

RESETTLEMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER
THE CASE OF THE KADAZANDUSUN OF KAMPUNG TAMPASAK,
PENAMPANG, SABAH

YONG OOI LIN

A thesis submitted in fulfillment of the requirements
For the Degree of Master of Philosophy in the
Institute of Postgraduate Studies and Research,
University of Malaya,
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

February 2000

Perpustakaan Universiti Malaya



A510145489

OK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Abstract	viii
Abstrak	ix
Acknowledgements	x-xi
Abbreviations and Glossary	xii-xv
List of Tables	xvi
List of Figures	xvii
List of Charts	xvii
List of Maps	xvii
List of Plates	xvii

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY

SCOPE, OBJECTIVES AND METHODS	1
Background of Sabah	1
<i>The political background</i>	1
<i>Population and ethnicity of Sabah</i>	4
<i>Profile of the major indigenous groups</i>	7
Sabah's Economic Development	8
Statement of the Problem	10
Objectives of Study	13
Research Questions	14
Methodology	14
<i>Questionnaire survey: sample design and schedule</i>	15
<i>Field and participation observation</i>	20
<i>Formal and informal interviews</i>	22

<i>Focussed group discussion</i>	23
<i>Secondary resource</i>	24
Limitation of the Study	24

CHAPTER 2

RESETTLEMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER: A

THEORETICAL DISCUSSION AND LITERATURE REVIEW	26
The Impoverishment Risks and Reconstruction Model	26
International and National Experiences Of Displacement by Dam Projects	34
<i>Targets of Dams and Resettlement</i>	38
<i>Resettlement of Indigenous Peoples in Malaysia</i>	42
Development Approaches and Rural and Indigenous Communities	46
Failures of Development Approaches in Understanding Rural and Indigenous Communities	48
Consequences of Failed Development Approaches	52
Development and the Understanding of Gender	53
<i>Welfare Approach</i>	54
<i>Integrating Women in Development</i>	55
<i>Basic Needs</i>	57
<i>Efficiency Approach</i>	57
<i>Women and Development</i>	58
<i>Gender and Development</i>	59
<i>Third World Women Perspectives</i>	60
Towards Gender Analysis in Resettlement and Development	61
Concepts and Terms Related To Resettlement, Development and Gender	64
<i>Displacement</i>	64

<i>Voluntary Migration</i>	64
<i>Involuntary Displacement</i>	65
<i>Resettlement</i>	65
<i>Gender</i>	67
<i>Gender Analysis</i>	68
<i>Indigenous Peoples</i>	70
Framework of the Study	70
Summary	72

CHAPTER 3

HISTORY AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC

CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDY AREA 73

Historical Background of Old Kampung Tampasak 73

The Physical Setting of the Village 73

Traditional Village Economy 75

Religion and Traditional Practices 79

Village Leadership and Power 81

Inside the Household 82

Socio-Economic Background of the Resettlement Site 82

Population 83

Changes in Religion and Traditional Practices 86

Possessions and Ancestral Property 88

General Observations of the Resettlement Site 90

Summary 93

CHAPTER 4

RESETTLEMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER ISSUES:

THE CASE OF KAMPUNG TAMPASAK	95
Role of the State in Resettlement and Development	95
<i>Features of the Babagon Dam</i>	96
<i>Reactions of the Kampung Tampasak Community Towards the Project</i>	99
<i>Administrative Structure of the Kampung Tampasak Resettlement</i>	104
<i>Land Acquisition Ordinance (Sabah Cap. 69)</i>	107
<i>State, Resettlement and Indigenous Peoples: A Critical Look</i>	110
<i>Lack of a proper consultation process</i>	111
<i>Complaints procedure: the missing link</i>	113
<i>Whither the compensation monies</i>	114
<i>Gender insensitivity in policy and implementation</i>	114
The Resettlement of the People	115
<i>Evacuating the Families</i>	119
<i>Households/Families' Perception of Resettlement</i>	121
<i>Trauma of resettlement</i>	129
<i>NGO's Role in the resettlement of Kampung Tampasak</i>	134
Compensation	136
<i>Compensation Criteria</i>	137
<i>Implementation of Compensation</i>	139
<i>Households/Families' Perception of Compensation</i>	144
Prospects and Problems of the New Resettlement Site	147
Summary	151

CHAPTER 5

GENDER ANALYSIS OF THE RESETTLEMENT OF KAMPUNG TAMPASAK 154

Introduction	154
Changes Accentuated By The Resettlement	154
<i>Change in Land Tenure and Resources Use</i>	154
<i>Decline in Traditional Values and Agricultural Practices</i>	159
<i>Changing Village Structure and Patterns of Household/Community Composition</i>	159
<i>Changing Division of Labour</i>	162
<i>Domestic tasks</i>	162
<i>Productive tasks</i>	165
<i>Gender Relations</i>	168
Gender Impacts of Resettlement	170
<i>Economic Aspects</i>	170
<i>Cultural Aspects</i>	174
<i>Case of dispute over the houses</i>	178
<i>Social Aspects</i>	181
<i>Specific Impacts on Women and Children</i>	187
Summary	190

CHAPTER 6

CONCLUSION	193
Summary of Main Findings	193
Critical Issues of Concern	194
<i>Subversion of Indigenous Tenureship</i>	194
<i>Economic Vulnerability and Invisibility</i>	194

<i>Disintegration of Social Relationships and Indigenous Values</i>	195
<i>Changing Gender Relations</i>	195
<i>Space, Privacy and Physical Layout of the Housing Site</i>	196
<i>Definition of Development</i>	196
Looking At Alternatives	197
Recommendations for Policy Action and suggestions for Kampung Tampasak	202
<i>Policy level</i>	203
<i>Implementation level</i>	204
<i>Community level</i>	205
Bibliography	207
Appendices	224-239
Appendix 1: Questionnaire Survey Schedules	224-238
1.1 <i>Borang 1: Household Schedule List</i>	224
1.2 <i>Borang 2: Characteristics of the resettlement site</i>	225
1.3 <i>Borang 3: Demographic characteristic of households</i>	226-227
1.4 <i>Borang 4: Survey questionnaire</i>	228-238
Appendix 2: Migration Patterns of Respondents' Families	239

ABSTRACT

RESETTLEMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND GENDER: THE CASE OF THE KADAZANDUSUN OF KAMPUNG TAMPASAK, PENAMPANG, SABAH

The resettlement of the Kadazandusun indigenous community of Kampung Tampasak in Penampang, Sabah due to the compulsory acquisition of their land for the construction of the Babagon Dam has brought about various changes in their lives. Consequently, members of the resettled community begin to experience increased social, economical, cultural and psychological stresses, which together with the loss of their ancestral lands and resources have accentuated their stresses. Resettlement demands the restructuring of homes, livelihoods, value systems and culture; the community views this restructuring as a threat to their identity as indigenous peoples.

This study shows that the burden of change is often far greater for women and that they have even less access to the benefits of 'development' than do men. This is because women are faced with prevalent gender inequalities in the family, community and society, in some form or other, which often affect their status and opportunities.

The case of the Kadazandusun of Kampung Tampasak in Penampang, Sabah shows the need for resettlement policies to enable a more satisfactory outcome for the affected community. More importantly, greater attention needs to be given to women's needs to enable them to cope with the changes brought about by resettlement.

ABSTRAK

PENEMPATAN, PEMBANGUNAN DAN GENDER: KES ORANG ASAL KADAZANDUSUN KAMPUNG TAMPASAK, PENAMPANG, SABAH

Komuniti orang asal Kadazandusun dari Kampung Tampasak di Penampang, Sabah terpaksa dipindahkan apabila tanah mereka diambilalih kerajaan untuk pembinaan Empangan Babagon. Penempatan semula ini telah menyebabkan berlaku perubahan dalam kehidupan mereka. Mereka mulai mengalami tekanan-tekanan sosial, ekonomi, budaya dan psikologi yang bertambah mendesak dengan kehilangan tanah adat asal dan sumber-sumber asas. Penempatan semula Kampung Tampasak memerlukan penyusunan semula rumah tangga, kehidupan, nilai-nilai dan kebudayaan komuniti; penyusunan semula ini dianggap mengancam identiti mereka sebagai orang asal.

Kajian ini telah menunjukkan bahawa tanggungan perubahan yang mendadak lebih berat untuk kaum wanita, dan mereka menerima manfaat pembangunan yang lebih kecil, berbanding dengan kaum lelaki. Ini kerana wanita menghadapi ketidaksamaan gender yang nyata dalam keluarga dan komuniti, yang sering kali mempengaruhi status dan peluang untuk memajukan diri.

Kajian mengenai penempatan semula komuniti Kadazandusun dari Kampung Tampasak ini menunjukkan bahawa adalah perlu untuk mengubal dasar-dasar yang sensitif tentang penempatan semula agar komuniti terbabit tidak menanggung akibat buruknya. Lebih-lebih lagi, keperluan wanita harus diberi perhatian teliti supaya membolehkan mereka menghadapi perubahan-perubahan akibat penempatan semula.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Too many people have been supportive and helpful to me, and over too long a period of time on completing this dissertation that it is not possible to name them all here. I must, at the very least, thank those who contributed in more ways than they realised.

I especially appreciate the people of Kampung Tampasak who gave generously of their time and patience; without their contribution this dissertation could not have been written, nor would I feel such enthusiasm for returning to the village at the earliest opportunity. Staying and working with them had been a personally enriching learning experience for me. Juspa and Boinis gave me a temporary home, Zita and Alex often educated me on issues happening in the village, and Melissa helped in translation during interviews and conversations with the people. The children have been resourceful in making me aware of little everyday goings-on in the village. They include Arron, Gee, Wendy, Velerie, Adriaana, Addriana and Cyril.

Anne Lasimbang, Emmy Lo, Felix Tongkul and Jannie Lasimbang have shown many aspects of friendship and support during my stay in Sabah, for which I am deeply indebted. Felix has also assisted me in obtaining Maps 1.1 and 4.1, scanning the maps and figures, and commenting on earlier drafts. Jubin and Blasius of KampungTampasak helped to sketch Map 1.2 (location of the resettlement site) and Figure 4.2 (floor plan of a house), respectively. The Lasimbang family from Kampung Nampasan provided a home for lively breaks after long days of fieldwork. PACOS has kindly allowed me access to their library and office space, in addition to the many friends who often shared their stories and their perceptions of events, all of which have been central to my learning about Sabah and the indigenous peoples. The staff of various government and private agencies in Sabah were helpful. In particular I wish to acknowledge Puan.Grace Chung (Land and Survey Department, Kota Kinabalu), Encik Jabli Langkat (Penampang District Office), Encik Augustine Sapirit (Penampang Land Office) and Puan Elizabeth Julimin (Jetama Sdn. Bhd).

In Kuala Lumpur, Chang Yii Tan allowed me to use his office resources whenever I needed assistance. T. Rajavijayan patiently sorted out my fieldwork data and helped out with some tables and gave valuable comments. Rajimah and Zubaidah were ever helpful always with university matters, as was the IPSP librarian Molly Chuah, who often went out of her way to direct me to relevant materials on my topic. I wish to acknowledge that this study was funded by a grant from the University of Malaysia.

My thesis supervisors, Associate Professor Dr. Susan K.S. Oorjitham and Dr. Shanthi Thambiah had not only provided encouragement over the years but had also been understanding about my postponements and delays in completing this dissertation. For this, I am especially grateful to them.

I am also grateful and indebted to Colin Nicholas, whom despite a busy schedule is kind enough to carefully read various draft material, and who gave further advice and support at various stages of the writing. Colin also provided valuable insights and editorial comments that have helped to enrich the finished product.

My family was there, as always – especially my mother Wong Ngee Ooi – with patience over my long absence from home during the period of fieldwork in Sabah, and later, over long days and nights of solitary writing to complete this dissertation.

During the final stages of intensive writing, the unwavering support and constant friendship of Lim Teckwyn has been most valuable. Besides devoting long hours in helping me proof read and tidy up my drafts, and contributing ideas that challenge my thinking, Teckwyn often provided constant companion and encouragement when the going got tough.

Finally, I must mention that none of the above is responsible for the opinions expressed, or any inaccuracies in this dissertation. This responsibility is solely mine.

Yong Ooi Lin @ Carol Yong

20 February 2000

ABBREVIATIONS AND GLOSSARY

<i>adat</i>	custom, tradition
<i>agama asal</i>	indigenous religion
Anak Sarawak	a native of Sarawak
<i>balai-ray</i>	community hall
<i>belanja dapur</i>	a household's needs and daily expenses
<i>bobolian/bobohizan</i>	a Kadazandusun elder who is skilled in traditional medicine, also the spirit medium
<i>Bumiputera</i>	<i>literally 'son of the soil' a term that refers to the Malays and indigenous peoples of Malaysia</i>
CBSSF	Centre for Borneo Studies, Sabah Foundation
DoA	Department of Agriculture
<i>Dusun</i>	fruit garden or orchard
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GAD	Gender and Development
GN	Gazette Notification, a certification of the legal status of a Village
<i>gotong royong</i>	mutual help practiced widely in the villages
<i>gumamas</i>	identifying good seedlings for the next planting season
ICOLD	International Commission on Large Dams
JKKK	Jawatankuasa Kemajuan dan Keselamatan Kampung (Village Development and Security Committee)
JKM	Jabatan Ketua Menteri (Chief Minister's Department)
<i>Kampung Simpanan</i>	Reserve Village, i.e. the legal status of a village under the Native Court Ordinance. With this certification, the village is entitled to benefits, facilities and infrastructure provided by the government for rural communities
<i>kampung</i>	village
<i>ketua kampung</i>	the head of a village
<i>Kinoingan</i>	supreme deity or god of the Kadazandusuns

KKWSPP	Kota Kinabalu Water Supply Privatisation Project
KMPGG	<i>Koisaan Manampasi Pitabangan Gulu-Gulu</i> (Association to Reassert Traditional Collectivity) the Kampung Tampasak-based village organisation set up in 1993 and officially registered on 11 July 1994
KPD	Koperasi Pembangunan Desa (Rural Development Corporation), a project-implementing statutory agency of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries
LA	Land Application, land owned by the indigenous peoples of Sabah pending ownership documentation in the form of title deed or certificate from the State Government
<i>lihing</i>	traditional rice-wine of the Kadazandusuns
LSD	Land and Survey Department
<i>managad</i>	clearing of the dense bush and bigger trees in the farm land
<i>mananga</i>	a fallow swidden
<i>mangasok</i>	dibbling holes in the rice field, a task commonly carried out by the men
<i>mitabang</i>	a form of reciprocal, mutual help sought by families in tasks such as planting, weeding and harvesting rice
<i>mokiruyung</i>	a form of help in carrying out social activities such as cleaning the church compound that involved a small payment
<i>mokitulung</i>	a form of reciprocal, mutual help sought by families in the physically heavier tasks such as carrying rice sacks or house pillars
<i>mongomot</i>	harvesting the ripened paddy
<i>mongumo parai tidong</i>	the growing of hill rice
<i>montoku</i>	traditional distilled rice wine of the Kadazandusuns
<i>monumpos</i>	sowing the rice seeds, a task commonly carried out by the women
<i>monutud</i>	burning of the rice field
NCR	native customary right, often associated with land based on the indigenous peoples' <i>adat</i>
NDP	National Development Policy
NEP	New Economic Policy
NGO	non-governmental organisation

<i>nopunso</i>	a belief among the Kadazandusuns associated with the failure of a woman to marry and to have children, which means the end to her generation
NT	Native Title
<i>Nunuk Ragang</i>	literally 'Red Banyan', the original settlement of the Kadazandusun along the Liwagu River in Ranau
OPP2	Second Perspective Outline Plan
OPPS	Outline Perspective Plan Sabah (1995-2000)
Orang Ulu	the indigenous communities in the interior areas of Sarawak, such as the Kenyah, Kayan, Ukit, Punan, Penan and Lahanan
PACOS	Partners of Community Organisations, a non-governmental organisation based in Penampang, Sabah
<i>papasad sayur</i>	planting vegetables and maize in the rice field
<i>Penempatan Kampung Tampasak</i>	Kampung Tampasak resettlement site
PKR	Pemimpin Kemajuan Rakyat (People's Development Leader), an appointee of the State Assembly Representative
PL	Provisional Lease, a form of land ownership by the indigenous peoples of Sabah without legal status
<i>Pribumi</i>	a term introduced by Datuk Harris Salleh then Chief Minister of Sabah (1976-1985) to refer to all the indigenous peoples of Sabah
RASCOM	Rajang Security Command, a special uniform task force set up to resettle the indigenous peoples of Sarawak in order to cut links between the villages and 'communist' insurgents during the early 1970s
RM	Ringgit Malaysia
<i>rogon</i>	malevolent spirits that possessed people or caused illness
<i>rumilik</i>	clearing of the undergrowth and small trees in the farm land
<i>sirih</i>	betel leaf
SLDB	Sarawak Land Development Board
<i>sogit kampung</i>	a traditional ritual of the Kadazandusuns, offerings to appease and ward off the village spirits
<i>sogit kuburan</i>	a traditional ritual of the Kadazandusuns, offerings to appease and ward off the spirits of the dead

<i>Tadau Kaamatan</i>	Harvest Festival, a thanksgiving celebration of the indigenous peoples of Sabah
<i>talak</i>	local liquor
<i>tampasak</i>	a native tree commonly found near the upper reaches of the Tampasak River in the Penampang district of the West Coast of Sabah
<i>tamu</i>	weekly native open market
<i>tanah umoon</i>	individual plot claimed under the native customary law
<i>tapai</i>	traditional rice wine of the Kadazandusuns
<i>tosung</i>	rice pounder
<i>tuai bilik</i>	head of household of a longhouse in Sarawak
<i>Tulu Ragang</i>	original descendents of the Kadazandusuns
UMS	Universiti Sabah Malaysia
WAD	Women and Development
WID	Women in Development
WTP	Water Treatment Plant

LIST OF TABLES

	Page No.	
2.1	Cost/benefit for parties involved in the Babagon Dam project	72
3.1	Distribution of population in the resettlement site by sex	84
3.2	Age-sex profile of population in the resettlement site	85
3.3	Ownership of traditional/ancestral household property by gender	88
3.4	Household assets ownership	89
4.1	Source of information about resettlement	121
4.2	Reason given for moving	122
4.3	Knowledge of authority who instructed respondent or respondent's family to move	122
4.4	Reasons for agreement or disagreement of respondents to the resettlement	124
4.5	Support of or opposition to resettlement programmes in general	125
4.6	Respondents' awareness of the likely effects of their resettlement	126-127
4.7	Respondents' analysis of the impact of resettlement	128
4.8	Respondents' feelings regarding remaining in the resettlement site	129
4.9	Compensation paid to the families by the LSD Kota Kinabalu	140
4.10a	Land ownership categories of residents of Kampung Tampasak prior to acquisition	142
4.10b	Use of land by Kampung Tampasak residents prior to resettlement	143
4.10c	Average size of land plot owned by residents of Kampung Tampasak prior to acquisition	144
4.11	Compensation received by households	146
5.1	Households involved in using or gathering of natural resources, before resettlement	157
5.2	Gender distribution of major domestic tasks performed by the households, before resettlement (%)	163
5.3	Gender distribution of major domestic tasks performed by the households, after resettlement (%)	164
5.4	Comparison of number of persons performing productive tasks before, during and after resettlement	167

LIST OF FIGURES

	Page No.
3.1 Age-sex profile of population in the resettlement site	85
4.1 Kota Kinabalu Water Privatisation Project	97
4.2 Floor plan of a house in the Tampasak resettlement area	147a

LIST OF CHARTS

2.1 Relationships between parties involved in the Babagon Dam project	71
5.1 Perceived change in quality, scarcity and ease of gathering of of natural resources after resettlement	157

LIST OF MAPS

1.1 Location of Sabah, showing study area	2
1.2 Location of Kampung Tampasak resettlement site	16
4.1 Villages affected by the Babagon Dam project	102
4.2 Extent of the area inundated by the Babagon Dam	105

LIST OF PLATES

1 The physical setting of the original village, Kampung Tampasak	75
2 The rural household economy of Kampung Tampasak	76
3. Villagers with their catch of the day	78
4 Entrance to the Babagon Dam site	98
5 The Kampung Tampasak resettlement site	116
6 Twice buried	131
7 Bones of the ancestors	132
8 A 'memorial structure' at the fringe of the resettlement housing area	133
9 Land is for living	155
10 Siblings at work	158
11 Women and children bundling betel leaf	166
12 Children at school	206