

ACEH TSUNAMI

From historical VIEWPOINT, the IMPACT OF DAMAGE AND EFFORTS TO FACE
future DISASTER

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History of Tsunami in Aceh

- ▶ Discovered a cave in Aceh called Gua Ek Luntei (Cave of Bats)
- ▶ In this cave the first recorded Tsunami was occurred 7,400 years ago.
- ▶ 4 January 1907 big tsunami occurred and destroyed Simelue Island of Aceh and caused the death of 70% of the total population in this island. The survivors recorded their experiences in the oral story and passed those to the next generation through buai-buai (lullaby) in family daily lives, nafi-nafi (advices) from old generation to the youth and through traditional poems and songs called Nandong that are performed in communal events in Simeulue
- ▶ In the mainland Aceh, a folklore, hikayat was documentet about "big wave", local people call it "ie Beuna".
- ▶ The different between Aceh mainland and Simeulue Island to transfer this knowledge as shown in the table (Syafwina, 2013)

Banda Aceh & Aceh Besar	Experiences	Simeulue Island
In lyrics of Seudati, Likok Pulo, Hikayat & conversation	Sharing through lullaby, poems, songs	Sharing through lullaby, poems, songs (Buai-buai, Nandong)
Cultural Performances	Adopted and recorded	Daily lifes and Cultural Performances
Trough community events	Transfer to others	Through families & community
Not Practice	Practice	Practice
useless	Recognize as DRR tool	valuable

Syafwina, 20131020-Sustain



Impact of damage and recovery

There were so many victims in Aceh province cause by Indian Ocean Tsunami 26 Dec 2004.

- ❑ The closest area from epicentre
 - ❑ No early warning system
 - ❑ It caused by lack of information about tsunami itself.
 - ❑ Poor disaster management in Indonesia at that time
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- ▶ If we looked back at the damages caused by the 2004 tsunami, it was very difficult to restore to the original situation. Damages and losses of properties can certainly be repaired, but the loss of loved ones was painful and sadness for all Aceh people.
 - ▶ Many rehabilitation and reconstruction programs have been done by Aceh local government and Indonesian government with the help of the international community
 - ▶ Aceh has lost the momentum to bring its people to live far from the coastal area



Disaster from Muslim viewpoint

- ▶ The Acehese who are Muslim believe that disaster is a kind of warning from God.
- ▶ People of Aceh can accept this disaster as a warning to do better in the future.
- ▶ For the people of Aceh, the tsunami was a destiny that must be accepted.
 - “We are safe because our God not yet our death” interview from survivor
- ▶ Because the people in Aceh accepted disaster as the destiny, the people tend to easily adapt with it, even there were no suicide or long frustration.
- ▶ For Muslim, evacuate to mosque is better and feel more confident



Mosque survived when disaster

- ▶ Mostly the mosques were survived during Indian Ocean Tsunami
- ▶ The structure of the mosque with the pillars and hollow
- ▶ This concept was adopted in the design of Evacuation building in Aceh
- ▶ This design makes people living around the shelter feel confident to evacuate



Lessons learned

Sharing experiences and lessons

- ▶ Musubijuku by Kahoku Shimpō is one of the good activities to promote disaster awareness in community.
- ▶ Tsunami affected people from Japan visit Aceh survivors and exchange their experiences
- ▶ Teachers from Tohoku area of Japan exchange knowledge with Acehese
- ▶ Some researchers from Japan shared with school students
- ▶ Kamishibai, sharing about Smong and Inamura-No-Hi



Disaster awareness and preparedness

- ▶ Commemorating 26 Dec Tsunami disaster
- ▶ Promoting local wisdom "smong"
- ▶ Monument of Tsunami
- ▶ Museum Tsunami
- ▶ Tsunami evacuation drill
- ▶ Tsunami pole
- ▶ Mass grave



Thank you