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THE BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES ALONG THE RIPARIAN AREAS OF MUSI RIVER IN PALEMBANG

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Abstract

The development of tourism area needs local communities' support. There should be a beneficial relationship between the public and the government in developing a tourism area. Palembang is one of the tourist destinations in the province of South Sumatra that has various attractions. Some of the attractions that have been offered to the visitors include historical tours, culinary tours, and river tours. Along the river, there are many great potential tourist attraction. However, the local community's support to provide comfort for visitors is still very limited. The support of the local community will arise from a sense of belonging and a sense of belonging. The Pride and a sense of belonging is created due to an increase in the result of the development of the Musi river tourism. As such, should be considered to surrounding community, among others, in the form of utilization of business opportunities in the development of the Musi river tourism.

Keywords: tourism, business opportunities, community.

1. Introduction and Research Problem

One of the business opportunities along the riparian areas is the development of tourism area. The tourism areas need availability of food and beverages, hotel, souvenirs, and other needs such as safety and comfort. In Palembang, there are a lot of special food products which can be offer to tourists who come to Palembang. Along the Musi river, a lot of food and beverage, souvenir, hotel, inn, transportation, and some tourism attraction. Therefore, there will be arise some business opportunities for the people along the riparian areas in Palembang.

Role of Local Government and also the role of private institutions to provide guidance to the community to take advantage of the Musi river tourism development program as a new one increasing their income. Therefore, the people who live along the Musi River in Palembang will have business activities such as produce and sale products, offer home stay, provide transportation, and some tourism attraction such as how to make traditional food, and traditional dance and other attraction.

There still lack of the local government attention in term of creating business activities of the riparian areas. Therefore, people not only know much about the great business opportunities in the riparian areas.

Based on the above researchers want to know more about the business opportunities along riparian areas in Palembang due to the development of Musi River as a tourism area.

2. Methods

This research is of descriptive qualitative research. Source of data used is the source of objects, events, and documents. To collect the data researcher use observation and interview to give the questioner form to the respondents. The study population was all residents who live the riparian area of the Musi River in Palembang.
The study sample was determined by the method of "gradual cluster sampling. This method proposed by Nagasubramanian and Effendi (1989: 166-167) who took the sample gradually based on existing areas such as county, district, village. 

Sami was taken in four villages were purposively determined to be around attraction river Musi... some of the villages will determine some household who live close to the river... With this method the sample is expected to be able to represent the population.

II Result and Finding

The appeal of the Musi River is very large and can attract tourists who come to Palembang. Some places along the river Musi as Ampera Bridge, Kuto Besak castle, the village of Kapitan village, KiMerogon Mosque, House Floating, Floating Restaurant, and drought Island will be able to attract local and global visitors. Moreover, professional management is needed to be able to provide comfort to the visitors. Furthermore, efforts to make the Musi River as a famous tourist objek, there has been some activity which is an annual event as a festival musi river, and Bidar boat race every August.

Now there has not been much effect of the activities conducted in the musi river. Therefore, there are important things forgotten, namely the support of the general public related to the existence of the musi river.

Communities around the tourist areas musi river should get the benefit of the development of the Musi river tourism, as an increase in revenue due to the existing business opportunities. Thus the public will feel to promote or discuss about the Musi river in daily life. This condition will increase of the number of tourists, and increase of the business opportunities.

There are various existing business opportunities such as:

- Transportation
- Water
- Food and drink local
- Craft
- Hotel, inn
- Fashion
- Beauty salon
- Local traditional dress rental
- And other businesses

There is a wide range of business opportunities related to food and local drinks like pempek, laksa, kue, kemiplang, crackers favored by tourists.

In addition there are other such food has boiled. All of these foods can be produced by the public and can be sold to tourists and local people.

There are hotels and inns in Palembang. However, along the Musi river people can offer rooms to tourists for rent. This is a new business opportunity in the city of Palembang. Many people who want to feel the morning and evening climate along the river Musi. Many people who want to enjoy scenery on the river Musi while relaxing in their rooms. Therefore, business opportunities for the community to offer rooms will be open.

Various local products favored by tourists as souvenirs. Such products like, t-shirts, songket, bags, postcards, miniature Ampera bridge, and other crafts that can be produced and sold to tourists. Thus, there are many business opportunities for the people living in the outskirts of the river Musi.
The more visitors that come to Palembang, the more opportunities business souvenir products. Business opportunities will arise from some of the industry in offering such services, river transport services, custom clothing rental service, beauty salon services, a floating restaurant, and others. There are many tourists who want to wear traditional dress like the one in Bali, and also in certain countries. Many tourists who want to feel comfortable after a traditional massage. Therefore, it would create a lot of business opportunities related to the above service offerings.

Furthermore, business opportunities will also appear on various live performances such as traditional dances, how to make local food. This show that a professionally managed will be a promising business opportunity.

From the above it can be seen that the business opportunities in rural areas of the river Musi will emerge as a result of tourism development of river Musi.

4. Conclusions

Musi river development as a tourist area will be able to create business opportunities for communities around the river Musi.

Opportunities can become a source of income. Therefore, it should be assisted by the local government in the form of counseling, training, guidance, and assistance on how to run a business related to tourism activities.

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