

ROLES, ISSUES AND CHALLENGES OF VILLAGE INSTITUTION FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN MALAYSIA

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Abstract

A survey of literatures on village institution shows that only few works have touched on the subject of village institution especially in the Asian region. The many that exists on this subject can be only found in others countries such as in China, African, Indian, Pakistan and Iran. This study is conducted to explore what is the role of this institution in village development, and what are issues and challenges that affect their effectiveness. Thrusting upon the qualitative paradigm, semi-structured interviews were conducted which generated two main themes; role in village administration which covers the role to ensure welfare, safety and unity of the villages, political survival of ruling party and roles in village development such as monitoring and evaluation of local development projects. This finding also identified issues and challenges affecting this institution such as no financial resources, lack of training and development among the leaders, and leaders have high level of commitment despite voluntary jobs. Three main suggestion shave been proposed to strengthen this institution based on their practical experiences such as established special allocation for the institution, provide better training and development for leaders, and create permanent designation for chairmen post. In reviving the role of JKKK institution for village development, these findings could therefore be used as a basis towards improving their mode of operation and building their capacities to ensure positively impact the development of rural communities in the future.

Keywords: Village institution, Community Based Organization (CBO), Village Development and Security Committee (VDSC) Rural Development