

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION

In this section, I shall try to draw a general conclusion on the whole analysis that I have just made, and also present my views on the survey from my field experience.

We have seen earlier that there are 901 people living in this area which consists of four blocks, namely, K, G, M and U. The whole analysis is based on this area alone. The whole area is under padi.

Dealing with the population we notice that 600 are between the ages of 0-19. In relation to population, we talk about occupations. We come to the conclusion that 226 are the real bread-winners in this area, in other words, 755 of the people are dependants. Taking all the factors into consideration we conclude our discussion on occupation by saying that the dependency problem is very grave.

When we analyse, the households distribution, we find that as the block gets closer to the kampong, less and less households are found in the sawah. This implies that most of the farmers live in the nearby kampong Tiram Durak. In all there are 162 households; 65 Malay households and 97 Javanese households.

Lastly, we deal with land ownership and operation. There are 139 land owners; of these 133 own and operate their lands. There are 41 operators who do not own the lands they work on. However, the number of land-owners are bigger than that of those who do not own lands.

From my field experience gathered that some of the farmers do not eat rice twice daily, but, instead once daily. For the other meal they take tapioca which they boil. As I have been served quite often with drinks, most of them quite frankly told me that they did not have sugar to go with the tea, or, coffee. Quite a number of them told me that most of the padi harvested are used to clear debts, and by the time they have settled everything, they have very little left. Thus at times they have to buy polished rice from the shop. The situation is aggravated further when double-cropping is done in the neighbouring blocks. This would mean that they can't grow off-season crops from which they could have earned a substantial income. Most of them do not prefer double-cropping for this reason; further the padi used for the second crop known as 'Taiwan' produces much less

yield but consumes as much labour and time. Hence, they see the waste in double-cropping. I am inclined to support them for the reasons presented above.

Due to financial difficulties most of the children do not go to school, or, have to leave school at very early age. It is not that they do not wish to send their children to school as the traditional explanation seems to imply.

Concerning literacy, I find that the rate of illiteracy\* is really high. Out of 10 only one or two can really read. The rest may be able to spell their names, but, some can't even read or write their own names.

In conclusion, I must say that the conditions of the people here are in a state of poverty. Many people have been disillusioned by the fact that since this is the richest rice bowl of Malaya, the people must be rich too, but, this is on the contrary.

---

\* Data on literacy are supplied in the forms, but since no elaborate analysis is required on it, no Table is drawn up.