

# THE FACTORS THAT CAUSE THE LENGTH OF THE HAJJ PILGRIMS' WAITING LIST IN TAKALAR

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#### ABSTRACT

This study focuses on Hajj management, which oversees Hajj departures at the Takalar Ministry of Religion Office Hajj Department. The Hajj quota is a waiting list for pilgrims who have registered as prospective pilgrims. This study aimed to discover the causes behind the departure of pilgrims who had been on the Takalar Regency waiting list for up to 35 years. The case study is the center of the analysis in this study, which employs a qualitative descriptive method in which the researcher attempts to explain the phenomena that occur at the research site following the facts. Data collecting methods include interviews, observation, and physical devices in the form of records. The descriptive data analysis technique was applied in this study. Employees of the Takalar Ministry of Religion Office Hajj Department, the Head of the Takalar Ministry of Religion Office, and prospective pilgrims on the waiting list are the subjects and locations of the study. The study found that the limited departure of prospective hajj pilgrims in Takalar is due to a limited hajj quota and many prospective hajj pilgrims, causing most of them to join the waiting period.

Keywords: Hajj management; hajj pilgrims; Islam obligation

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Hajj is the fifth pillar of Islam, a once-in-a-lifetime obligation for every Muslim who can perform it. Able here can be interpreted as both physically and financially capable. This obligation can be seen from several verses in the Qur'an, one of the verses of the Qur'an that obliges the pilgrimage, namely QS Al Hajj verse 27 which reads:

"And call on people to perform pilgrimage, surely they will come to you on foot, or ride every skinny camel, they come from all over the far"

The verse of the Qur'an above explains that the order is to call on all Muslims about the obligation to perform the pilgrimage in Baitullah and explain all the priorities for those who carry it out. Hajj etymologically comes from Arabic, namely: al-Hajju which means: al-Qashdu, namely deliberately or towards, intending, intending to go or intending to go to someone who is considered noble, what is meant by intending in this sense is intending to do something good in a certain place, because that place is considered noble or honorable. Therefore, included in the general understanding of Hajj is when someone visits other people who are considered noble or honorable. In terms of syara', al-hajju means deliberately visiting the Kaaba to perform certain worship, at a certain time by doing a certain job. The word pilgrimage is also often interpreted as "going on a pilgrimage". Then in terms of terminology, Hajj means a person who makes a pilgrimage to Mecca to fulfill the fifth pillar of Islam.

The enthusiasm of the people in carrying out the pilgrimage is very great, so the National Sharia Council provides an opportunity for Islamic financial institutions to respond to the needs of the community in fulfilling the needs of the pilgrimage, by issuing DSN Fatwa No. 29/DSNMUI/VI/2002 concerning the financing of Hajj arrangements for Islamic financial institutions in the first general provision number one that the management of Hajj for customers, LKS can obtain service fees (ujroh) by using the alijaroh principle in accordance with DSN MUI Fatwa No. 09/DSNMUI/IV/2000.

On the other hand, why would prospective pilgrims who have registered and received a portion number for the pilgrimage but only be able to go on pilgrimage after waiting for years, is due to the limited haj quota. Hajj quota is a waiting list for the departure of pilgrims after being registered as prospective pilgrims. Regarding why people who have registered for Hajj but can only go on Hajj after many years, this is due to the Hajj quota. So everyone cannot go directly to Hajj in the current year due to the long waiting list or queues in Indonesia or what is often referred to as the waiting list. The waiting list is a problem that is a complaint for prospective pilgrims. Prospective regular pilgrims who have been listed on the waiting list are increasing in number.

In South Sulawesi Province, especially in Takalar Regency, due to the limited quota for the pilgrimage, it has had a significant impact on the local community and prospective pilgrims, they are forced to wait quite a long time to be able to perform the Hajj, which is 35 years long.

This means that the farther the initial deposit is from the time of repayment in the year of departure, the greater the degree of uncertainty about leaving. And the number of quotas the central government gives to each province, district or city will also affect the waiting list for Hajj in the provinces, districts and cities. The fewer the number of quotas in the Province, Regency and City, this can have a serious impact on the waiting time for prospective pilgrims.

The Ministry of Religion as the pilgrimage organizer, always opens Hajj registration. This has resulted in many applicants having to wait for their turn to be able to carry out the pilgrimage during the ongoing phase so they have to wait for departure in the next few years. The queue for haj applicants reaches 31 years and over. Long queues make it uncomfortable for Muslim citizens who have registered but are entering old age. However, policymakers have tried to reduce this queue through diplomacy of increasing quotas. In 2019 the diplomatic strategy received a positive response by increasing the quota of 10,000, so the number of Indonesian pilgrims increased to 221 thousand from 211 thousand.

Based on this background, the purpose of this research is to analyze the factors that cause long departure times for pilgrims on the waiting list in Takalar district. The problem raised in this research is what causes the departure of pilgrims on the waiting list in Takalar Regency to reach 35 years.

## 2. METHODS

This study uses a qualitative descriptive method, where case studies are the focus of the analysis. The data collection method is done through interviews, observation, and physical devices in the form of documentation. In-depth interviews (In-depth Interviews) on each research subject to obtain relevant information regarding the waiting list for prospective Hajj pilgrims in Takalar. The technique used in this research is descriptive analysis, namely clearly describing facts or legal material obtained from the field and literature and then qualitatively analyzed and looking for a solution following applicable regulations to draw a conclusion. The compiler uses this method to find out how Islamic law views the long waiting list for the Hajj Pilgrimage.

This research was conducted at the Office of the Ministry of Religion of Takalar Regency. The researchers made this location a place of research because the Office of the Ministry of Religion became a forum or office that provided facilities for sending people to the holy land to carry out the pilgrimage. At that location, there is a phenomenon where the waiting list for pilgrims has reached 35 years so it is deemed necessary to find out the cause.

To obtain data in this study, the researchers interviewed related parties with the research focus. The data sources in this study were employees of the Takalar Regency Ministry of Religion Office in the field of hajj, the head of the Takalar Regency Ministry of Religion office and several prospective Hajj pilgrims who were included on the waiting list. In addition, researchers also obtained data by directly observing the events at the research location and viewing documents related to this research.

#### **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The hajj quota is the limit on the number of prospective Indonesian Hajj pilgrims given by the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia based on the 1987 Islamic Conference Organization stipulation, which is one per thousand of the total Muslim population of each country. Due to the Hajj quota, not all prospective pilgrims can immediately go on pilgrimage in the current year, because there is an imbalance between the number of prospective pilgrims who register with prospective pilgrims who will depart each year. They have to wait years. What is meant by a waiting list is a waiting list for prospective Hajj pilgrims who have registered and received portion numbers, but have not been able to leave in the year when they registered, and they are forced to wait for departure to perform the pilgrimage.

The Ministry of Religion has used a waiting list system in organizing Hajj since 2004. For several years this regulation has worked like a sophisticated bullet that continues to expand threats so that it is inevitable that tens of millions of prospective pilgrims will accumulate. In fact, prior to 2004 there had not been any significant problems in organizing the pilgrimage for the Indonesian Muslim community. In fact, before the implementation of the waiting list rule, the total number of Indonesian haj pilgrims did not reach the achievement of 210,000 people, because the registration system was very short and practical for most Muslims, so that the pilgrims who departed were truly considered to fulfill the element of istitha'ah.

Based on Article 1 point 2 of Law no. 13 of 2008 concerning the Implementation of the Hajj (UUPIH), "Implementation of the pilgrimage is a series of management activities for the implementation of the pilgrimage which includes coaching, service, and protection of pilgrims". This principle is also stated in article 3 of Law no. 8 of 2019 concerning the Implementation of Hajj and Umrah Pilgrimage Based on Article 1 number 2 UUPIH and article 3 of Law no. 8 of 2019 letter "a" reads "Prospective pilgrims on the waiting list should receive the same legal protection in the case of prospective pilgrims whose departure is delayed". It turns out that what is meant by the protection of pilgrims in that Article is in the Law on Organizing Hajj Pilgrimage, as well as in Law no. 8 of 2019 there is nothing written stating that protection is also provided for prospective pilgrims on a

waiting list. So prospective pilgrims who get protection are only for prospective pilgrims who are planned to depart in the current year.

The government's normative obligation to follow up, maintain and resolve the main problem is why the list of queues for prospective Hajj pilgrims has been piled up in various regions yet to be resolved, instead the number of queues continues to increase in various regions.

Based on the above arrangements, it can be seen that the government has not concretely regulated the arrangement of waiting lists for pilgrims. The absence of regulations regarding legal protection for prospective pilgrims raises issues that need to be resolved whether it concerns the philosophical, juridical, theoretical or sociological areas (Mariani, 2020: 6). Meanwhile, the number of applicants for the Hajj Pilgrimage in the district. Takalar every year, namely: in 2019 there were 1040 registrants, in 2020 there were 521 registrants, in 2021 there were 265 registrants and this year, namely 2022 119 registrar.

Based on existing data on siskohat Ministry of Religion Takalar, in the last 4 years the quota for the departure of Hajj Pilgrims in Indonesia has decreased. From data from the Ministry of Religion of the Republic of Indonesia that in 2019, the departure quota for prospective regular pilgrims reached 218,150 people out of 2.5 million pilgrims (Japeri, 2017: 116). Whereas in 2020 and 2021 the quota for the departure of pilgrims will be abolished or canceled. The reason is the spread of the Covid-19 Virus, which has resulted in the State of Saudi Arabia reducing the Hajj departure quota for every country including Indonesia. The spread of the Covid-19 virus that is the cause of the absence of Hajj departures in the last 2 years, so the number of Hajj departure quotas for 2020 and 2021 has been postponed to 2022.

Based on information from the Ministry of Religion Takalar The number of haj pilgrims departing this year, namely in 2022, is 120 from approximately 260 pilgrims who should have departed. While the number of applicants for Hajj in 2022 is 119 people.

So therefore, because the quota limit for prospective hajj pilgrims given by the Government of Saudi Arabia to the State of Indonesia and the central Ministry of Religion for each province, district or city is not balanced between applicants and those who depart, which always increases every year, it turns out that this greatly affects the waiting list for prospective pilgrims. in the district Takalar. And the departure period for pilgrims who are on the waiting list in 2022 is approximately 35 years for Takalar.

To overcome the long waiting list for prospective pilgrims, the Indonesian Ministry of Religion has issued a regulation, namely the Regulation of the Minister of Religion (PAM) Number 29 of 2015 in Article 3 paragraph 4 states, "pilgrims who have performed the pilgrimage can only re-register ten years since the last time they went on pilgrimage".

- 1. Because the waiting period is too long, some prospective pilgrims are looking for shortcuts by pilgriming through other cities, where the departure period is shorter than in Takalar
- 2. The last two years in Takalar due to the limited quota and the too long waiting period, most prospective pilgrims are influenced to cancel their intention to go for Hajj and are forced to choose to go for Umrah only.
- 3. And some prospective pilgrims are very old and regretfully have to cancel their intention to go on pilgrimage.
- 4. There are also some people from Takalar because of the very limited haj quota and waiting for about 35 years, even though they are old enough, they are discouraged from registering for hajj.

Based on the discussion of this research, what is considered important to be discussed in this study is that determining the number of Hajj Quotas is very influential on the waiting list for prospective pilgrims in Takalar. And the number of quotas the central government gives to each province, district or city will greatly affect the waiting list for prospective pilgrims. Because the fewer quotas obtained by prospective pilgrims in Takalar, there will be more/increase in the waiting lists for prospective pilgrims.

The last three years in Takalar, due to limited quotas and too long a waiting list, most prospective pilgrims are influenced to cancel their intention to go on pilgrimage and are forced to go for Umrah alone; some do not register for Hajj. And some prospective pilgrims are of an advanced age with great regret forced to cancel their intention to go on pilgrimage. Meanwhile, to overcome the long waiting list for future pilgrims, the Indonesian Ministry of Religion has issued a regulation, namely the Regulation of the Minister of Religion (PAM) number 29 of 2015 in article 3 paragraph 4 states, "pilgrims who have performed the pilgrimage can only re-register 10 years since the last time they went on pilgrimage."

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