

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

In 2015 the Rohingya came to Aceh to seek asylum because they felt that they had been subjected to violence and discrimination by the Myanmar government, and also felt that human rights violations had been committed against them. In the first wave of 2015, 800 Rohingyas came to Indonesia. Upon their arrival in Aceh, they were welcomed and assisted by the people of Aceh (Paramitha, 2016).

When Indonesia decided to finally accept the Rohingya in Aceh, local and international media were busy responding and appreciating the decision. On May 14, 2015, Acehnese fishermen rescued the Rohingya refugees. However, on May 10, 2015 Acehnese fishermen had already rescued and helped Rohingya refugees, also known as 'boat people' (Kusumaningsih, 2015).

Indonesia, through the Indonesian Navy, had already rejected the arrival of the Rohingya refugees and prohibited the fishermen from picking up the boat people. However, due to their common belief as Muslims, the fishermen decided to help the Rohingya refugees. Since the rescue action, the refugees have been temporarily accommodated at the Kuala Langsa Port warehouse in Aceh (Kusumaningsih, 2015).

The genocide that occurred in Myanmar initially occurred because of the massacre of Rohingya Muslims by the Buddhist population of Myanmar in 1938. Based on previous journals, there were also massive arrests in 1970 until the enactment of the citizenship law in 1982 which made the existence of the Rohingya community illegal in the eyes of the law. This genocide also occurred again around 2017 which made the Rohingya people decide to choose to flee to seek asylum in the nearest country (Ketut Alit Putra, 2018).

In 1992 the Rohingya Muslims were discriminated against by the people of Myanmar because they were illegal immigrants who did not have official citizenship from the government. Until finally some of them worked as forced laborers on the streets and in military camps. Because of this unpleasant treatment, the Rohingya Muslims decided to become boat people and leave Myanmar for their own safety. The first genocide was launched in a centralized system by a military dictator named

General Ne Win in Rangoon. This activity involved various institutions so that it was not only carried out by the government but also by the police, the ministry of religion, and various branches of intelligence (Anadolu, 2020).

In 1978, an operation called "Dragon King Operation" was created, which aimed at ethnic cleansing and was conducted in two phases in a military style. The first operation occurred on February 12, 1978 in the capital of Rakhine State, Sittwe. The operation lasted for 7 days and involved 200 troops from various organizations who carried out various acts of terror and violence. While the second phase took place in Buthidaung and Maungdaw in Northern Rakhine, the operation involved 400 security forces from various related institutions (Anadolu, 2020).

Some of the destination countries for Rohingya refugees are Bangladesh, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Australia, Thailand and Indonesia. Indonesia is one of the countries in Asia that the Rohingyas seek refuge in, and their destination is Aceh. The Rohingyas themselves had experienced rejection in several countries until they finally landed in Aceh to flee from the ethnic conflict that occurred in Myanmar. Although initially rejected by Indonesia, the Rohingya refugees finally received permission from the Indonesian government to get help and temporary shelter.

Pros and cons are inevitable from this incident because there will be parties who agree with accepting refugees from Rohingya and parties who refuse to accept refugees from Rohingya for various reasons. This made the Indonesian government a little confused when the government forced Rohingya refugees to leave Indonesia, it would set a bad precedent for humanitarian protection in Indonesia.

Now a new problem has arisen regarding the Rohingya refugees, since their arrival in November 2023 and continuing until the end of 2024, the problems regarding the refugees are not over. Until news emerged regarding various cases involving refugees such as the arrogant attitude shown by Rohingya refugees in Aceh.

B. Problem Formulation

The problem formulation proposed to dig deeper into the pros and cons of Rohingya refugees is:

“Why did Acehnese refuse Rohingya refugees in 2022-2023?”

C. Theoretical Framework

C.1. Theory of Relative Deprivation

Samuel Stouffer was the person who first coined the term relative deprivation. Samuel Stouffer invented the term when he was studying World War II, Samuel Stouffer understood how the soldiers felt during World War II had high hopes for receiving a promotion. The concept put forward by Samuel Stouffer is on the experience of an individual or a group in a situation of deprivation and disadvantage. Samuel Stouffer developed his theory in his study entitled "The American Soldier" which was published in 1949.

Ted Robert Gurr is also one of the actors who played a role in developing the theory of relative deprivation. Reporting from Ted Gurr's paper titled "Why Men Rebel", relative deprivation theory is a state where a person's psychology shows several things such as dissatisfaction, gaps, or even feeling deprived. Relative Deprivation will give birth to perceptions of injustice because it is strongly driven by the emergence of dissatisfaction. An example related to this research is where the people of Aceh thought that Rohingya refugees were fully Muslims who obeyed religion, but in the end the people of Aceh slowly began to realize the dissatisfaction in themselves when they learned that Rohingya refugees turned out to be even some of them who did not know the shahada sentence. Another dissatisfaction arose when the Rohingya refugees began to show their true nature and habits when they were in the previous camps or even when they were still in Myanmar. The nature of Rohingya refugees who always feel less about the assistance provided by the people of Aceh slowly makes the people of Aceh disappointed with Rohingya refugees who are considered ignorant.

Ted Gurr defines relative deprivation as a perceived gap between expected value or and ability value. Ted Gurr also defines value as an event, occurrence, object, or condition that a person is striving for. Ted Gurr also differentiates value into three things: well-being, power, and intrapersonal value. With this, we can understand that relative deprivation is basically a situation where a person feels disadvantaged due to feelings of dissatisfaction. This situation will also give birth to psychological conditions such as anger, dissatisfaction, jealousy, despair, and others. Ted Gurr also added that relative deprivation is another word for frustration.

Ted Gurr reveals that he divides deprivation into three types, namely:

A. Decremental Deprivation or a situation where someone feels deprived of their thoughts about something they should get or have. A person can experience this deprivation by showing the conditions they have experienced in their past. This is in line with Rohingya refugees who also feel deprivation when they feel dissatisfied with

the people of Aceh even though the people of Aceh have done their best to help Rohingya refugees. With this situation, a person will experience the suffering of status reduction, economic difficulties, and feelings of insecurity. With this, it can also be said that Decremental Deprivation is when Value Expectation and Value Capabilities run parallel but over time the two values have a distance that is getting bigger and bigger. Meanwhile, the form of Decremental Deprivation is when a person experiences various situations and conditions such as depression, economic recession, limitations in expressing themselves, and feelings of insecurity.

B. Aspirational Deprivation or a situation where the distance between Value Expectation and Value Capabilities is no longer parallel because there is an increase in Value Expectation but not balanced by the Value Capabilities. This situation will cause a person to feel deprived but at the same time the person will also feel angry because they think that they do not have adequate means to get new or intensive expectations. These expectations can be increased expectations about commodities in a limited supply and also expectations about some new values that they have not previously achieved.

C. Progressive Deprivation or can be interpreted as deprivation that starts from the increase of both values simultaneously, but there is a point where Values Expectation will continue to increase while Values Capabilities will continue to decrease until finally creating a large gap between the two values.

From some examples of relative deprivation, we can conclude that deprivation is a situation where there is a gap between Values Expectation and Values Capabilities experienced by a person. When this happens, a person will feel lost and dissatisfied as a result of not achieving an expectation. Some theories also mention that relative deprivation is inseparable from a person's self esteem or self esteem which can then have an influence on relative deprivation for self esteem which has a more individualistic nature and relative deprivation will be group.

D. Hypothesis

According to constructivism theory, the theory can be happen through changes, actions, and words made by individuals or society and will lead to facts. It was found that the causes of changes in Acehnese people's attitudes towards Rohingya refugees is,

Criminal acts committed by refugees can cause damage to the social environment in Aceh. On the other hand, there are also cultural differences and habits that Acehnese

people are slowly starting to realize and that are not in line with the habits of the Acehese people, causing the disturbance of the comfort of the Acehese people by the attitudes, actions, and actions carried out by refugees.

Based on the theory of constructivism, these reasons caused a change in attitude from the Acehese community to Rohingya refugees in Aceh.

E. Research Methods

The research method that will be used by the author is a Descriptive Qualitative research method which is based on related data that has been collected previously and data filtering is carried out in order to achieve maximum results for the research conducted. The Descriptive Qualitative research method can provide a clear picture of Paradiplomacy as the subject under study. The author conducts the data collection stage by conducting a literature study using journals and media that have a connection with Rohingya refugees in Aceh.

F. Research Objective

Based on the problem formulation above, it can be seen that the purpose of this research is to find out what factors are behind the changing attitudes of the people of Aceh towards Rohingya refugees.

G. Research Limitations

The research boundaries studied in this study range from 2020 to 2023 and the population of refugees who arrived continued to increase until now. This research limitation can make it easier for the author to be more focused in analyzing the material under study.

H. Writing Systematics

The systematics of writing in the research conducted by the author will be described in three chapters, namely, Chapter I as an introduction, in the introduction consisting of the background of the problem, problem formulation, theoretical framework, hypothesis, research method, research objectives, research limitations, and writing systematics. The background itself will discuss the history of the genocide that occurred in Myanmar which caused the Rohingyas to decide to seek asylum in various countries, one of which is Indonesia. In the theoretical framework, the author uses constructivism theory. In the hypothesis section, the author describes the author's perspective on the factors behind the change in attitudes of the Acehese people. In the

research objectives section, the author tries to examine changes in Acehese attitudes towards Rohingya refugees. Meanwhile, the research method used by the author in this research is the qualitative method. Chapter II will focus on how the people of Aceh initially accepted Rohingya refugees and then rejected their arrival in Aceh in 2022 to 2023. Chapter III will be the closing where the author will present conclusions and suggestions from the results of the research that has been reviewed.