

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini mengkaji wabah sampar di Garut pada tahun 1928–1935 dengan fokus pada penyebab penyebaran, kondisi masyarakat, serta respon pemerintah kolonial dan masyarakat lokal dalam menghadapinya. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian sejarah dengan tahapan, pemilihan topik, heuristik, kritik sumber, interpretasi, dan historiografi. Penyebaran wabah dipengaruhi oleh buruknya sanitasi dan higienitas lingkungan, tingginya mobilitas penduduk melalui jalur transportasi seperti kereta api, serta faktor iklim pegunungan Garut yang sejuk dan lembap, yang mendukung kelangsungan hidup vektor penyakit, yakni kutu dan tikus. Wabah meluas ke sejumlah wilayah seperti Tjiledoegweg, Papandajanweg, Cimaragas, dan Malangbong, yang menjadi lokasi kasus sampar. Kondisi masyarakat Garut di tengah wabah ditandai oleh terganggunya aspek sosial, ekonomi, dan politik. Ketakutan massal merebak, aktivitas perdagangan menurun, hotel banyak yang tutup dan masyarakat cenderung mengisolasi diri. Kasus kematian tokoh medis seperti dr. Slamet Atmosoediro dan pejabat daerah Raden Kanduruan Kertanegara memperdalam krisis kepercayaan terhadap pengobatan modern. Munculnya resistensi terhadap rumah sakit, penggunaan pengobatan tradisional, serta praktik spiritual seperti tolak bala menjadi bagian dari respons masyarakat terhadap ketidakpastian wabah. Kasus-kasus sampar yang terus bermunculan memperkuat atmosfer kepanikan dan krisis sosial di berbagai lapisan. Pemerintah kolonial merespon dengan berbagai kebijakan seperti pembentukan tim medis, penerapan karantina di wilayah terjangkau, distribusi vaksin, dan upaya pembasmian tikus. Namun, kebijakan tersebut tidak sepenuhnya efektif karena keterbatasan tenaga kesehatan, infrastruktur, serta penolakan dari sebagian masyarakat.

Kata Kunci: Wabah Sampar, Garut, Higienitas

ABSTRACT

This study examines the plague outbreak in Garut between 1928 and 1935, focusing on the causes of its spread, the condition of the local population, and the responses of both the colonial government and the local community. The research applies historical methods, including topic selection, heuristics, source criticism, interpretation, and historiography. The spread of the plague was influenced by poor sanitation and hygiene, high population mobility via transportation routes such as railways, and the cool, humid climate of the Garut highlands, which supported the survival of disease vectors namely, fleas and rats. The epidemic extended to several regions such as Tjiledoegweg, Papandajanweg, Cimaragas, and Malangbong, which became locations for both bubonic and pneumonic plague cases. The social, economic, and political life of Garut society was severely disrupted during the outbreak. Mass fear spread, trade activities declined, many hotels were closed, and people tended to isolate themselves. The death of medical figures like Dr. Slamet Atmoediro deepened the public's distrust of modern medicine. Resistance to hospitals, reliance on traditional treatments, and spiritual practices such as *tolak bala* (rituals to ward off misfortune) became part of the community's response to the uncertainty of the epidemic. The ongoing emergence of new plague cases intensified the atmosphere of panic and social crisis across different layers of society. The colonial government responded with various policies, including the formation of medical teams, implementation of quarantines in affected areas, distribution of vaccines, and efforts to control the rodent population. However, these measures were not entirely effective due to limited medical personnel, inadequate infrastructure, and resistance from portions of the population.

Keywords : Plague Epidemic, Garut, Hygiene