
Historical Study: Jantho City and Infrastructure, 1979-2020

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ABSTRACT

Jantho City is the Capital of the Aceh Besar Regency. This study aims to (1) describe the background of the determination of the Janthoi Settlement as the Capital of Aceh Besar District; (2) describe the initial and continued development process of Jantho City infrastructure 1979-2020; and (3) Identification the factors causing the failure of the development of Jantho City to become a new growth center. This study uses a type of approach that is combined with historical methods. The data collection techniques were carried out using documentation, literature study, and interviews. The results of this study are (1) the determination of the Janthoi Settlement as the Capital of Aceh Besar Regency because of its strategic location for regional development and have a very potential back area; (2) initial development in the form of the construction of the main infrastructure of the city, such as government buildings, roads, post offices, mosques, electricity networks, telephone networks, and other facilities for government purposes. Continued development in the form of supporting urban infrastructures, such as education, health, sports, housing, and economic facilities; (3) several factors cause Jantho City to fail to develop, namely its location opposite to other growth centers in Aceh Besar District, only working in the administrative center, not having a long historical background, no interaction with back areas, armed conflict in Aceh, and unsustainable development.

Keywords: City history study, Infrastructure, Jantho City

ABSTRAK

Kota Jantho adalah Ibukota Kabupaten Aceh Besar. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk (1) mendeskripsikan latar belakang penetapan Kemukiman Janthoi sebagai Ibukota Kabupaten Aceh Besar; (2) mendeskripsikan proses pembangunan awal dan lanjutan infrastruktur Kota Jantho 1979-2020; dan (3) mengidentifikasi faktor-faktor penyebab kegagalan perkembangan Kota Jantho menjadi pusat pertumbuhan baru. Penelitian ini menggunakan jenis pendekatan kualitatif dipadukan dengan metode sejarah. Adapun teknik pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan cara dokumentasi, studi pustaka dan wawancara. Hasil penelitian ini adalah (1) penetapan Kemukiman Janthoi sebagai Ibukota Kabupaten Aceh Besar dikarenakan letaknya yang dianggap strategis bagi pengembangan wilayah dan memiliki daerah belakang yang sangat potensial; (2) pembangunan awal berupa pembangunan infrastruktur pokok kota, seperti gedung pemerintahan, jalan, kantor pos, masjid, jaringan listrik, jaringan telepon dan sarana lain untuk keperluan pusat pemerintahan. Pembangunan lanjutan berupa pembangunan infrastruktur pendukung kota, seperti fasilitas pendidikan, kesehatan, olahraga, perumahan, dan fasilitas ekonomi; (3) ada beberapa faktor penyebab Kota Jantho gagal berkembang yaitu letaknya yang berlawanan dengan pusat pertumbuhan lainnya di Kabupaten Aceh Besar, hanya berfungsi tunggal sebagai pusat administrasi, tidak memiliki latar historis yang panjang, tidak terjadinya interaksi dengan wilayah belakang (*hinterland*), konflik bersenjata di Aceh, dan pembangunan tidak berkelanjutan.
Kata kunci: Kajian sejarah kota, Infrastruktur, Kota Jantho.

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INTRODUCTION

The history of the city is a study that has its own characteristics. City history examines events that occur in the city, but not all events that occur in the city can be categorized as city history. The city refers to a geographical sense that distinguishes it from other spaces, so only events related to the spatial aspect called the city are considered as part of the city's history. That is, the event was triggered by the existence of a specific urban space, which is different from other spaces (Basindoro, 2012:5).

Infrastructure is one part of urban space. Infrastructure has an important role in improving the quality of life and human welfare as well as in increasing investment and economic growth. The availability of adequate infrastructure in a city will stimulate an increase in the welfare of the people living in the city. Therefore, the development of urban infrastructure certainly gets special attention for every policy maker in each city, as is the case with Jantho City.

Jantho city is the capital of Aceh Besar district. Before being designated as the capital of the Aceh Besar Regency, Jantho City was only a settlement in Seulimeum District. Jantho became the capital of Aceh Besar Regency starting with the issuance of Government Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 35 of 1979 concerning the relocation of the Capital of the Second Level Region of Aceh Besar from the Municipality of Banda Aceh to the Janthoi Settlement in Seulimeum District.

The determination of Jantho as the capital of Aceh Besar Regency is expected to have a major influence on the growth of the surrounding area. As a substitute for Banda Aceh City, Jantho's location is considered strategic in the implementation of regional development in Aceh Besar District. In addition, the function of Jantho City as the center of government administration is capital as a *growth pole* and regional development in Aceh Besar District in particular, and Aceh Province in general.

In fact, the existence of Jantho City until now has not seen a major influence on regional growth in Aceh Besar District, some even think that Jantho City is a city that has failed to develop. This assumption is based on

the fact on the ground that since its establishment in 1979 until now, Jantho City has not been able to fully play its main function as the capital of Aceh Besar Regency, due to its condition which is not supported by the development of an adequate transportation infrastructure network. This has implications for the inability of the City of Jantho to provide good and easy accessibility to all sub-districts in Aceh Besar District. In addition, the City of Jantho has not experienced much physical changes to the city. The existing city facilities are old buildings, only a few new buildings were built such as the Indonesian Cultural Arts Institute (ISBI), Wisma Atlet and Jantho Sport City Complex (JSC) for the implementation of the XIII Aceh Sports Week (PORA) in 2018.

Based on the background of the problems that have been described, the authors are interested in conducting research on the history of the development of the City of Jantho.

THEORETICAL FOUNDATION

City Definition

Basically the meaning of the city is very broad. Many scholars and experts have tried to define a city so that it is easy to distinguish between a city and a village. To make it easier to understand the meaning of the city, the author cites several expert opinions as follows.

Meinarno in Jamaludin (2017:35) states that the city comes from the Sanskrit language, namely " *kotta* " which in other expressions is referred to as *us* or *kuta* . Based on the Sanskrit-Indonesian and Sanskrit-English dictionaries, *kota* means stronghold or *stronghold* . In the days of the kingdoms in the archipelago, palaces or palaces were usually located in forts and around the fort settlements appeared. From that we can understand that the existence of the city at that time was inseparable from the existence of the fort.

Bintarto in Jamaludin (1993:40) states, "a city is a network of human life which is characterized by a high population density and characterized by heterogeneous socio-economic strata and materialistic patterns. This understanding shows that the characteristics of the city are seen from the density of the population and the diversity of social strata

such as occupation, education, ethnicity, religion and others.

At first the city was a village and a place for farmers to live, starting with the culture of farming. People began to settle in the region certain villages, they are interconnected, communicate, so that the accumulation of knowledge gives birth to a city (Basindoro, 2012: 19). From this opinion, it can be understood that the city is a continuation of the growing village.

Based on these definitions, it can be concluded that the city is the center of all community activities which include the center of government, education, economy, religion and the military. Physically, the city is characterized by complete facilities and a high population density. While non-physically, the city is characterized by a heterogeneous population, meaning that the city's population consists of various backgrounds, including work, education, ethnicity, and beliefs.

Previous research is something that is very important for the author to conduct research related to the same aspect, in this case a study of the history of the city. Checking on previous studies can help researchers to simplify the research process. The following are previous studies that serve as guidelines in this study.

A very popular work on the history of the city is the work composed by Freek Colombijn, et al with the theme "Old Towns, New Towns: The History of Cities in Indonesia". This work has become the main reference by many scholars in writing the history of the city, including the research that the author does. The writing of urban infrastructure development in this study will be based on the article "Bukittinggi City Infrastructure Development during the Dutch Colonial Period" written by Zulqayyim. In his writings, Zulqayyim stated that Bukittinggi is a city located in the highlands. The origin of Bukittinggi City can be traced to the Nagari Kurai traditional market, which later developed into the heart of Bukittinggi City. Then, after the arrival of the Dutch, they developed the area into a city by building various infrastructures, ranging from offices, markets, roads and sewers, as well as various tourist infrastructure. The effective and efficient use of urban space has shown a natural and environmentally friendly city figure. However,

now the harmony of the city's face is neglected, both by the residents and the city government because they prioritize the economic aspect over others. The development of various city infrastructures becomes ineffective because it does not consider the topography. The development of the City of Bukittinggi as well as other cities in Indonesia is now paying less attention to its regional and historical aspects.

The work that is no less important to facilitate this research is the thesis by Mohammad Iqbal Bharata entitled "The Role of Determining Jantho as the Capital of Aceh Besar Regency on the Development of the Aceh Besar District". In this thesis, it can be concluded that since Jantho was appointed as the capital of Aceh Besar Regency from 1984 to 2000, it can be concluded that Jantho City did not play a significant role in the development of the Aceh Besar Regency area, because its condition as an order III and IV city was strengthened by its relatively low coverage area of influence. In all areas in Aceh Besar District, Seulimum District, there were three basic sectors in 1980, then four sectors in 1990 and 2000, with the addition of this service sector, it shows that there is an influence on the existence of Jantho City, because government activities began to be centered in that city. While the hierarchical order of other cities such as Lhoknga, Lambaro, Peukan Bada, Lampeuneurut, and Seulimum have a higher hierarchy than Jantho City, this illustrates that the activities that occur in Jantho City even though has experienced growth, but has not shown a role in the growth of regional economic activity, overall for trade and service activities are more dominated by the cities of Lhoknga, Lambaro, Peukan Bada and Banda Aceh as former capitals. Some of the things that cause the function of Jantho City to be not optimal as a growth center for the Aceh Besar Regency are the limited transportation facilities and infrastructure of Jantho City and the surrounding area.

Another work that discusses the development of urban infrastructure is Munawarah's work entitled Development of the Physical Infrastructure of the City of Bireuen, 1945-2014. In this thesis it is explained that the post-independence Bireuen City Infrastructure like most other cities in Aceh, there has been no development because Indo-

nesia has just become independent. The development of the infrastructure of the City of Bireun began in 1974 after Bireuen was appointed as the assistant to the Regent of the Second Level Region of North Aceh until 1999, both the main infrastructure and the supporting infrastructure developed slowly and continued to increase. In the process of developing the infrastructure of Bireuen City, of course, there are factors that become obstacles, such as the lack of budget funds which makes it difficult for the government to plan development and the low quality of infrastructure so that existing infrastructure is quickly damaged and needs to be reworked every year. Then after the expansion of Bireuen from North Aceh Regency in 1999, the infrastructure of Bireuen City experienced significant development. With a smaller area coverage, the community can obtain effective and efficient services and the local government is also more focused on increasing the capacity in management and development in their area so that adequate infrastructure is achieved as it is now.

RESEARCH METHOD

Research Approaches and Methods

This study uses a qualitative approach. Qualitative research is research that is descriptive in nature and tends to use analysis with an inductive approach (Rukin, 2019:6). Qualitative research is research that utilizes descriptive data, both in the form of written and oral data. This type of research is often used in the social sciences and humanities, one of which is history.

The method used in this research is the historical method. According to Nazir (2017: 36), the historical method is an attempt to provide an interpretation of the up and down *trend* of a state of affairs in the past to obtain generalizations that are useful for understanding historical reality, comparing with current conditions and being able to predict future conditions. Thus, the aim of historical research is to reconstruct the past objectively and systematically by collecting, evaluating, explaining and synthesizing evidence to establish facts and draw appropriate conclusions.

Kuntowijoyo (1999 :89-105) formulated the work steps or stages of historical research consisting of topic selection, source collection, verification, interpretation and his-

toriography. The following is a further explanation of the stages of historical research.

The first step is topic selection. This is an early rarity for conducting historical research. The choice of topics can use emotional closeness and intellectual closeness. Although using emotional closeness, research must still be objective. Apart from these two approaches, according to Ibrahim Alfian (in Abdurrahman, 1999:47-48), there are other criteria that must be considered in the selection of research topics. First, the research topic must be original, that is, it must be able to prove substantial and important new things or show new interpretations that can be accounted for. Second, the research topic must be practical, that is, the discussion is not too broad and the necessary sources are easily obtained.

The choice of the topic of this research started from the writer's interest in matters related to the study of the history of the city. One of the interesting cities to study is Jantho City, because this city is unique in terms of the historical aspect of establishing it as a new growth center and its geographical location jutting into the interior of Aceh Province. This is contrary to the growth and development of cities in Aceh Province which are generally located in coastal areas. In addition, research on the City of Jantho is still very minimal and based on the author's observations there has been no research that examines the history of the development of the City of Jantho based on the topic of the study of the history of the city.

The second step is the collection of sources or heuristics. Source collection is an advanced stage after the topic is selected. To collect data, the writer uses literature study, documentation and interview techniques. The author uses literature study as a data collection technique because the author uses a lot of historical sources in the form of books, journal articles, and theses that are relevant to the research topic. Documentation technique is used, because the author also uses written documents, such as letters and relevant laws and regulations as historical sources in this research. Interview techniques are used to strengthen the content of written sources and make up for the lack of written sources.

The third step is verification (source criticism). The next step is the author critiques

the sources that have been obtained. There are two kinds of criticism that the author takes, namely external criticism and internal criticism. First, external criticism is the stage of testing the authenticity of the source (authenticity). At this stage, the author will ensure that the sources obtained, especially the archives, are original and issued by the authorities and issued around 1978-1980's. The second internal criticism is the stage of testing the truth or authenticity of the source content (credibility) that has been collected. At this stage, the author seeks to obtain correct and objective information from archives that have been tested for authenticity. In addition, the authors also tested the truth and objectivity of the information that had been obtained from the informants.

The fourth step is interpretation (interpretation). Interpretation is the process of analyzing and synthesizing sources that have been criticized with the aim of obtaining valid data. This stage is a process of incorporating a number of facts that have been obtained relating to the development of Jantho City for the 1979-2020 period.

The fifth step is writing history or Historiography . Historiography is the final step in historical research. After collecting sources, criticizing both external and internal sources and analyzing and synthesizing the data that has been obtained, the next step is to present written historical stories.

Research Location and Time

This research was conducted in Jantho City, Aceh Besar District. The location of this research was carried out in the center of Jantho City to obtain the desired data. The time of the research starts from the preparation of this research proposal, which is in May 2021 and will be carried out until it is completed, namely in November 2021.

Data source

Historical sources are historical *raw materials* that include all kinds of *evidence* (evidence) left by humans that show all their activities in the past in the form of written or spoken words (Sjamsuddin, 2015:73). Sources of data used in this study consisted of two, namely primary and secondary data.

1. Primary data is data obtained from basic sources that are historical sources or main

witnesses of an event that has passed (Nazir, 2017:39). The primary data in this study are the results of interviews with witnesses and parties directly involved in the development of the City of Jantho, as well as official documents issued by the government agencies of the City of Jantho which are kept by the regional archive agency. One of the primary sources in this research is the archive of the transfer of the capital city of Aceh Besar Regency from Banda Aceh Municipality to Jantho City.

2. Secondary data is a record of the existence of an event that is far from the original source. Secondary data can be obtained from various sources, such as *library research* (library research), and interviews with second informants (not historical actors/main witnesses) (Nazir, 2017:39). For this purpose, various literatures are needed which require literature study to obtain supporting data for the research. The secondary data that will be used in this research are newspapers, books, journals, and theses related to the history of infrastructure development and the City of Jantho. One of the secondary sources in this research is the thesis by Mohammad Iqbal Bharata entitled "The Role of Determining Jantho as the Capital of Aceh Besar District on the Development of the Aceh Besar District".

Data collection technique

The data collection techniques that the author uses in this research are as follows:

1. Documentation is carried out to obtain primary sources of the object to be studied. Baswori and Kelvin (2008:158) state This method is a method of collecting research, so that complete, valid data will be obtained and not based on estimates. The documents that will be used as sources in this research consist of data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) of Aceh Besar Regency, archives from the Public Works (PU) office, Regional Development Planning Agency (Bappeda), personal documentation in the form of photographs, and others. - other.
2. In the literature study, the author first collects various reading literature in the

form of books, journals, articles, theses, theses, and other research results that have relevance to the theme raised. This is all done to obtain initial information regarding the object of study to be studied.

- Interviews are used as a data collection technique by the authors to find out more in-depth things related to research studies. Interview is the process of obtaining information by means of question and answer, while face to face between the questioner and the answerer using an interview guide (Nazir, 2017: 170). Interviews were conducted to make up for the lack of written sources.

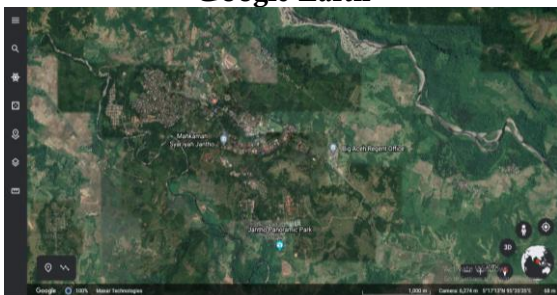
Data analysis technique

The data analysis technique in this research is in the form of qualitative analysis with historical methods. This research begins with the process of collecting data, both in the form of document sources, interviews and other secondary sources. After all data is collected, it will be verified to get authentic and credible data. Furthermore, the data is interpreted in order to obtain facts related to the infrastructure development of Jantho City for the 1979-2020 period. The last step, the facts obtained are then compiled and narrated systematically and chronologically.

DISCUSSION

Jantho City is the capital of Aceh Besar Regency which is located in the interior which is about 12 km from the Banda Aceh-Medan National Cross Road. Jantho city is located on a mountainous trail with a position at the eastern end of Aceh Besar district which is about 52 km from Banda City, which is the capital of Aceh province (Bharata, 2003:74).

Figure 1. Jantho City Center View From Google Earth



Source: Google Earth

Astronomically, Jantho City is located at the coordinates of 95°34' to 95°36' North Latitude and 5°16' to 5°19' East Longitude. The city of Jantho has a hilly and valley topography with an altitude of 113 m above sea level. Most of the area is dominated by mountains, dense forests, and shrubs, only a small part of the land is cultivated in the form of plantations, rice fields and so on. The city of Jantho is flanked by two rivers that flow through the city center, one of the largest rivers being the Jalin River which is located to the east of the city.

Jantho City is the largest sub-district in the Kabaputen Aceh Besar with an area of 593.00 km² or 59,300 ha (20.42% of the total area of Aceh Besar). Its vast area is inversely proportional to its population of only 10,216 (2.40% of the total population of Aceh Besar) or 2358 households spread across 13 *Gampong* (BPS Aceh Besar: 2020).

Table 1. Population Distribution in Jantho City

village	Land Area (km ²)	Number of Population (people)	Population Density (people/km ²)
New Jantho	39.19	1.073	27
weu	8.68	265	31
Aweek	27.05	120	31
Bueng	150,12	213	1
Establish	273.04	271	1
Suka Tani	7.88	113	14
Data Cut	7.48	103	14
Jantho	24.71	188	8
Swell-ing	5.82	416	71
Jantho Makmu r	3.10	4,192	1352
Meusar a Hill	2.99	1,538	514
Tareu-beh	32.88	974	30
grand-son	9.98	750	75
Total	593	10,216	17

(Source: BPS Aceh Besar Regency in 2020)

Based on table 1, it can be seen that the majority of the population of Jantho City live around the city center, namely in *Gampong Jantho Makmur* and *Bukit Meusara*. The boundaries of Jantho City are in the north by *Lembah Seulawah Subdistrict* and *Seulim Eum Subdistrict*, in the south by *Aceh Jaya Regency*, in the west by *Kuta Cot Glie Subdistrict*, in the east by *Pidie Regency*.

In general, the population of Jantho City consists of two ethnic groups, namely *Acehnese* and *Javanese*. The *Acehnese* are the original inhabitants of the region, while the *Javanese* are transmigrants from *Java*. The arrival of *Javanese* ethnicity to Jantho City is inseparable from the *New Order* government program (*Orba*) which began in 1984. Over time the *Javanese* population continues to grow in Jantho City.

The life of the people of Jantho City in general is still an agrarian society, the majority of the population still makes a living as farmers and ranchers. The lifestyle of the urban community is only found in the villages of *Jantho Makmur* and *Bukit Meusara*. These two villages are home to government offices and centers for urban infrastructure development, and the majority of the population work as civil servants and traders.

The Background of the Appointment of Jantho as the Capital of Aceh Besar

Aceh Besar District was legalized as an autonomous region through the *Emergency Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 7 of 1956*, with territorial boundaries covering the *Lhoknga*, *Seulimum*, and *Sabang Districts*. *Kutaraja* (the name of *Banda Aceh* before it was changed in 1963) was designated as the capital of *Aceh Besar District* at that time.

The demands and developments of the region are increasingly advanced, the location of the *Banda Aceh Municipality* which is located on the northern edge of the *Aceh Besar Regency* is considered less efficient and effective and becomes an obstacle in public service efforts and regional development, so it is necessary to have a regional center or a new development center located towards the south in the middle of the district of *Aceh Besar* and is quite far from the *Municipality of Banda Aceh*. Starting in 1969, the effort to move the

capital was initiated, where at first the *Indrapuri Subdistrict*, which is 25 km from the *Banda Aceh Municipality*, was proposed as a candidate for the new capital. This effort did not materialize, because *Indrapuri District* is still not too far from *Banda Aceh Municipality*.

When *T. Bachtiar Panglima Polem* served as *Regent of Aceh Besar District* in 1976, efforts to relocate the capital were intensified. The proposed location as the new capital is the *Janthoi Settlement* which is located in *Seulim e um sub-district*. This location is 52 km from *Banda Aceh Municipality*. This second effort was successfully marked by the issuance of *Government Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 35 of 1979* concerning the relocation of the *Capital District of the Second Level Region of Aceh Besar* from the *Municipality of Banda Aceh* to the *Janthoi Settlement*.

After being designated as the new capital of *Aceh Besar Regency*, the gradual relocation of the capital continued, and finally all official office activities were moved from *Banda Aceh City* to *Jantho City* on August 29, 1983. *Jantho* was inaugurated as the *Capital of Aceh Besar Regency* on August 3, 1983. May 1984 by the *Minister of Home Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia (Mendagri)* at that time, *Mr. Soeparjo Rustam (Qardhawiy, 2020:76)*.

The construction started during the *Regent Bachtiar Panglima Polem* after the stipulation. Then he died in 1982 and was continued by the next regent, *Mr. Zein Hasjmy*. During the time of *Mr. Zein* in September 1983, he immediately moved to *Jantho City*. All offices moved from *Banda Aceh* to *Jantho City* (interview: *Abu Bakar, 11 November 2021*).

The selection of the location protrudes into the interior with the aim of opening the remote area of *Aceh Besar Regency* and does not need to incur large costs for land acquisition, because the land is state-owned land (interview: *Bakhtiar, 11 November 2021*). The site selection involved the *Ministry of Home Affairs and planning consultants*. Based on the letter of the *Minister of Home Affairs (Mendagri) No. Bkt. 2/5/46* dated October 4, 1978, the determination of the *Janthoi Settlement* as the new capital of *Aceh Besar Re-*

gency was based on several considerations as follows:

Janthoi is a strategic location in the implementation of regional development because it is located in the middle of the district of Aceh Besar. At that time, the population of Aceh Besar District was concentrated (in groups) along the national highway and in the coastal areas. Moving the capital to the center of the region will create a new node or development center to reduce population grouping in coastal areas and be more evenly distributed. In addition, from the government aspect, the location of Jantho allows for more smooth development and development throughout Aceh Besar District.

The distance from Banda Aceh City is 52 km, which is quite an ideal distance for the construction of a new development center. Has a very potential back area, which is part of the sub-region of Development IV of the Special Region of Aceh, which includes Aceh Besar District, Pidie District, Banda Aceh City, Sabang City, and parts of West Aceh District (currently Aceh Jaya District).

It is quite close to the Krueng Raya Port which is an export port for all areas of the Special Region of Aceh, which is about 50-70 km, which can be reached in 1-1.5 hours.

The chronology of the process for submitting the proposal to move the capital began with the desire of the Government and the Aceh Besar Regency Regional Representative Council (DPRK) with political support from the people of Aceh Besar Regency, and obtaining approval from the Aceh Special Region Government. The Governor of Aceh Province issued a letter dated February 22, 1978 No. 460/1-93 concerning the proposal to relocate the Capital District of the Second Level Region of Aceh Besar which was addressed to the Indonesian Ministry of Home Affairs (now the Ministry of Home Affairs). Then, the Ministry of Home Affairs together with Bappenas and the Ministry of Public Works conducted research on the feasibility of Janthoi Settlement as the capital city. On October 4, 1978 and September 6, 1979, the Ministry of Home Affairs issued a Draft Government Regulation (RPP) addressed to the Minister of State Secretary as a member of the regional autonomy deliberative council. On October 11, 1979, the Government Regulation of the Republic of Indonesia Number 35 of 1979 was issued.

Jantho City is regionally under Seulimum District, but administratively it is under the authority of Aceh Besar District. Along with the development of the district

and the need for an expansion of the sub-district area, Jantho City with 8 other regions officially became the definitive sub-district on February 1, 2001.

Jantho Kota City Development Process

The development process of Jantho City can be grouped into two stages, namely initial development and advanced development. The initial development is the development that has occurred since Jantho was designated as the Capital of the Aceh Besar Regency until the main infrastructure development is completed, while the follow-up development is the construction of supporting infrastructure for the city to support the activities of the city's residents.

Early Development 1979-1988

At first the area that became the development area of Jantho City was a grassland, forest area, shrubs and mountains and around the capital development planning area there were already residential areas such as in *Gampoeng* (village) Weu, Barueh, Teureubeh, and Cucum (interview: Bakhtiar, 11 November 2021). The planning area was then designated as state land with an area of 700 hectares in preparation for the development of the capital's main infrastructure.

The initial development of the infrastructure of Jantho City began during the reign of Regent T. Bachtiar Panglima Polem (1976-1981) and was continued by Regent M. Zein Hasjmy (1983-1988). Most of the city's infrastructure was built and inaugurated during M. Zein Hasjmy's tenure. Therefore, 1979 to 1988 can be called the period of early development of Jantho City.

From 1979 to 1984, the city's infrastructure in the form of roads, government buildings, post offices, mosques, electricity networks, telephone networks and other facilities for the purposes of central government administration had begun to be built. The development of Jantho City is intended as a new city planning concept that is an independent city for the center of government. The initial development of Jantho City's infrastructure focused on government facilities.

In August 1983 all office activities were moved from Banda Aceh Municipality to Jantho City. Furthermore, to attract population movement to Jantho City, housing construction began through the National Housing

Development Public Company (Perum Perumnas). This housing facility is intended for civil servants in Aceh Besar District, with the intention that they live permanently in Jantho City. In addition to housing, other urban facilities and infrastructure such as markets, community health centers and others were also built.

During Zein Hasjmy's tenure, to revive the city he proposed to the Central Government to place transmigration to Jantho City. The transmigrants came in waves, thereby increasing the population in Jantho City. The transmigration area has developed into independent villages, namely Jantho Baru, Jalin and Suka Tani villages (interview: Abu Bakar, 11 November 2021).

Advanced Development 1989-2020

In the 1990s, development has entered the city's supporting facilities such as schools, banks, Islamic boarding schools, public housing, shops and others. These supporting facilities were built to attract the movement of residents around Jantho City and employees to settle and settle in Jantho City.

In 1996, in collaboration with one of the state-owned banks, namely BRI, to establish a branch office in Jantho City. The existence of a bank in a city is a must, because the velocity of money in the city is very high. Until now, several banks have opened branch offices in Jantho City, such as Bank Aceh and Bank Syariah Mandiri (now Bank Syariah Indonesia).

In 1997 a Regional General Hospital (RSUD) was built in Bukit Meusara. Unfortunately, the hospital was abandoned and the buildings were starting to be damaged and overgrown with shrubs. The hospital's Emergency Unit (UGD) building has now functioned as the rectorate building for the Indonesian Cultural Arts Institute (ISBI) Campus.

In 2000, Jantho City was planned as an educational center, with the addition of educational facilities in the form of a Vocational High School (SMK), a Health Training Agency (Bapelkes), and an integrated (modern) Islamic boarding school. The development effort as an education center aims to make Jantho City a growth center in Aceh Besar District. The spirit of making Jantho City an educational center still resonates today, especially after the construction of the ISBI Campus in 2014.

Jantho City was only characterized as a city in the 2000s, because of the existence of educational activities, small-scale trade, and services. Prior to the 2000s, Jantho City's activities were limited to government administration activities. Over time the infrastructure of Jantho City continues to grow, including road infrastructure, education, tourism and sports infrastructure.

In 2018, Jantho City was selected as the host of PORA Aceh. This is a distinct advantage for the City of Jantho, because the construction of sports venues such as the athlete's house and sports center, Jantho Sport City (JSC) as a sports complex. The construction of the Sigli-Banda Aceh (Sibanceh) Section 3 Indrapuri Jantho toll road also adds accessibility to Jantho City.

Jantho City Fails to Develop

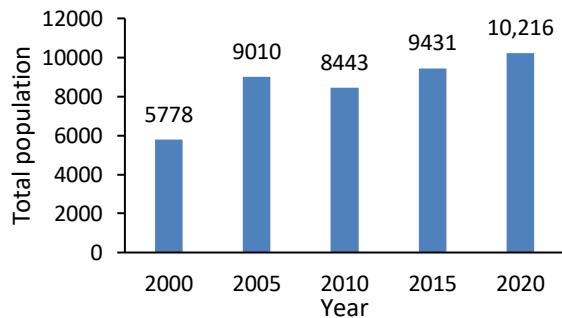
The purpose of establishing Jantho as the Capital of Aceh Besar Regency is to become a new *growth pole* in the interior of Aceh Province which can encourage the growth of development in the surrounding area. Physically, the city of Jantho has changed from 1979 to the present (in 2020), but if you look at the initial purpose of moving the capital of Aceh Besar District, Jantho City can be said to have failed to develop, because the existence of Jantho City does not have much effect on the growth of the surrounding area.

Activities in Jantho City are still dominant in the field of government administration, so that city activities only occur during office hours, while outside office hours and on holidays, Jantho City looks deserted. Dominant urban infrastructure was built from the investment of the Aceh Besar District Government itself. Investment from the private sector in the development of urban infrastructure is still small. The existence of Jantho City has not been able to invite big investors to invest there.

The availability of infrastructure or facilities in Jantho City is still on a local scale, it can only meet the needs of the people of Jantho City. Road infrastructure facilities are still not fully connected to the *hinterland*. Economic facilities there are only a traditional market and a few shops, in Jantho City there are no modern markets such as supermarkets and minimarkets. Whereas in several other sub-districts in Aceh Besar District such as

Lhoknga, Darul Imarah, and Peukan Bada, there are already many minimarkets (Indomaret and Alfamart).

Figure 2. Population Growth in Jantho City 2000-2020



(Source: BPS Aceh Besar District)

Based on the graphic image, population growth in Jantho City is classified as very slow. This slow population growth is caused by the lack of interest of the residents of Aceh Besar Regency and the area around the city to settle or migrate to Jantho City. This is inseparable from the function of Jantho City which is still single, namely only functioning as the center of government, has not been able to become an industrial center and has not maximized the functions of education and tourism. This single function of course causes employment opportunities to become narrow, only in the administrative field, because the availability of job opportunities is also the cause of population movement from regions to cities.

Jantho City failed to develop because it had not been able to become a new growth center in Aceh Besar District in particular and Aceh Province in general. The opportunity for Jantho City to develop is certainly very large if the availability of road accessibility that connects it to the back area (Lamno and Keumala) and the *Krueng* Raya port and can take advantage of all its potential, such as tourism and education, it is also possible that Jantho City can become a central city. industry, but all of this also depends on the policies implemented by the district and provincial governments.

Factors Causing the Failed Development of the City of Jantho

There are several factors that caused the failure of the development of Jantho City, namely its location opposite to other growth centers in Aceh Besar District, having only a single function, not having a strong historical background, no interaction with the back area, security threats and the absence of sustainable development. . The following is a more complete explanation of the factors causing the failure of the development of the City of Jantho.

Located Opposite To Other Growth Centers

Geographical location is very influential on the development of a city. In general, many cities in Indonesia grow and develop in coastal areas. This is because many economic, political, social and cultural activities were carried out through sea and river routes in the past. As a maritime country, the ancestors of the Indonesian people relied on ships as a means of transportation to carry out trade interactions, so that settlements appeared around the shoreline and watersheds, such as the cities of Jakarta, Makassar, Surabaya, Medan, and others.

In today's era, developing cities are usually located close to the causeway. The development of urban areas in Aceh Besar Regency also has a more developed tendency to follow arterial transportation routes that connect Banda Aceh City with other regencies on the east coast of Sumatra and the road to Medan City in North Sumatra Province as the main city on Sumatra Island. Bharata, 2003:85). The position of Jantho City which juts out as far as 12 Km from the National Highway causes its position not to converge between other growth centers so that the flow of goods and people that occurs is only the final destination of Jantho City. This is one of the reasons for the slow development of Jantho City.

Only Have Single Function

One of the factors that have a big influence on a city is the function that the city carries out. The purpose of the function carried out is the main or most prominent activity carried out by the city. A city that has many functions will develop faster than a city with a single function.

Until now, Jantho City still has a single function, namely the district level government center, so activities in Jantho City only revolve around government administration services. Jantho City will be difficult to develop if it does not concurrently carry out other functions. The functions that are most likely to be carried out besides the center of government are the functions of education and tourism. This education function has been included in regional development planning since the 2000s. While the tourism function can be said to match the location and atmosphere of the City of Jantho which has beautiful natural scenery.

Doesn't Have a Long Historical Background

Inland cities that develop usually have a long historical background, for example, they were the center of power during the traditional kingdoms and the colonial period. This can be seen in the cities of Yogyakarta, Malang, Bandung and Bukittinggi. Inland cities that do not have a strong historical background will be difficult to develop, especially if they are not supported by adequate accessibility and become centers of industrial development.

The city of Jantho does not have a long historical background. Jantho is a new city built on the basis of regional development and equitable development, this is one of the causes of Jantho's slow development.

No Interaction With Back Area

One of the backgrounds for moving the capital of Aceh Besar Regency to Janthoi Settlement is because it has a very potential *hinterland*, namely Keumala and Lamno Districts, but until now there has been no interaction between Jantho City and the back area due to the lack of adequate access roads. The construction of the Jantho-Lamno road since 2009 has been carried out by the Aceh Provincial government, until now the 65 km long road has not been completed (Hanafiah, January 18, 2020).

The Aceh Provincial Government together with the Ministry of Public Works and Public Housing (PUPR) have long wanted to open up the isolated remote areas of Aceh by building road infrastructure that connects Lamno-Jantho, Jantho-Keumala, and Geumpang-Pameu. Even the Head of the Banda Aceh National Road Implementation Center

(BPJN) I of the PUPR Ministry, Elvi Roza explained, in 2020 the budget allocation of Rp. 10.45 billion for the formation of a new road body of 2.6 km for Jantho-Keumala and Rp. 80 billion for Geumpang-Pameu which has a length of 15 km (Hanafiah, 28 March 2020).

This development plan was strongly opposed by the Indonesian Forum for the Environment (Walhi) Aceh, because the road construction divides protected forest areas and threatens wildlife habitat, as well as facilitates access for criminals to carry out illegal logging. Walhi also suggested to the government that the construction of the road that divides the forest area should be reconsidered and the government should be tasked with protecting the forest (Hanafiah, 28 March 2020).

Apart from these various problems, the fact is that until now there has been no interaction between the back area and Jantho City. This is one of the factors for the failure of the development of the City of Jantho.

Armed Conflict in Aceh

Armed conflict has a major impact on the development of a region, because it can hamper economic growth, damage public infrastructure and create fear. Armed conflict has hit Aceh Province twice, namely the Darul Islam/Indonesian Army Islam (DI/TII) rebellion in 1953-1963 and the Free Aceh Movement (GAM) rebellion in 1976-2005. These two conflicts have hampered development in Aceh Province, especially in the districts of North Aceh, East Aceh, and Pidie. The three areas became the basis for movement and armed contact between the separatists and the Indonesian Armed Forces (TNI). However, conflicts also occur in almost all of Aceh Province, especially in mountainous areas and dense forests, because DI/TII and GAM use these areas to carry out guerrilla warfare strategies.

The city of Jantho was one of the areas affected during the TNI-GAM conflict, because Jantho is located in a row of mountains and is directly adjacent to Pidie Regency (which is one of the GAM base areas). The late 1990s to 2004 were the peak of the conflict in Aceh, the intensity of the conflict in Aceh at that time was very high. This has had a major impact on the City of Jantho. In the 2000s administrative activities of the interim government moved to Lambaro and in the

homes of the employees. In addition, transmigrants who previously flocked to Jantho City also chose to leave Jantho City, some of them were exodus outside Aceh and some chose to go to Banda Aceh because the conditions were more conducive.

Unsustainable Development

The change of regional head has a big influence on the development of a region. Each regional head has a different development focus, so that what was planned by the previous regional head was abandoned and did not continue. This is what happened in Jantho City, since the inauguration in 1984 until now there have been 13 regents who have led (four of them are acting or PJ regents).

During the reign of Mukhlis Bah s yah (2012-2017) once planned to move the capital city of Aceh Besar from Jantho City to Kuta Malaka District, although this plan was not realized. But of course it will affect the development of Jantho City, some people still consider Jantho to be ineffective as the capital, because it cannot provide maximum service to all sub-districts in Aceh Besar District.

During the Mawardi Ali government (2017-present), the focus was again on building Jantho City. The Mawardi Ali government's focus on developing Jantho lies in three sectors, namely the education, tourism and sports sectors.

CONCLUSION

Jantho City is the capital of Aceh Besar Regency since it was established in 1979 and inaugurated in 1984. The determination of Jantho City as the Capital of Aceh Besar Regency is motivated by its strategic location as a center of new growth (*growth pole*) and regional development because it has a *hinterland* . potential.

The development process of Jantho City can be categorized into two stages, namely initial development and advanced development. The initial development started from the establishment in 1979 until 1989, the initial development of Jantho City was the development of the main infrastructure that was in line with the city's function as an administrative city, such as public service office buildings , roads, electricity networks and telephone networks. Further development is the

construction of supporting urban infrastructure, such as schools, banks, hospitals, shops, housing and others.

The city of Jantho has not yet been able to become a *growth pole* . The existence of Jantho City has no impact on the surrounding area, so Jantho City can be said to have failed to develop. There are many factors that cause Jantho City to fail to develop, namely, its location opposite to other growth centers in Aceh Besar District and Aceh Province which are generally concentrated along national highways, only have a single function as the center of government, are not supported by a long historical background, So far, there has been no interaction with the *hinterland* , the TNI-GAM conflict in Aceh Province has hindered development, and there has been no sustainable development.

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