

## **THE FISHERMEN'S RESISTANCE AT PRIGI:**

**The Fishermen's Resistance Against the Fish Auction Markets (TPI),  
the Fish Employer, and the Merchants**

### **ABSTRACT**

The objectives of the research are: (1) to understand the political economy among the fish auction markets, the fish employers, the merchants and the fishermen at Prigi, (2) to study the fishermen's resistance against the domination of the fish auction markets, the fish employers and the merchants, (3) to study the reality/the facts of the social economy which causes the poverty of the fishermen of Prigi.

The central setting of the research is in the fish auction markets (TPI) and their surroundings at village Prigi, Tasikmadu, district Watulimo-Trenggalek County. The research was conducted from January to August 2006. The research adopts the naturalistic paradigm using the qualitative approach. Data collecting is done by observation, deep interview, and documentation. The data are analyzed by Miles interaction model and Huberman (1994).

The result of the research is concluded as follows: *First*, there is a relationship gap in the political economy institution, among the fishermen, the fish auction markets, the merchants and the fish employers. The fish auction markets (TPI) as the government's "helping-hand" which helps the fishermen sell the fish and enhance their welfare through an institution and the fair markets still fail in the execution. Fish transaction in the formal economy institution held by the government applies the law of black market. Thus, the fish auction markets themselves do not solve the problem but even create the problem instead, *Second*, the fishermen's resistance against the fish auction markets, the merchants and the employers is a logical injustice manifestation of the employers' and the merchants' domination. They resist openly and covertly. The covert resistance is in the form of little fish theft. While the open resistance is in the form of plastic fish sacks. They resist the merchants in the form of covert and verbal resistance. The fishermen resist against the merchants because the merchants are dominating the markets. The fishermen resist against the fish auction markets (TPI) because they do not follow the auction system. The fish auction markets cooperate with the merchants in such a way that the price is fixed by the merchants, *Third*, the fishermen's poverty is caused by (a) the government's failure to protect and manage

the fish auction markets (TPI), (b) no local budgeting to help the fishermen in the fish auction market institution, (c) the objective of economy of the government to found the fish auction markets tends to earn the revenue, not to protect the fishermen, (d) the togetherness to gain the profit is not involved in determining the approval to manage the fish auction markets.

**Key-Words:** *Fishermen's Resistance, Fish Merchants, Capital Suppliers, Fish Auction Markets.*

