekto, writes that environmental aspects are often overlooked in spurring economic growth. Economic growth is actually minus if environmental damage is taken into account. Environmental damage caused by natural disasters such as floods and landslides in various regions in Indonesia occurs, among others, due to the orientation of the market mechanism that does not concern the ecological truth. In simple understanding, ecological truth is a truth based on something that is believed that humans are part of an ecological process. Without nature and other living creatures humans will not be able to survive. An economic implication will surely occur from an economic activity. These ecological implications are often not taken into consideration in the market mechanism. Sudharto P Hadi and FX Adji Samekto illustrate an example when someone buys a wood carving chair, the buyer pays to get it, the buyer however, does not pay for the addition a maintenance and effort to replant the carving and damage to the environment due to the exploitation of the forest's natural resources.

This will undoubtedly continue to damage the environment [9]. Environmental damage is caused by the dominance of human activities. According to Homer-Dixon, human activities can cause environmental damage or scarcity of natural resources in three ways. First, human activities can cause a decrease in the amount and quality of natural resources, especially if resources are exploited with a rate of speed that exceeds their recovery capacity. Second, the decline or scarcity of natural resources due to population growth. With the increase in population, land and water whose numbers remain the same, certainly it is used by more parties. It means the amount of land and water usage per person decreases. Third, access to an unbalanced natural resource environment will also cause many problems [10]. Unequal access is usually caused by legal institutions or ownership rights that are concentrated in small groups of people, causing a scarcity of ownership rights for other groups. The three factors of human activity mentioned above can occur separately or in combination. These three factor activities are human activities that do not pay attention to environmental sustainability. Environmental sustainability is the capacity to survive and conserve the environment and all natural resources for the welfare of humans and other living beings.

Rights to the environment are not only owned by humans, but the environment itself also has rights. Legal subjects are not only human beings but the environment is also a legal subject. The environment as a legal subject should be constitutionally included in the constitution. Moreover, Indonesia as an archipelagic country and has many volcanoes and many industrial growths are very vulnerable and prone to natural disasters and pollution and or environmental damage. If the environment does not have rights and has not been recognized as a legal subject, the environment will be increasingly unprotected and not saved by its existence. As a result, pollution and / or damage to life continues to occur.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

The view of ratio basis and anthropocentric influence human behaviour in exploiting natural resources and conducting industrial activities to date. Economic growth is actually minus if environmental damage is taken into account.

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