

ABSTRACT

DIMAS TRI AGUSTIAN (2023) THE INFLUENCE OF THE SPANISH FLU ON SOCIAL LIFE IN THE DUTCH INDIA IN 1918-1920. Department of History Education. Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Siliwangi University.

This research will try to investigate in depth the influence of the Spanish Flu outbreak on social life in the Dutch East Indies in 1918-1920. The background of this research is the emergence of the Spanish Flu outbreak which started in the United States, then became the epicenter of the worldwide epidemic. The Dutch East Indies were not spared from the plague and recorded several areas such as Sumatra, Kalimantan, Java and other areas. The method used is the historical method used to compile facts, describe, and draw conclusions about the past. As for what is done in the use of the historical method is the selection of topics, heuristics, criticism, interpretation, and historiography. The results of this study are (1) the Spanish flu epidemic began to infect the whole world in 1918 in the United States. Then, the Spanish flu epidemic spread to the Dutch East Indies. Initially, the Spanish flu outbreak spread to the Dutch East Indies territory brought by merchants and ship passengers from Penang and Singapore who were infected with the Spanish flu virus. Thus, trading activities and the influence of advances in modes of transportation were allegedly one of the factors accelerating the spread of the plague throughout the Dutch East Indies. (2) The Dutch East Indies government did not respond in response to the emergence of the Spanish Flu outbreak. At that time the Dutch East Indies colonial government had received telegrams from the consuls in Hong Kong and Singapore to warn that the Spanish Flu outbreak had spread massively. The policies carried out by the Dutch East Indies government when facing the Spanish Flu outbreak by disseminating information through propaganda means, then the formation of the Influenza Ordonnantie (3) The social conditions in the Dutch East Indies when the Spanish flu outbreak spread was an increase in crime rates, considering that during that period many people were lost his job due to infection. Then the Spanish flu outbreak had an impact on social inequality which can be seen from the riots in Kudus. The outbreak also gave rise to the formation of the Philanthropy community. It is undeniable that the Spanish flu epidemic in the Dutch East Indies accelerated the strengthening of relations between groups that have the same goal, namely to help people affected by the disease.

Key words: Dutch East Indies, Social, Spanish Flu Outbreak.