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## HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL RELATIONS

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### Abstract

Humans have never been able to let go of their dependence on nature in their lives since the first. On the other hand, nature also has dependence on humans, although not too big. The personality of the environment possessed by humans more or less determines human interaction with the surrounding natural environment. Then, in its application, humans try to develop a life that may have negative access to the survival and existence of the environment. At this point, control over the exploitation of natural resources and so on should begin to be implemented so as not to damage the balance of nature.

**Keywords :** Human-environmental relations, environmental personality

### Introduction

When humans are born, that's when for the first time they get acquainted with the outside world which will become their environment. Human dependence on the environment begins its story at that time. The pen has indeed been scratched, you can't help it. If humans want to stop and break the chain of their dependence on the environment then they really need to die. But actually the relationship between humans and their environment is an interaction, so it is clear that it is two-way. Even when the environment or nature has to be destroyed because of humans, on the other hand, humans cannot deny how much they are struggling to live without nature. The journey of the relationship between humans and nature is like a black and white portrait. No matter how beautiful, the irony that is shown in reality is too bitter to be denied.

In ancient times, human ancestors had tried to conquer nature in order to survive. They try to conquer fire, overcome cold, live in strange caves to avoid wild animals and various other efforts (Franken, 2002). All these activities show one thing that human dependence has long been undeniable. Even today, in some places that have not experienced real modernization, such as in the desert (arid land), tundra (grassland), polar regions (arctic zone), high mountains (high altitude), and in the interior of the forest (humid tropics) humans are still struggled hard and even primitively to survive (Moran, 1979). One of the interesting things to know is that humans as individuals can actually establish harmonious relationships with the surrounding environment. Even though basically every human being has a different personality, unknowingly their love for and even dependence on the environment positions them to be individuals who are somewhat different from one another and clearly reinforces the existence of individual differences.

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that is shown in reality is too bitter to be denied. In ancient times, Human ancestors have tried to conquer nature in order to survive. They try to conquer fire, overcome cold, live in strange caves to avoid wild animals and various other efforts (Franken, 2002). All these activities show one thing that human dependence has long been undeniable. Even today, in several places that have not experienced real modernization, such as in the desert (arid land), the RAHARJO area, the tundra (grassland), the polar regions (arctic zone), high mountains (high altitude), and in the forest interior ( humid tropics) humans are still struggling hard and even primitive to survive (Moran, 1979). The process of learning how to live side by side with nature allows humans to improve their quality of life because with that, humans can control fear and create happiness (Franken, 2002). One of the interesting things to know is that humans as individuals can actually establish harmonious relationships with the surrounding environment. Even though basically every human being has a different personality, unknowingly their love for and even dependence on the environment positions them to be individuals who are somewhat different from one another and clearly reinforces the existence of individual differences. One of the interesting things to know is that humans as individuals can actually establish harmonious relationships with the surrounding environment. Even though basically every human being has a different personality, unknowingly their love for and even dependence on the environment positions them to be individuals who are somewhat different from one another and clearly reinforces the existence of individual differences. One of the interesting things to know is that humans as individuals can actually establish harmonious relationships with the surrounding environment. Even though basically every human being has a different personality, unknowingly their love for and even dependence on the environment positions them to be individuals who are somewhat different from one another and clearly reinforces the existence of individual differences.

## Research Methodology

All types of activities carried out by humans must have an influence on the surrounding environment. Just pay attention to urban areas where the human population is more numerous and the activities they carry out are more diverse than those who live in rural areas. These various human activities will slowly have a positive or negative impact on changes in the natural environment in which they live. Most of the influences produced by humans on their environment have negative impacts, although not a few are environmentally friendly behaviors carried out by humans to improve their natural environment. Human behavior that affects the balance of the ecosystem which results in several adverse impacts.

## Result & Discussion

### *Environmental Personality*

As something that is not widely known, environmental personality developed by McKechnie (in Gifford, 1997) describes several classifications of types of humans with environmental personalities, namely: (a) *Pastoralism* where individuals who have high points here are individuals who like to oppose wrong and arbitrary land use and development without regard to the balance of the ecosystem and its impact on the environment. (b) *Urbanism* where individuals belonging to this category are those who are able to enjoy a high-density environment and really appreciate the diversity of interpersonal and cultural stimulation in city life. (c) *Environmental adaptation* where individuals belonging to this category are those who are well able to reduce the discrepancy between human needs and existing conditions by changing their environment. (d) *Stimulus seeking* where individuals belonging to this category are those who have a tendency to like to have fun and explore nature and really enjoy physical sensations that are intense and complex in nature which they get from their passion for travel and adventure. (e) *Environmental trusts* where individuals belonging to this category are those who have a tendency to be able to believe in an environment, are not afraid of new environments and are not afraid to be alone in that environment. (f) *Antiquarianism* where individuals belonging to this category are those who really enjoy traveling and visiting historical places, places with traditional designs and appreciate the products of the past. (g) *Need for privacy* where individuals who have high points in this category are those who have a tendency to often need a quiet environment, like to be in isolation, avoid distractions and seek solitude. (h) *Mechanical orientation* where individuals who belong to this category are those who like to enjoy mechanical and technological processes, like to handle everything themselves without the help of others and are very concerned about the workings of things or objects that catch their attention.

In addition to some of the explanations above, Sonnenfeld (in Gifford, 1997) adds a few more things, namely that humans can be classified into several other types, such as: (a) *Environmental sensitivity* where individuals who have high points in this category tend to correctly and quickly be able to perceive their environment whether it is good or bad for them. (b) *environmental mobility* who can see to what extent individuals like to visit places that are exotic and risky to explore. (c) *environmental controls* which can be used to see the extent to which individuals

believe that the natural environment is able to control their behavior. (d) *Environmental risk taking* where it can be seen how far individuals are willing to carry out high-risk activities in an environment. Individuals must also know how an environment is classified as risky to visit and carry out activities there and know how to take risks and all the consequences.

Based on the information above, it can be understood to what extent nature and the environment have a certain meaning in human life. So it is not surprising that these meanings form different relationship patterns for each individual based on their basic nature and interest in their environment. There are those who love the environment so much that they decide to join environmental groups as activists, there are those who like trips to historical sights or there are those who like to go on an adventure looking for challenges in certain places. Hobbies of designing gardens and caring for plants, taking walks in nature, going to the beach or mountains and even doing dangerous activities in certain places such as rafting and rock climbing are very useful for giving a feeling of happiness – not just physical and psychological sensations. – to many individuals (Franken, 2002). Intense individual involvement in experiences like those mentioned above can help individuals experience various flow experiences so as to gain satisfaction and happiness (Csikszentmihalyi in Franken, 2002). This clearly provides a simple example of how the environment does not only provide many things so that humans can survive but also can provide a place for activities that can make humans feel happy.

### *Man To Nature*

Humans can also affect nature as nature affects humans. When nature shapes human behavior, humans can shape natural behavior outside their usual context (Bell, Fisher, Baum & Greene, 1996). Humans with all their behavior destroy nature and create floods in the environment where they live and vice versa floods that occur regularly form a distinctive behavior of those who live in these areas compared to those who live in flood-free areas. This simple example might be a good starting point for contemplating the next part of this post. On the other hand, there is actually a lot that humans can give to nature and its environment. At least there is a side that humans should understand that nature has different characteristics from technology. If technology can be developed to help human activities, then nature really doesn't need to be developed because it has and will always give many things to humans. It's just that nature needs to be maintained and cared for (maintenance) because damage to nature will have lasting consequences and consequences in human life (Veitch & Arkkelin, 1995).

Typical humans who don't care enough and don't want to learn to care more tend to worsen the relationship between humans and the environment and actually clarify the irony that exists. Deforestation, shifting cultivation, coastal reclamation, closing swamps, air and river pollution are perhaps just a few of the problems that have created new problems like a chain that is difficult to break. Floods, landslides, the air is getting hotter and the emergence of many types of diseases such as opening the eyes of only a small portion of humans. Various individual and group interests with industrial and commercialist backgrounds that often hide behind the name of public interest have blinded everything. Exploration of nature in a number of facts indeed aims to improve the standard of living of the people. It's just that the destruction of natural resources is also increasingly worrying. Yusuf (2000) said that the use of water, fertilizers, and insecticides is also increasing. Deforestation and extraction of petroleum are increasingly being carried out. The use of cars, ships and airplanes for the advancement of trade and communication adds to the pollution in the land, sea and air. It seems that the losses that must be suffered by natural resources are not taken into account, at least in detail by the general public.

Chiras (in Yusuf, 2000) explains that humans with a frontier mentality or new land breaker are humans with a human-centered or anthropocentric view and have three perceptions as their characteristics, namely:

- a. Seeing nature and the earth as the unlimited material sources of human life with the belief that there is always something more
- b. Seeing humans as living beings outside of nature and not part of nature
- c. Seeing nature as something that needs to be mastered

With this frontier mentality, people who develop on an industrial basis build hundreds of large and small factories with maximum exploration and exploitation (Yusuf, 2000). Costs that must be calculated to replace environmental damage to natural resources as external costs have never been taken into account. Hadi (2000) states that human existence on earth has a double dimension, as destroyer and maintainer. With their reasoning power, humans are able to create harmony with their environment, but on the other hand, with their reasoning power, humans have great potential to damage the environment. One of the basic characteristics of humans is their reluctance to learn from experience and history even when they have not been able to do better when others have made mistakes. A clear example is when the government around 1998 planned to build a Nuclear Power Plant (PLTN) in Balong, Ujung Lemahabang, Muria Peninsula, Central Java. The inability to reflect on what happened in

Chernobyl, Russia when there was an explosion at the PLTN in that city made the Indonesian people almost experience bad effects, both in the short and long term, from all the consequences of building a single PLTN. (Aristiari, 1996). So what if this happens in this country? Those of us who are just learning technology are more fluent in dreaming than those who are experts but cannot sleep because of fatal mistakes made as a reflection of human imperfection.

Humans can indeed adapt to all the existing natural changes, but what about nature? Every damage is impossible for nature itself to clean it up. You can't because nature is just passive. So when humans are the ones who exploit, humans also have to maintain the continuity of natural resources. Being in harmony with nature is like a form of early human effort to conquer nature thousands of years ago, modernization sometimes makes humans return to primitiveness because they lose recognition of the character of nature and its interactions with humans. Indeed, there are also many people who are aware of the importance of nature and the environment for human survival by becoming nature-loving activists, for example by joining certain organizations such as Greenpeace or WALHI and so on. It's just that not all of them have the opportunity to be part of the organization as a direct forum which is a means of channeling appreciation and concern for the environment. Maybe it's a good idea for everyone who has realized the importance of the existence of the environment to start caring and learning to care more about doing concrete things, starting from oneself. You don't need to be too exaggerated and walk on the clouds by being an activist, which is sometimes like a show off in crowd discourse. Egoism and individualism that grow based on the concept of ego can be justified in some cases, but of course this egoism should also be accompanied by an awareness of dependence on other providers so that they can participate in environmental management (Soerjani, 2000). Each personality will be unique in terms of individual differences so that it is hoped that humans will not forget where they come from and where they actually live.

## Conclusion

Everything does start from yourself. Every complex thing starts with a simple thing and every long journey starts with a small step. You don't have to dream of being the sun because by being a little candle in the dark you have become very useful for those around you. The longer humans like to explore nature too much in the context of no reward that nature deserves. The existing relationship is no longer profitable but humans are like gods who control everything on this earth. This chain – somehow and how difficult – must try to be broken. If not, when nature and the environment are deeply disturbed, they will protest in their own way through a series of natural disasters that are clearly impossible for humans to control. It was only then that humans realized that powerlessness would emerge from every form of arrogance and prioritization of personal gain under the pretext of the interests of society. So in the end we really have to be aware that it is nature and the environment that will always teach us lessons so that we become more mature.

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