



DOCUMENTARY PRODUCTION: FISHERMEN MAKING A LIVING BEHIND THE PIK 2 WALL

Fitriyanto¹, Andi Setyawan², Fajar Muharam³ Chepi Nurdiansyah⁴

Universitas Bina Saran Informatika^{1,2,3,4}

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Abstract

The development of digital technology has brought significant changes in various aspects of the film industry, including cinematography. Cinematography as an important element in filmmaking plays a role in conveying messages, building atmosphere, and creating visual experiences for the audience. This research aims to analyze the transformation of cinematographic styles in Indonesian cinema in the digital era and identify the impact of technological developments on shooting techniques, lighting, visual composition, and post-production processes. The method used in this study is a qualitative method with a descriptive approach through literature studies from various journals, books, scientific articles, and relevant sources that discuss the development of Indonesian cinematography and cinema. The data obtained was analyzed to determine the changes in visual style that occurred before and after the use of digital technology in film production. The results show that the digital era has driven a more dynamic, flexible, and innovative transformation of cinematography styles. The use of high-resolution digital cameras, drone technology, camera stabilization devices, and modern editing software allows Indonesian filmmakers to produce better visual quality at a more cost-efficient cost. In addition, the development of digital technology also opens up opportunities for filmmakers to explore various visual styles that are more creative and in accordance with the needs of the film's narrative. Thus, the transformation of cinematography style in Indonesian cinema in the digital era not only improves the technical quality of film production, but also expands artistic possibilities in conveying stories to audiences.

Keywords: cinematography, Indonesian cinema, digital era, digital technology, visual style.

Abstrak

Perkembangan teknologi digital telah membawa perubahan yang signifikan dalam berbagai aspek industri perfilman, termasuk sinematografi. Sinematografi sebagai unsur penting dalam pembuatan film berperan dalam menyampaikan pesan, membangun suasana, dan menciptakan pengalaman visual bagi penonton. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis transformasi gaya sinematografi dalam perfilman Indonesia pada era digital serta mengidentifikasi dampak perkembangan teknologi terhadap teknik pengambilan gambar, pencahayaan, komposisi visual, dan proses pascaproduksi. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif dengan pendekatan deskriptif melalui studi literatur dari berbagai jurnal, buku, artikel ilmiah, dan sumber relevan yang membahas perkembangan sinematografi dan perfilman Indonesia. Data yang diperoleh dianalisis untuk

mengetahui perubahan gaya visual yang terjadi sebelum dan sesudah penggunaan teknologi digital dalam produksi film. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa era digital telah mendorong transformasi gaya sinematografi yang lebih dinamis, fleksibel, dan inovatif. Penggunaan kamera digital beresolusi tinggi, teknologi drone, perangkat stabilisasi kamera, serta perangkat lunak penyuntingan modern memungkinkan sineas Indonesia menghasilkan kualitas visual yang lebih baik dengan biaya yang lebih efisien. Selain itu, perkembangan teknologi digital juga membuka peluang bagi sineas untuk mengeksplorasi berbagai gaya visual yang lebih kreatif dan sesuai dengan kebutuhan naratif film. Dengan demikian, transformasi gaya sinematografi dalam perfilman Indonesia pada era digital tidak hanya meningkatkan kualitas teknis produksi film, tetapi juga memperluas kemungkinan artistik dalam penyampaian cerita kepada penonton.

Kata kunci: sinematografi, perfilman Indonesia, era digital, teknologi digital, gaya visual.

I. INTRODUCTION

The Tangerang Regency area possesses a vast marine territory that serves as a vital source of livelihood for coastal fishing communities. This coastal zone extends from the beaches of Kronjo, Mauk, Tanjung Kait, and Tanjung Pasir (Teluknaga) to Pantai Indah Dadap in the Kosambi District. This entire region is situated along the northern coast and directly borders the Java Sea. The presence of the sea in this region plays a crucial role in supporting the economic life of the local community, particularly those who work as fishermen. In recent years, Indonesia's national development has focused on execution through various National Strategic Projects (PSN), including reclamation areas and elite infrastructure such as Pantai Indah Kapuk (PIK) 2 in Tangerang Regency. PIK 2 is developed by a major consortium, including PT Agung Sedayu Group and PT Salim Group, through a reclamation project that blocks the path of the fishermen's daily livelihoods. The sea, which was previously a social, economic, and cultural space, has now been transformed into an exclusive domain belonging to a handful of parties with significant capital power. The fence serves as both a literal and metaphorical separator between local residents and their living space, transforming the area into a hub for luxury housing, commercial centers, and modern tourism (Andika Dwi, 2024). While this project is utilized as a symbol of economic progress and investment appeal, it simultaneously triggers various problems for coastal communities. One of the primary issues arising from this project is the practice of infrastructure development that degrades coastal regions, such as the installation of seawalls without valid environmental permits. In the coastal area of Tangerang Regency, this phenomenon has become increasingly rampant in recent years. Concrete walls and beach fencing are constructed by corporations, private developers, and even government projects,

often bypassing the mandatory procedures required by laws and regulations—such as the Environmental Impact Assessment (AMDAL) and the active involvement of affected communities. Consequently, this can be categorized as a form of environmental crime (Ernawati & Fauziah, 2023).

II. THEORETICAL STUDIES

In addition to causing social inequality, this project also violates several principles of national and international law. In the context of national law, the project potentially violates Law No. 6 of 1996 concerning Indonesian Waters, which guarantees public access to state waters (Rizal et al., 2024). Furthermore, from the perspective of international maritime law, the construction of seawalls in public waters without a valid legal basis contradicts the principles of UNCLOS 1982 (*United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*), particularly regarding the freedom of navigation and the prohibition of private ownership over marine territories (Yusof & Md Saman, 2023). This violation reflects weak state oversight in guaranteeing equitable coastal space sovereignty for all citizens. The mangrove ecosystem, which functions as an abrasion barrier and a habitat for marine life, has faced degradation, while the shallow waters that have traditionally served as fishing grounds for local fishermen have been repurposed into closed, exclusive zones. This seawall physically restricts coastal communities' access to the natural resources they have relied on for decades. The impact is not only ecological but also socio-economic; many small-scale fishermen have lost their navigation routes, boat mooring spaces, and traditional fishing grounds, directly threatening their livelihoods. One of the areas directly affected by the PIK 2 development is a fishing village located near the residential areas. This village is inhabited by a community whose profession is fishing and who depend entirely on marine catches for survival. The people living in Dadap Kosambi village are not native to Tangerang Regency; all residents of this village are migrants from Indramayu and Sulawesi who settled in the Dadap coastal area to earn a living from the sea. The construction of the boundary wall for the Pantai Indah Kapuk (PIK) 2 area in Tangerang Regency is a coastal development project that directly impacts the Dadap fishing community, as it blocks the sea routes that fishermen have traditionally used. This condition creates severe access issues for their fishing activities and threatens their economic sustainability.

Previous research has tended to focus heavily on the legal or ecological aspects of reclamation and seawalls, while studies specifically addressing the activities of fishermen in the Dadap area and the direct socio-economic impacts on their fishing activities remain

limited. Moreover, the use of documentary communication media to visually and narratively document fishermen's activities has not been widely explored in prior studies. Based on the background described above, this study aims to identify the activities of fishermen that are obstructed by the construction of the PIK 2 embankments and walls, and to analyze how these fishermen seek access to the sea. This research is expected to provide information and recommendations to foster better and more sustainable coastal management.

III. RESEARCH METHODS

This study utilizes a case study method with a descriptive-exploratory qualitative approach. It was conducted through field research, observation-based documentary production, in-depth interviews, and a literature review to examine the conditions surrounding the construction of the PIK 2 wall. The descriptive approach aims to depict the conditions and activities of fishermen affected by the PIK 2 wall regarding their access to the sea and their efforts to make a living from marine resources. Meanwhile, the exploratory approach aims to delve into the experiences and forms of adaptation employed by fishermen in facing changes in environmental access. The research was conducted at Pantai Indah Dadap, Kosambi District, Tangerang Regency, through four field visits. These visits encompassed observational activities to record environmental conditions and fishermen's activities, as well as visually documenting the physical condition of the PIK 2 wall. For the production data collection, three face-to-face interviews were conducted through direct question-and-answer sessions with key informants—namely the newly appointed neighborhood head (*Ketua RT*), community members, and a local green mussel harvest coordinator (*juragan*) who is also an active fisherman—after obtaining permission from the local *RT* administration. Production team by: Akram Sigit, Nia Auladia, Nurul Rahmawati, Ria Dwi Cristanti, Department of Communication Studies, Faculty of Communication and Languages, Universitas Bina Sarana Informatika, Cengkareng Campus.

The literature review involves activities related to collecting library data, reading, note-taking, and managing research materials (Yulia et al., 2022). In the data collection process, the researcher gathered, analyzed, and organized various literature sources, including scientific articles, books, and previous research findings that discuss seawalls and how they exclude surrounding communities (Danandjaja, 2014).

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Chronology of the PIK 2 Seawall Construction

The phenomenon of seawall fencing along the Tangerang coastal area represents a form of coastal development that has triggered serious social and ecological issues over the past decade (Syafutra & Choandi, 2021). This process began around 2017–2018 when several developers gradually constructed seawalls along the northern coast of Tangerang, specifically in the Teluknaga, Kronjo, Dadap, and Kosambi regions. These seawalls consist of concrete walls or stacked river stones extending parallel to the coastline. Officially, their function is claimed to protect reclamation areas or to demarcate property boundaries owned by development corporations. In practice, however, these structures obstruct community access, particularly for traditional fishermen seeking to venture out to sea. Dedi Sofian, a local resident and administrator of a coastal community organization, explained that this wall severely impacts the lives of fishermen whose primary activities are dependent on the sea. Due to the construction of these artificial walls, maritime routes have become delayed and obstructed.

The construction of the PIK 2 wall in the Pantai Indah Dadap area is a tangible manifestation of the social exclusion experienced by coastal communities. This exclusion possesses physical, structural, and symbolic dimensions. Local communities face actual restrictions on marine access due to concrete fences and reclamation projects that block their daily livelihood routes. The sea, which previously served as a social, economic, and cultural space, has been transformed into an exclusive domain owned by a handful of elite entities with substantial capital. The fence acts as both a literal and metaphorical barrier separating local residents from their living spaces. Based on our field research and interviews with coastal communities and fishermen, the PIK 2 wall varies in thickness and height. From the sea side, the height reaches approximately 3 meters, whereas from the west side, it reaches up to 5 meters. This concrete structure effectively restricts fishermen's access to the sea and stands as a major impediment to their maritime activities.

Impact on Access to the Sea

The construction of the PIK 2 wall significantly limits fishermen's access to their traditional fishing grounds. Maritime routes that were once accessible are now blocked by concrete structures and reclamation projects, forcing fishermen to take alternative routes that are much farther and riskier. Furthermore, industrial activities surrounding the marine environment add further obstacles. Factory waste regularly discharged into the sea poses

higher risks for fishermen. This not only complicates navigation but also forces fishermen to avoid areas contaminated or obstructed by industrial waste. Another consequence is the restriction of boat mooring points and unloading areas for the catches, which were previously easy to reach. Many fishermen must adapt their locations, thereby increasing logistical burdens and operational costs. This situation demonstrates that the construction of the wall and surrounding industrial activities do not merely alter physical access, but fundamentally disrupt the daily work patterns of the fishermen.

Changes in Fishing Activities

The PIK 2 wall construction has directly altered how the Dadap fishermen operate. The tall, thick concrete walls force fishing boats to detour to find alternative paths to the open sea. Some of the existing routes are narrow, making journeys more arduous and time-consuming. Pak Khasim, a neighborhood head (*Ketua RT*) who is also an active fisherman, noted that fish are typically caught using spearguns, which requires the fishermen to dive directly into the water. In terms of working hours, fishermen set out at 9:00 PM and work from 10:00 PM until 5:00 AM. Every night, they prepare and deploy their fishing nets, which are left overnight and retrieved the following morning. After harvesting the catch, the fishermen clean and arrange their boats in preparation for the next trip. Fishermen prefer working at night because fish are easier to catch, whereas daytime fishing is far more difficult. Despite the wall's presence, fishermen strive to adapt to the current conditions by seeking new routes and adjusting their schedules. This community adaptation serves to preserve livelihoods and ensure community sustainability amidst environmental shifts driven by coastal development.

Field observations show that several fishermen also catch crabs using nets. The harvested crabs are typically sold for around IDR 50,000 per kilogram. In the morning, fishermen gather their catch to sell either to local markets or directly to coordinators (*juragan*) or wholesalers. This daily routine is crucial, as the catch directly determines family income. Field data also reveals that some fishermen harvest green mussels using boats and nets. These mussels are then processed on-site—shucked, boiled, and sold by family units (parents and children) before being distributed to various locations.

Socio-Economic and Family Life Impacts

The research findings show that the construction of the PIK 2 wall has a direct impact on fishing families. Catches have decreased because fishing trips take longer and access to the sea is restricted. Dedi Sofian stated:

"Catches are down, the duration of fishing trips is longer, and unstable weather heavily impacts the economic stability of the fishermen." Aside from seafaring fishermen, a portion of the coastal community relies on processing other marine products, including the harvesting and processing of green mussels. Field observations indicate that many women and men work in this sector, earning a daily wage of approximately IDR 4,000 per day, depending on the volume of mussels gathered. This activity serves as an additional source of family income, even though the earnings are relatively small compared to going out to sea. Additionally, there are local entrepreneurs like Pak Haji Abdul Somat, who owns multiple boats and employs many workers to harvest green mussels and distribute them to various markets, including Muara Angke in Jakarta. The presence of such entrepreneurs helps create employment opportunities for the local community.

Fishermen's Expectations of the Government and Relevant Stakeholders

Fishermen and the community hope for tangible attention and action from the government to restore the marine conditions affected by development. Dedi Sofian expressed: "We hope the government can take real action to repair the damaged marine environment, as the coral reefs are destroyed and the sea is polluted." Pak RT Khasim added that government assistance, such as subsidized fuel (*solar*) or fishing gear, is urgently needed: "We want assistance, like fuel or fishing gear. Other places receive it, but here, we haven't received any help at all." Furthermore, Pak Abdul Somat suggested that the government should provide waste processing and containment facilities so that the green mussels caught by fishermen do not die immediately from industrial pollution. These expectations demonstrate the community's and fishermen's awareness of the vital role the government plays in maintaining the sustainability of the coastal ecosystem, while supporting the economic activities of fishing communities to ensure their survival.

Documentation



Picture 1. Giant See Wall	Picture 2. LSM Interview
	
Picture 3. Interview with Fisherman	Picture 4. Interview with the mussel wholesaler
	
Picture 5 Mussel shucker	Picture 6 Mussel Cleaning

Research Limitations

This study has a primary limitation in the field data collection process, resulting from the internal coordination dynamics within the research team. This constraint impacted the intensity of observations, which could only be carried out across four field visits. As a consequence of these time and frequency restrictions, the production process of the documentary communication media had to be conducted in stages and could not continuously capture the full dynamics of the fishermen's activities. Such spatial and temporal limitations in qualitative case study methods are acknowledged to restrict the depth of data visualization, as discussed in the methodological literature by Creswell & Creswell (2018), which states that the effectiveness of field observations is heavily influenced by the consistency of the researcher's presence at the study site. To compensate for these field data limitations, this study strengthens its analytical foundation by integrating references from various reputable and relevant journal sources. Key literature utilized includes a study on

the impacts of reclamation and the displacement of public spaces for coastal communities by Syafutra & Choandi (2021), as well as a legal analysis regarding beach fencing violations without valid environmental permits by Ernawati & Fauziah (2023). Furthermore, the theoretical framework regarding water access rights and international maritime law draws upon scientific articles by Rizal et al. (2024) and Yusof & Md Saman (2023). The use of these credible secondary sources serves as a robust analytical tool to validate the field findings while minimizing bias resulting from the limited number of observational visits.

V. CONCLUSION

Based on the field interview results explained above, it can be concluded that the construction of the PIK 2 wall in the Pantai Indah Dadap area, Kosambi District, Tangerang Regency, has a tangible impact on the activities of coastal fishermen. Although access to the sea is restricted and boats must seek alternative routes, these coastal fishermen—the majority of whom are migrants from Indramayu and Sulawesi—continue their livelihoods at sea. Furthermore, the community relies on processing other marine products, such as green mussels, crabs, and various fish catches, which serve as additional sources of income for fishing families. Ultimately, the construction of the PIK 2 wall has not entirely incapacitated the fishing community, as they are still able to go out to sea and earn a living. This study provides an overview of the reality of fishermen's lives amidst coastal development. The findings of this research are expected to serve as a consideration for the government and relevant stakeholders in formulating coastal development policies that are more equitable, inclusive, and sustainable, while still respecting the rights and livelihoods of fishing communities.

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