

Elopement Culture and Its Impact on Youth Education (Case Study in Rantau Panjang Village, Jambi Province)

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Abstract. Islam has regulated marriage, among other things. It recommends proposing marriages based on "family principles," meaning that the families of both parties are involved and both approve of their child's marriage. In contrast to the marriage tradition carried out by the people of Rantau Panjang Village, many young people elope, which can lower the social status of the family in society, including people who have low human awareness, and has an impact on teenagers dropping out of school. The research method uses qualitative research; the data collection instrument consists of observation, interviews, and documentation, and the data analysis is descriptive. Research findings: Elopement is carried out when a man and a woman who are still teenagers both like to run away to the house of the man's uncle on the woman's father's side to report that they will carry out the marriage without the consent of their parents. The practice of eloping is something that is not unusual for the people of Rantau Panjang Village, and they pay for the customary offense with a low value so that the perpetrator of the elopement does not receive a deterrent from the offense.

Keywords: Community culture, elopement, and adolescent education.

1 Introduction

Islam pays great attention to family matters, which should be used as an example. If the family's foundation is strong, the country's foundation will be strong. Islam gives rights to each family member according to their position and then requires them to carry out their responsibilities with full piety. To maintain peace and order in Muslim family life [1]. Allah has explained in Surah An-Nisa': 34: "Men are the protectors and maintainers (leaders) of women". Men are leaders over women because men are physically stronger and more significant enough to work hard. Men are leaders (responsible) for their families. A wife must obey her husband in positive things.

The role of fathers and mothers in raising their families is very much required to care for them, provide a living, educate them, and marry them until they have a household. Sometimes, there are obstacles to achieving all of this, such as the parent's desire for their children to complete junior high school (SLTP) or senior high school (SLTA) and tertiary education, but the reality

is different: children choose their path in life by being married rather than finishing school. This article is in accordance with the research location of Rantau Panjang Village, where many teenagers have dropped out of school because they eloped. The cause of elopement among teenagers in Rantau Panjang Village is due to the influence of young people's social interactions where the use of cell phones is uncontrolled, according to the author's interview with Mr. Y, Tabir District Religious Affairs Office, he said:

In Rantau Panjang Village, there are many elopements among teenagers due to the association between young people, which is not in accordance with the rules of the Islamic religion, and results in them wanting to get married but not being approved by one of their parents or both of their parents not approving it, because they are still at school [2].

Finally, they chose to elope and were married by the judge's guardian." The number of people eloping based on data from the Tabir District Religious Affairs Office (KUA) 2016: 20 people. 2017: 25 couples. 2018: 33 couples. In 2019, 34 couples, and in 2020, 16 couples. A total of 128 pairs. Rantau Panjang Village comprises four sub-districts: 1. Pasar Rantau Panjang Subdistrict. 2. Pasar Baru Village. 3. Baruh Hamlet Village. 4. Mampun Village [3]. In 2020, there was a decrease in the number of couples running away to marry due to the pandemic. In 2022, the number will increase again. There are also underage married couples. Even though the government has set regulations regarding the age of marriage based on Article 7 paragraph (1) of Law no. 1 of 1974 concerning marriage, it stipulates that men must be 19 years old and women 16 years old. This issue of marriage age regulations applies to Indonesia and other Muslim countries, such as Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, and so on [4].

2 Methods

This research uses qualitative research. The data collection instruments consist of observation, interviews, and documentation. The data analysis method is descriptive, presenting data according to facts in the field. The scientific approach uses family law and education science.

3 Results and Discussion

3.1 Cultural Concepts, Eloping, and Adolescent Education

3.1.1 Cultural Concept

In the Big Indonesian Dictionary, culture can be interpreted as thought, reason, and results. Meanwhile, culture means teaching to have culture, educating to be cultured, and biasing something good to be cultured [5]. In Sanskrit, the word culture comes from the word "budh, meaning reason," which then became the word "budhi" or culture, so that culture is defined as the result of human thought or reason [6]. According to Koentjaraningrat, almost all human activities are cultural, and only a few reflexes based on instinct are not cultural. Eating, for example, is a spontaneous act, but it can only be done well by humans after learning how to eat [7]. It was further stated that in terms of its form, there are three forms of culture, namely, a form in the form of a complex of ideas, notions, values, norms, and regulations, which are an ideal and abstract form. Second, the form in the form of a complex of patterned behavioral

activities of humans in society. Third, forms in the form of objects created by very concrete humans [8]. It can be understood that culture is all the power of the mind, namely human creativity, taste, and intention.

3.1.2 The concept of elopement

Men and women who are about to get married agree to marry or get married outside their customary law community. In some areas, such as Bali, this marriage is considered normal and normal so it is not considered a customary offense. However, in Makasar, this act is a customary offense. The causes of running away from mating are: 1. One of the bride and groom avoids wedding costs, which are considered unreasonable because they are too expensive. 2. some parties disagree, thus hindering the intentions of the man and woman who want to get married. Furthermore, there is abducted marriage (takeaway marriage), which is a marriage method that forces the partner to marry or marry outside their traditional area [9].

This marriage is a traditional offense because, in this marriage, there is a partner who does not like their partner. The term "escape" is the act of (a man) running away from a woman to his wife without following established marital procedures or rules. The term "run" in this expression can mean avoiding regulations/rules, running away from family, or going public (where the marriage process is usually in front of many people). The Big Indonesian Dictionary defines elopement as "marrying away from the girl you want to marry with her consent, avoiding traditional procedures that are considered long and too expensive" [10]. Eloping is a form of marriage in which a man and a woman run away from home to get married. Elopement does not mean a marriage by elopement, but rather a marriage carried out by a man and a woman because of parental disputes; both the bride and groom's parents are not at odds. The law applies if this marriage is carried out correctly according to the principles and conditions. Elopement in the sense of a traditional bond is a marriage that has legal consequences regarding the customary law that applies in the society concerned with the marriage [11].

This elopement is usually carried out by single people and girls who are very obsessed with marriage because elopement is one way to unite two people who are attracted to each other and are also of the opposite sex. However, the lack of knowledge and education of bachelors and girls in Baruh village misinterprets the usefulness and benefits of the meaning of marriage [12]. The term elopement can be interpreted as two forms of marriage. Firstly, the marriage is not held in the presence of a marriage registrar, but it is still carried out by a guardian and is attended to by legal witnesses according to religious regulations. However, the process is unknown or has not been attended by many people. Second, marriages performed by guardians and witnesses are not legal according to religion, while the guardians and families of both parties barely know about the process in question. The meaning of the first form is usually more popular with the term unregistered marriage, while "elopement" is more appropriately interpreted in the second form. In this study, the term elopement is used in the second meaning [13].

3.2 Concept of Youth Education

Adolescence is a transition period from adolescence to adulthood. During adolescence, there are changes or transition periods, both physical, biological, emotional, mental, and social, and are also susceptible to changes that affect personal, environmental, educational, and social life. Teenagers' position plays a role in thinking and planning for a brighter future [14]. Education is

one of the dominant things that gets a lot of attention from teenagers. With education, teenagers can fulfill their adult demands and roles [15]. Adolescence is a vulnerable period that is not stable because it is susceptible to negative behavioral influences such as drugs, crime, and sex crimes. Therefore, parents and community funds (educational institutions) must be able to provide character education that can direct teenagers to positive behavior [16].

3.3 Implementation of Eloping and its Impact on Education

3.3.1 Implementation of Elopement in Rantau Panjang

Village The implementation of elopement in Rantau Panjang Village is carried out in two ways. First, it is carried out when a woman (girl) and a man (bachelor), referred to as a "bachelor girl," agree to carry out the marriage. Before the elopement, the girl's parents already knew that their child was in love with the bachelor. Then, there was an escape in the middle of the night where the bachelor came to the girl's parents' house to pick up the girl and went away (ran away) with the two men. The girl's parents agreed that the girl was taken by the footman to the girl's uncle's house and accompanied by the girl's mahram. The next morning, the uncle informs the bachelor's parents that their son eloped last night. Then, both parties agreed to carry out the marriage.

Second, it is carried out where a woman (girl) and a man (bachelor) are termed "bachelor girls" and agree to carry out a marriage. On a quiet night, the bachelor secretly picked up the girl at her house without anyone knowing, either the girl's parents or her mahram. They went (ran) to the girl's male uncle's house to express their intention to get married. The following day, the uncle informed both parents. Meeting the man's parents and family does not all go smoothly. Due to the parents' disapproval of the relationship, running away to marry is unknown to both parents, which can result in the marriage not taking place. The following process for parents who approve of the relationship between a man and a woman is a meeting between both parties. The woman's family comes to the man's residence to determine the time of the marriage ceremony and wedding reception [17]. This case of elopement can be seen from the results of the author's interview with Irda, who said: "I believe that elopement can occur because there are descendants who have also eloped, for example, one of the parents who has eloped, then it is transmitted to the child. Someone had eloped, and it was proven that this happened to me [18]. It may be true that elopement is caused by hereditary factors who did it. Furthermore, there was also a case, as expressed by Abu Kasim as husband and Zakiah as their wife, who said: "We eloped without the knowledge of our parents. We both went (ran) to Zakiah's uncle's house. The uncle informed our parents in the morning, and then we got married [19]." The elopement will still take place in the middle of the night. Tomorrow morning, the uncle will report the child to the parents of both parties to discuss marriage.

After the married couple goes to the woman's uncle's house and is not immediately married, the guardian or parents of both parties are first called to negotiate before the officiant. The marriage is carried out in accordance with the applicable and legal rules according to Islam. This elopement couple is still married because it is morally known to many people. It is very unfortunate that couples who elope consist of teenagers who are still at school, so they automatically stop going to school. This is in accordance with the results of the author's interview with Mrs. Y: In Rantau Panjang Village, there are many elopements involving school children. This couple was determined to carry out the marriage without their parents and family

knowing, and they ran away from local customary rules regarding marriage. This brand does not receive sanctions from customs, so this act of eloping spreads to others [20]. Young people carry out the culture of eloping due to the culture and habits of society that have long existed in society. Elopement is a marriage whose implementation is simple without much hassle according to local customary rules. And the eloping couple has to pay very few customary fines, which has no deterrent effect. This practice of elopement is also found in the Kalash tribal community in the Chitral District of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province, Pakistan. According to traditional marriage, the Kalash tribe adheres to an arranged marriage system and an exogamy system that has occurred and been practiced for centuries. In the practice of conventional marriage, there is a shift in values where people tend to elope to avoid the high costs of wedding celebrations and avoid the applicable marriage customary rules. Elopement is carried out when a man kidnaps a woman who already has a (living) husband because they love each other. This woman's first husband demanded dowry rights from his ex-wife (double).

The practice of elopement among the Kalasha-Pakistan people is due to the emergence of modern trends such as education, the influence of mass media, and cultural contact [21]. In Nigeria, there are also elopements due to mobile telephony in this modern era and the increase in public transportation infrastructure, which can reach all areas, even remote areas. With the advent of cell phones, it has become more accessible for people to do things, including eloping. An example of this is Gado Yang kidnapping married women so that conflict arises [22]. Elopements were carried out in two places in Pakistan and this country where men kidnapped and carried away married women. The implementation of this elopement violates the rules of marriage in Islam, which are overlooked, such as the proposal and guardianship process. In the Islamic view, marriage is not just a civil matter, nor just a family matter and cultural matter, but a religious matter and event; therefore, it is carried out to fulfill the sunnah of Allah and the sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad and is carried out in accordance with Allah's instructions and the Prophet's instructions. Marriage is not for the sake of a peaceful life but for life [23]. Therefore, when choosing a mate, a person must be careful and look at it from various aspects, such as being a friend, having a religion, and so on. In carrying out elopements, there is no process of suitors recommended by Islam. Apart from that, there are also obstacles in carrying out elopements, namely the problem of guardians. Sometimes, the father of the woman (future wife) is reluctant to become the child's guardian, so in the end, he is handed over to the guardian judge. The guardian's provisions for eloping should pay attention to the guardian's rules in Islam, namely the guardian's provisions for *adhal*.

3.3.2 Factors causing elopement and its impact on adolescent education in Rantau Panjang Village

Factors causing elopement are as follows: First is the Indigenous factor. In the traditional marriage tradition of Rantau Panjang Village, there is the practice of proposing, namely the bachelor and girl, together with the families of both parties, will go to the houses of the relatives of both parties to tell them they are going to get married. Sometimes, their marriage agreement is canceled by one of the families. Finally, this pair of bachelors and girls decided to elope as a shortcut to getting the wedding done. Secondly, economic factors, with the high cost of weddings, sometimes make middle- to lower-class people elope. This is in accordance with what was expressed by Mr. Abdul Hayat: "Holding a wedding party was supported by high costs, while the family economy did not support it, in the end they eloped [24]." Third, the factor of

juvenile delinquency, with the current existence of communication links and transformation tools and minimal supervision from parents, promiscuity occurs, resulting in pregnancy out of wedlock. This is in accordance with what was expressed by Mr. Akhyar, S. Ag: "With the increasing development of information and communication media accompanied by a lack of control from family/parents and related agencies, it has a negative impact on the development of adolescents, thereby spurring the occurrence of things that "It's undesirable to elope in this area [25]." Strangely, there is an opinion that those who elope have a destiny from Allah. In terms of Allah, SWT enjoins good deeds and forbids evil.

Running away from marriage is seen as damaging the social order and violating legal norms. Muhd. Syargawi, S.Ag, stated, "If an elopement occurs in a family, the family left behind will feel ashamed of what has happened. Our extended family feels the same when one of the families elopes [26]. Mr. Syargawi expressed the expression of the people of Rantau Panjang Village who think like that. However, Mr Syargawi does not approve of elopement because it is not in accordance with legal and religious norms. Other factors cause elopement due to "holding the price and being reckless" namely where the man's proposal to the woman is rejected by the woman's family. Because the man does not match what the woman's family wants. Then, a couple of bachelors and girls are determined to elope, especially since they have been dating for a long time. This is in accordance with what was expressed by Mr. A. Rahman, S.Ag [27]: In the past, I eloped because I felt embarrassed because I was humiliated by my current wife's mother. I ran away with her daughter because, according to her mother, I was not comparable to her daughter (from the family's economic level). From that statement, I was determined to take her daughter away. Agreement/agreement by both of us. In the Rantau Panjang marriage tradition, elopement is termed "Lahi marry," which means asking to be married off. A man proposing marriage to a woman is called "*Menyasat*," and there is also this practice of *menyasat* on the part of women, where the woman comes to the man asking to be her husband. In the rules of customary law, "the mistake of bachelors and girls who elope is called "standing up and down in a quiet place, sitting in a dark place." Their actions will be subject to customary sanctions.

As Seloko: It's breaking customs, It's breaking customs, It's breaking the rules, It's breaking the law, The law binds it, and it's being careful. Already stepped on a thorough mine. Thus, the practice of proposing marriages carried out by the people of Tabir District using the "Lahi Kawin" method violates the customary law of Rantau Panjang Village. Even though there are customary prohibitions, local people often practice elopement, according to Drs. Fatihi said that Running away to marry is justified for the following reasons: 1. Running away is not done outside the city but in the village where he lives. 2. Lari Kawin, meant by the people of Tabir District, is asking to get married or asking for the family's blessing to marry their niece. 3. the Imam or traditional figure is not marrying, but their parents [28]. The practice of elopement violates Family Law regulations in Indonesia, such as Law No. 1 of 1974 concerning Marriage as well as marriage regulations stated in the book of Fiqh. The practice of eloping has an impact on the good name of the perpetrator's family, as stated by Mr. Muhammad Syargawi, S.Ag: "If an elopement occurs, it will definitely tarnish the good name of the family, and the perpetrator will also feel bad [29]." Based on information from the KUA (Office of Religious Affairs), there were 34 cases of eloping in 2019. One of the reasons for their eloping was the influence of economic deprivation and not wanting to follow traditional marriage rules, and they had limited education [30].

I am not entirely blaming teenagers who go to school for eloping. Still, some elements are not paid enough attention by the government, community leaders, and local religious leaders on how to prevent the practice of eloping, or at least how to minimize the number of eloped marriages in Rantau Panjang Village. If this can be done, it can certainly increase the number of people graduating from junior high school and high school to even higher. Furthermore, the impact of elopement can be linked to the causes of early marriage. Early marriage occurs because 1. Children drop out of school, both at compulsory school age and beyond. As a result, children fill their time by working. When they are working, children feel quite independent, so they feel capable of supporting themselves. On the other hand, children who drop out of school, in order to fill their time, do negative things such as having intimate relations with the opposite sex and thus becoming pregnant out of wedlock. 2. Economic factors: Economic reasons are a factor for early marriage because the child's parents' economy is not sufficient to finance their child's education. As a result, the child works and feels independent enough to marry early. Surprisingly, there are also economic reasons for parents to use daughters as sacrifices to settle their parents' debts. For parents who are in debt, they are willing to marry off their daughter to pay the debt, and when they get married, their parents' debts are paid off like in the case of Siti Nurbaya and Datuk Meringgih. 3. Customary and cultural factors, customs and culture. Some Indonesian people still adhere to the tradition of arranged marriages.

Children who have not reached the age of 16 for women are married by their parents [31]. The causes of early marriage also influence adolescent education. Education and poverty mutually influence the occurrence of early marriage. Poverty is one of the causes of inaccessibility to education and unemployment. Without education, it is difficult to achieve paradigm and cultural change. Furthermore, the static paradigm is one of the reasons for the persistence of cultures and customs that are not prospective. In .. there are many elopements carried out by teenagers who are still young going to school, after eloping and dropping out of school, not only that but it has an impact on the lack of harmony in the household resulting in divorce.

Conclusion

Elopements often occur in the people of Rantau Panjang Village. This practice of elopement has been around for a long time and has become somewhat of a culture among the people of this village. However, efforts to minimize the number of elopements have been attempted by local community leaders but have not been fully achieved. The implementation of this elopement is considered something that is not unusual for the people of Rantau Panjang Village and does not attract local customary offenses. However, due to its impact on education, the perpetrators of elopement consist of teenagers who are still in school and teenagers who have dropped out of school. The causes of this elopement include traditional procedures in carrying out marriages, which are considered complicated and take up time, money, and energy, such as "the tradition of hanging out at the woman's house and at the man's house, worshiping, and reporting to all the family that he will carry out the marriage, both Whether it's near or far, it still works.

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