# Socio-Economic Development As A Response To The Christian Calling

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Abstract.Ideally, high economic growth in a country will boost the status and income of citizens from all levels of society. To achieve this, it is necessary to conduct a comprehensive study of the benefits of a country's economic growth. As Christians, socio-economic responsibility is the duty of humans to nurture, continue and develop what God has done on earth. In other words, humans are given the task of developing social economics that reflect the actions and characteristics of the Creator. The research was conducted to determine the understanding of the Christian calling towards socioeconomic development. This research was conducted at GBI Medan Plaza which consisted of several branch churches. The research method used is a quantitative method using survey. The sampling technique is simple random sampling. Test requirements analyses were carried out by normality test and linearity test. From the results of the study it was found that the response to Christian calling towards socio-economic growth was high.Based on these findings, the implication is to make efforts to increase existing understanding of social development in response to Christian calling. In an effort to increase the understanding of the importance of socio-economic development, the church is expected to continue to play a role in taking part in conducting trainings and conducting seminars.Suggestions conveyed to all Christians and God's servants are expected to be constructive socio-economicaly based on the truth of God's Word.

Keywords: socio-economic, response, Christian vocation

## **1** Introduction

This article deals with socio-economic development as a response to Christian vocation. Social inequalities occur in the community due to non-fulfillment of economic factors are equitable economic growth. High economic growth in a country can also help boost the status and income of people from all levels of society. However, this will not happen if there is no thorough review of the benefits a country's economic growth. What happened was that the heightened gap in social inequality due to those who felt prosperity from economic growth was only among the middle to upper classes, while the middle to lower classes were still struggling with shortcomings and could not benefit from the country's economic growth.

#### 1.1 Ethnic and group-based violence

Examples of cases of socio-economic impacts often occur in Indonesia. The economic imbalance has resulted in people not being able to get higher education, feeling prosperity and equitable development. Finally, people who are in such a scope are easily affected and igniteddo not have their own standpoint and tend to be easily provoked either by time or by

figures who they consider smarter. This is what causes a region prone to conflict by not thinking deeply about the long-term consequences of the conflict.

#### **1.2 Domestic violence**

This is another example of socio-economic impact. Even though the economy is not the main reason, in some cases it is the economic factor of domestic violence that is the main trigger. As a result of not achieving a community need in the family sphere it becomes a short axis, not considering clearly the consequences is due to the high burden of life happening during a prolonged period of time.

#### 1.3 Social Economy

Social means everything related to society, while economicsis the science that deals with the principles of production, distribution, use of goods and wealth. If economic needs are not met, there will be social impacts occuring in society. Therefore it can be concluded that socioeconomic means everythingthing related to economic actions in meeting community needs such as clothing, food and shelter.

Christians or followers of Christ must understand the extent of their call for socioeconomic development. According to the Bible, economics is the study of how to utilize all that God has entrusted to humans to be able to glorify God. (Gen. 2:15; Matt. 25: 14-30; Col. 3:23). The Bible both implicitly and explicitly tries to give instructions to followers of Christ how to live a proper economic life. Economic activity has actually been created since the day of Creation. This began since God gave a mandate to humans to till the earth. When viewed from the root, the essence of economy is concerned with making decisions, decisions made to allocate existing resources to produce something.

One of the efforts of Christians in fulfilling socio-economic responsibilities can be seen in Genesis 1: 28 (NIV)God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground." Therefore, in accordance with the context of creation, there some guidelines to be followed by the human kind.

#### 1.4 Humans are given the task of mandate and trust.

To develop social economics that reflect the actions and characteristics of the Creator, the universe is given to humans responsibly for human needs. This is universal. The object of the word "fill" is for the world, while the object of "subdue" is for all animals. In terms of socio-economic responsibility, everyone is at the same level and stands at the same hight. This belief provides ample space for Christians to partner with others. This belief is inseparable from human nature. Mastering the earth is not only a blessing or an order. This is also the purpose of human life. Genesis 1:26 clearly teaches this. Humans were created to rule the earth. The neglect of this or failure to do so is a serious denial of the nature of human beings.

#### 1.5 Responsible

The Bible economy teaches the principle of management responsibility that humans have towards the nature to God. Humans must not work on nature arbitrarily for themselves or their own class because it is not humans who have all that. By taking responsibility for all economies according to God's command, human welfare can be maintained. For this reason, the Bible is the basis of economic studies, not the spirit of materialism and the demands of human needs. All economic behavior must be returned to God's will. There is no right economic behavior that comes out of God's plan. Conversely, in the world economic system, accountability to God has never been taken into account. As a result, humans only become savage economic actors and only seek benefits for themselves. Not surprisingly, the world is a scene of destruction due to the imbalance in the pattern of the world economy, where global accountability is not emphasized, the world will be increasingly vulnerable to damage.

### **1.6 Spiritual Economy**

Bible economics emphasizes that all economic behavior is a balance between spiritual and physical aspects, even concerning all parts of human life, which can glorify God. However, in the world economy, as mentioned above, clearly the orientation is only on the material aspects and ignores the spiritual aspects altogether. The economy seems to be a field that is split or separated from the spiritual world, there is even a tendency to be contrasted with one another. Through the parable of the dishonest treasurer or dishonest scales, the Bible wants to state that material must be used as a spiritual tool. There is no other way that can make economics work well except through a system that is honest and having good integrity. Only then can the entire balance be achieved. The Lord Jesus taught that we must seek God's kingdom and His truth first, then all other things will be added to us. People must maintain balance, where the spiritual aspect becomes an important part that cannot be separated from the material aspects in economics. Thus people can only become good economic stewards.

God's basic motivation in giving all this universe to humans is so that humans can live happily and prosperously. This is God's virtue revealed to humans. Therefore, humans must also carry out the principle of virtue in doing economics. When the economy has lost its human nature, the economy will be very cruel in behavior. It was only recently that people began to increasingly realize that the economy had no longer treated humans as humans. There was even the idea that humans were economic beings. That is, humans are only assessed based on economic aspects. Humans are actually even above the economy, but humans have become economic commodities. From here arises many problems that afflict humans.

#### 1.7 Research objectives

- 1. To find out the level of response for Christian calling
- 2. To find out the influence of the Christian response to socio-economic development

# 2 Method

This research was conducted at GBI Medan Plaza which consisted of several branches of the church. The time of the investigation of this instrument was carried out in December 2018, while data collection, and completion of statistical data analysis were carried out during January 2019. The research method used was a quantitative using survey. The population of the study was a congregation at GBI Medan Plaza. The sampling technique is simple random sampling. Analysis requirements test was carried out by normality test and linearity test

# **3** Results and Discussion

From the results of the study it was found that the response to Christian vocation towards socio-economic development was high.

Table 1. Simple Correlation Calculation Results between X and Y

Model Summary										
Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate						
1	.322ª	.104	.101	8.50022						
a. Predictor	s: (Constant)	Respon pangg	ilan Kristiani							

Based on the table above, it is found that the value of rxx is equal to 0.322 and is positive

Table 2. Test the significance of a simple correlation between X and Y

			Coefficients <sup>a</sup>				
Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	Collinearity Statistics	
	В	Std.	Beta			Tolerance	VIF
		Error					
1 (Constant)	94.141	8.736		10.776	.000		
Х	.226	.038	.322	5.938	.000	1.000	1.000
a. Depend	ent Variable:	Y					

a. Dependent Variable: Y

The linear regression line equation is produced  $\hat{Y} = 94.141 + 0.226 \text{ X}$ . In other words, every unit of improvement in the Christian calling response, the social-economic development will increase 0.226 times.

Based on these findings, the next step is to make efforts to improve the existing understanding of social development in response to Christian calling. In an effort to increase understanding of the importance of socio-economic development, the church is expected to continue to play a role in taking part in conducting trainings and seminars.

# **4** Conclusion

Based on the data and discussion above, it is concluded that the results of socioeconomic development research on the response to Christian callingwas high.

# Suggestion

To all Christians and God's servants it is hoped that they will become socio-economic builders based on the truth of God's Word besause whatever God's people do, they must do it as if to God. Christians must glorify God's name in running the economy.