

Indonesian value and ideology of toraja essay



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INDONESIAN VALUES AND IDEOLOGY OF TORAJA Different livelihood

combinations, different perceptions There are many aspects that can make different perceptions in a society. Different localities, different life objectives and livelihood constellations produce differential crisis experiences and perceptions. Different localities would create a different perception because in one place the main activities could be different with other place. Here in the article, it is about the difference between Palipu and Kondo.

At Palipu the majority of the populations are involved in the cultivation of cash crops, such as coffee, cacao, vanilla and cloves. At Kondo the majority focused solely on rice-growing and also on prosperous rituals such a funeral ceremony. Before, I only knew that the castes are only in the Hindu society. In the Hindu society, there are castes that distinguish the society level. It was divided based on the job of the society. But after I read the article about Tana Toraja, there are also castes here. It was divided based on the wealth.

They identify four wealth classes among themselves. The classes are very rich, rich, moderate, and poor. Based on the classes, we can see the different perceptions because in each class they have different livelihood combinations. In my opinion, the different livelihood combinations in Tana Toraja create a gap in the society. The benefits of living here can only be enjoyed by the very rich and rich people. The moderate and poor people who only get low income usually choose to be migrated to other places.

The migrants from middle and low caste household use the remittances as a vital income in making a living. But for the migrants from upper caste they use the remittances for ceremonies that can increase their status in the

society. Here we can conclude that, it is important for the upper caste to increase their status because by increasing their status they will be respected more than others. As a human, being respected by others is a pride. There are many things that can make people respected others such as helping the lower caste so they will have a respect on the upper caste.

By making a good relation between the castes it can reduce the gap in the society. The funeral ceremony is an important ceremony at Tana Toraja. People usually invest their money in funeral ceremonies to show off their enhanced wealth and increase their social status. They make a big ceremony for the funeral. For them, it is a celebration so all of the family members have to be involved in this ceremony. By having all of the family members involved in the ceremony it will increase the sense of kinship even the family members already migrate from their hometown.

For me, it is a unique culture because usually at funeral ceremony there will be a lot of grief but here in Tana Toraja they celebrate it. Because of the funeral ceremonies are still flourishing, there is no crisis in Tana Toraja. As I know that in the funeral ceremonies in Tana Toraja, other people which are not the family member will come and also bring some gifts to the ceremony and celebrate it together with the family member. But the gifts are not for free because later on if the giver makes a funeral ceremony they expect to get the same gifts.