

CHAPTER V

Influences on The Traditional Divisions.

A. The influence of middlemen.

In localities where middlemen provide fishing gears, boats and outboard engines, the traditional distributive system of catches and earnings is not strictly observed.

The middleman, who is usually Chinese, does not take shares for his capital equipment but is satisfied with being the monopsonist of the catches at prices as dictated by him. His influence is so far confined to Pukat Tangkol Ikan¹ which needs heavy capital, outlay and which normally lands over 50% of State's total catches every year.

1. Pukat Tangkol Ikan.

(a) Division of Catches.

(1) Ikan makan Luak.

Like members of other fishing units besides those of Payang and Tangkol Ikan discussed in Chapter IV, the crew in the Pukat Tangkol Ikan owned by the middleman, are entitled to bring home some fish for domestic consumption.

2. Ikan Luan

About half of the remaining catches forms ikan luan for sale. The proceeds are again divided into two equal parts. One part is distributed fairly among the crew on each fishing day, while the other is accumulated as earnings for weekly division.

1. This situation prevails in Kemaman where most of Pukat Tangkol Ikan belong to the middlemen.

3. Ikan Petak.

The other half of the catches constitutes Ikan Petak.

(b) Division of Earnings.

There are two sources of weekly earnings; namely, the receipts from the sale of Ikan Petak and the takings from Ikan Luan.

Table 26

Division of Earnings under the Influence of Middlemen.

(1) Composition:

Gears : 5 boats, net, 2 outboard engines.

Crew : 25

(2) Locality: Kuala Kemaman

(3) Distribution: "Bagi Tiga" Principle.

Items	Remarks	% of Earnings
(a) Bahagian Mula petrol expenses ¹		?
(b) Bahagian Dalam	(33.3%)	
Juru Selam		11.1
Jeragan (5)	2.22 each	11.1
Expenditure on Unjang, repairs of boats net		11.1
(c) Bahagian Luar	(66.6% in 37½ shares)	
Juru Selam	2 share(s)	3.56
" Solor	2 "	3.56
Jeragan of Net boat (1)	2½ " each	4.44
Jeragans (4)	2 " "	14.24 (3.56x4)
Juru Timba	2 " "	3.56
" Tarang	2 " "	3.56
engine operators(2)	2 " "	7.12 (3.56x2)
Awak 15	1 " "	26.70 (1.78x15)
		100.04

1. To be deducted first from the total earnings.

4. The Influence of Mechanization.

The mechanization in the industry, though still at its initial stage, is beginning to affect the traditional distributive system in at least two important fishing methods, namely Pukat Tangkol Ikan and Pukat Payang.

Motor boat owners find it unreasonable to rely totally on proportionate value of Ikan Petak since the greater portion of the catch constitutes Ikan Luan or Tangkap.

The uncertain nature dominating the industry however, does not permit a fixed - rent being charged for items like engines. Therefore, a compromise in the division of catches and earnings in some of the Tangkol Ikan and Payang undertakings, is made in some localities.

1. Pukat Tangkol Ikan

(a) Division of Catches.

(1) Ikan Makan Lauk

As usual a small portion of the catches is allotted for domestic consumption and the remainder is sold. The boat owner takes $\frac{1}{3}$ of the proceeds.

(2) Ikan Luan.

40% of the remaining $\frac{2}{3}$ above, constitutes the value of "Ikan luan", the takings are distributed on every fishing day on the basis of one share for every crew and $\frac{1}{2}$ share for each boat.

(3) Ikan Petak.

The Petak takes the other 60%. The receipts are accumulated to form the weekly earnings of the members.

(b) Division of Earnings.

The diagram below gives the division of earnings from the 'ikan luan' and 'ikan petak'.

(1) Composition:

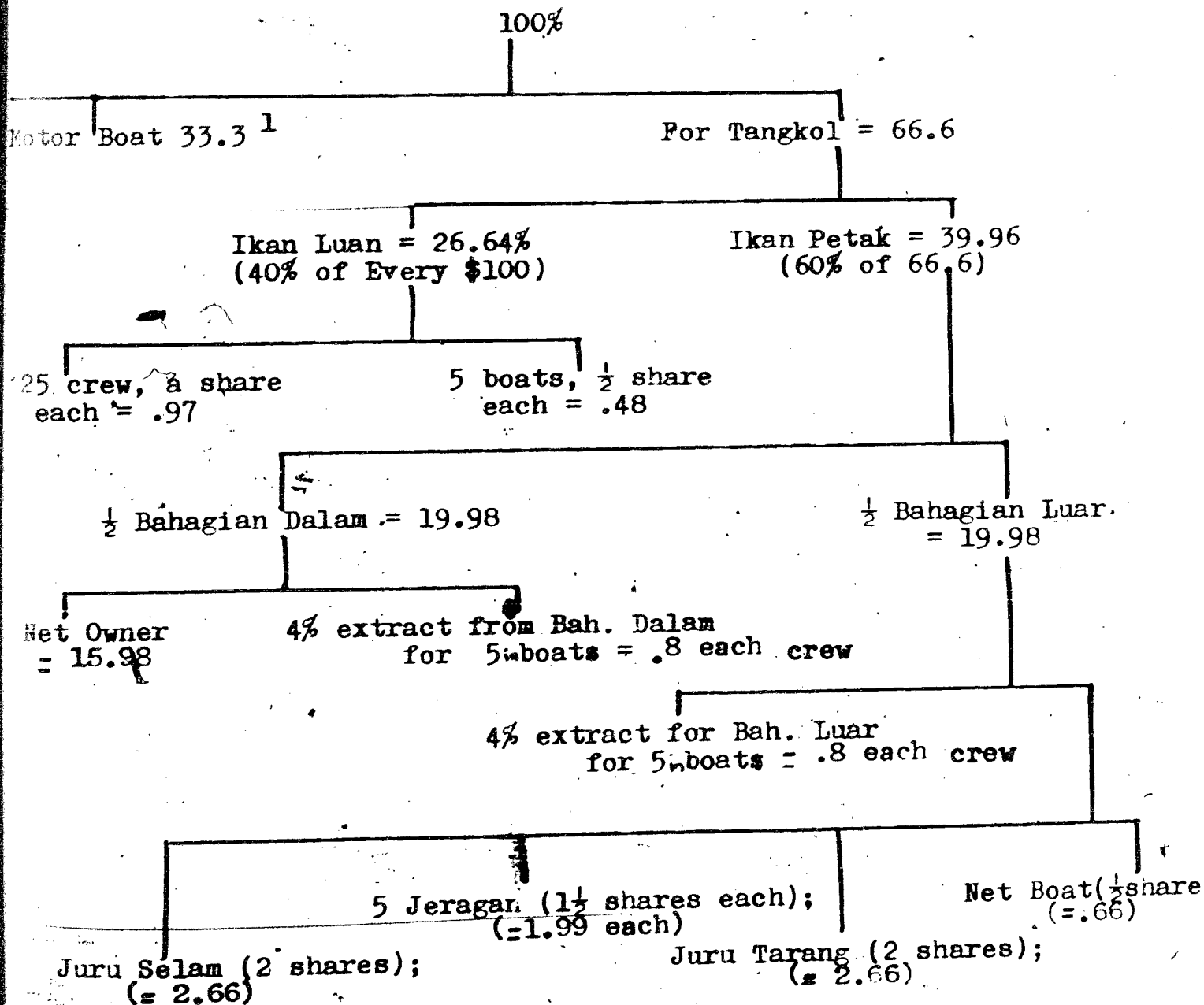
Gear : 5 boats and net.

Crew : 25

(2) Locality: Kuala Trenggau.

(3) Distribution: "Bagi Dua" Principle

Diagram I



2. Pukat Payang.

(a) Division of Catches.

(1) Ikan Makan Lank

(2) Ikan Tangkap.

A fixed sum of \$2 for every \$100 worth of catches is given to each member of each fishing day, as value of Ikan Tangkap.

(3) Ikan Petak

After deducting the total amount allotted to Ikan Tangkap, the balance is accumulated as earnings for weekly distribution.

(b) Division of Earnings.

The distributive principle remains much the same as before.²

1. Distribution of shares in Motor Boat is as follows:

Composition = Crew : 1 Jeragan or Jemudi

1 Engine driver

3 Awak

33.3

1/3 to Motor Boat Owner = 11.1

2/3 to workers = 22.2

1 1/2 shares to Jeragan
Jemudi = 5.5

1 share each to 3
awak = 3.7 per sh

1 1/2 shares to Engine
Driver = 5.5

2. For Payang's division of earnings, (see Table 13.

C. The Influence of Cooperative Organization.

When loans are granted by the Cooperative Organization, under the \$3 mill. Aid Scheme, the gears and boats thereby purchased belong to all crew making up the unit. Every member holds a share. The maximum of it must not exceed $1/5$ of the total paid up capital.

After the loans have been settled, through a cut on the value of daily catches,¹ this Pool Ownership system allows at most $1/5$ of the units' total earnings to any single person² and leave at least $4/5$ more to other members.

The working of this system can be illustrated below in reference to the Traditional System of Pukat Tangkol Ikan³, in which share for motor boat, net and craft are:

20%	for hire of motor boat
21.4%	for net owner(s)
<u>7.25 %</u>	for 5 boats.
<u>Total 48.65%</u>	

By the Pool Ownership System, the distribution will ultimately be affected as follows:

- (a) maximum of $1/5$ to largest share holder = 9.73%
- (b) Balance $4/5$ to rest of the crew (24) = 38.92%

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1. Such a cut is not more than the prevalent rate of cut for shares of gears and boats ~~share~~ now in operation.
 2. The person is invariably the leader of a unit, either Juru Selam or Jeragan.
 3. See page 37

Each gets an extra weekly earning of 1.62. This is an increment of 117% for an awak over the traditional distribution or about \$17.80¹. The crew will of course, have to pay for maintenance of the motor gears and boats in proportion to their ownership thereof.

1. Average value per share is \$15.20. This brings a total weekly earning of \$33/- to an awak.