

Marine Product Economy in Terengganu During the Administration of Sultan Muhammad Syah II 1918-1920

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This study aims at identifying the economic development that focused on marine products during the administration of Sultan Muhammad Syah II in Terengganu from 1918-1920. During this period, the state of Terengganu showed an auspicious economic development of seafood. The sea product economy includes dried fish, anchovies, budu, belacan, and pickled fish. Qualitative research methods are used based on primary sources such as annual reports, telegrams, correspondence, memoranda, and official reports obtained from the Terengganu Government

KEY WORDS

- ~ Economy
- ~ Seafood
- ~ Product
- ~ Enterprise
- ~ Terengganu
- ~ Sultan Muhammad Syah II
- ~ Malay Community

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Secretary's Office, the Terengganu Badariah Palace Office, the Land and Mines Commissioner's Office, and the British Colonial Office, which are analysed using a historical approach. Secondary sources are also used to strengthen the data and research findings, including books, journals, encyclopedias, and theses. The study's findings show the sea product economy to be the leading economy among the Malay community in Terengganu. Seafood products became an essential source of economic strength for the community and state of Terengganu during the administration of Sultan Muhammad Syah II from 1918-1920. This is because marine products are the main export commodity of Terengganu compared to other export commodities, based on the quantity and value of exports every year. The conclusion from the study explains that, although Sultan Muhammad Syah II ruled Terengganu for a period of fewer than two years, from November 26, 1918, to May 11, 1920, His Majesty Sultan Muhammad Syah II placed great importance on the economic development of the community in improving the standard of living and income of the community, most of whom were involved in the sea product economy. The export commodity of many marine products is to meet the needs of the local and foreign markets. Terengganu's Big Boat for trading activities also boosted the seafood economy in Terengganu. This proves that Terengganu is a state rich in marine resources, which have thereby become the highest export commodity product.

1. INTRODUCTION

Marine product economy in Terengganu is the main economic activity of the coastal Malay community of Terengganu

during the formation of the Non-Federated Malay States (NNMTB) from 1910-1941. Terengganu is famous as a coastal state because Terengganu has a wide and long beach starting from the coast of Kuala Besut to Kuala Kemaman. Added to this is the position of the state of Terengganu facing the South China Sea, facilitating all economic affairs and trade based on sea products carried out by the community in the state of Terengganu. It is owing to this that, though indirectly, the community in Terengganu, essentially made up of the Malay community, can increase their income by changing towards a more stable economic activity.

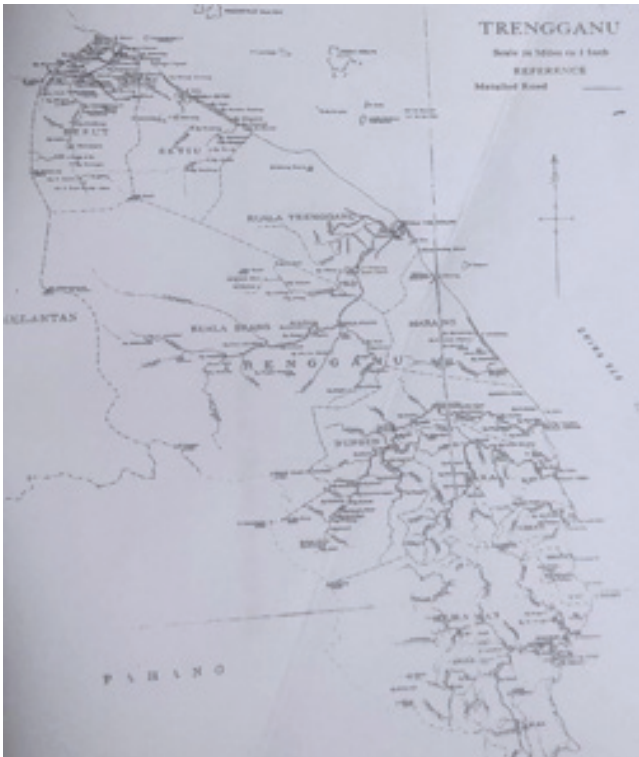


Figure 1.

Map of Terengganu Facing the South China Sea. (Source. C.O 840/1. 30 September 1929).

The marine products economy in Terengganu includes enterprises of preserved and dried fish products, such as dried fish, anchovies, *budu*, belacan, and pickled fish. During the administration of Sultan Muhammad Syah II from 1918-1920, the Malay community was the largest, and marine products were the main export of the state of Terengganu to Singapore, Siam, Hainan, and Indo-China. It can be corroborated by a statement made by J.L Humphreys Walter (1918), *Dry and salted fish to the value of \$844,444 was exported to Singapore in the past year. The sea coast population that lives almost entirely by fishing and fish curing is*

estimated at 30,000 Malays (C. O 840/1, 7 April 1918, 3-6). Referring to the writings of Baharudin Ismail (1999), the Terengganu Malay community is diligent and persistent in producing thousands of seafood products yearly to meet both the local and foreign markets. This craft and persistence can undoubtedly improve the community's standard of living, moving it in a better direction. As stated by J.L Humphreys Walter: *They work hard in the fishing season from March to October, when the coast is open, the boat goes out at dawn with the land-breeze and returns in the afternoon with the in-shore wind.* (C.O 840/1, 7 April 1918, 3). The giant fish catch by fishermen leads to the enterprise of marine products. To avoid spoilage and waste, surplus fish obtained by fishermen are processed either by preserving, salting, or drying so that the produced marine products last longer for food supply and exportation. This explains that the Malay community on the coast of Terengganu is a community capable of creating new ideas in promoting economic transformation.

Sultan Muhammad Syah II always ensured that his people lived in peace and tranquillity with the support and help of the government at the time. Sultan Muhammad Syah II was the 12th sultan to rule the state of Terengganu, succeeding his father, Al Marhum Sultan Zainal Abidin III. Throughout the reign of Sultan Muhammad Syah II, the seafood economy showed a very encouraging development in the state of Terengganu compared to other economies. This is evidenced in the records of the



Figure 2.

Hundreds of Boats Leaving and Entering the Port of Terengganu to Conduct Economic Activities. (Source. National Archives of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur).

British Colonial Office in 1918, which show that the total export of marine products was the highest, which was 83,617 *pikul* compared to only 4,742 *pikul* of black pepper products, 17,548 *pikul* of dried coconut and 10,194 *pikul* of tin (CO 840/1. April 7, 1918, 4). The development of marine product enterprises among the Malay community in Terengganu has further increased the government's efforts to provide more extensive small boats for fishing, trading, and sailing activities. Sultan Muhammad Syah II gave rise to excellent cooperation by encouraging the manufacture of large boats for use by the Malay community to export seafood to the Malay Peninsula, Singapore, Siam, and Cochin, China. With the presence of Terengganu's big boats, the economy of sea products developed and gained a place for traders from outside, further facilitating the export and import of goods. This can be proved by the illustration in picture 2, which shows hundreds of small or large boats leaving and entering Terengganu state ports to carry out economic activities, including the economy of sea products.

During the reign of Sultan Muhammad Syah II, boats were used as the primary means of transporting sea products. According to Buyong Adil (1974) in his book *Sejarah Terengganu*, the boats at that time could accommodate 20 to 30 people at a time. Sea transport used for foreign trade is *Perahu Bedar*, *Perahu Payang*, *Perahu Pinis*, *Perahu Ketar*, *Tongkang*, and *Jong*. Based on the writing by A. Razak Sulaiman et al. (1996), a big boat will sail every year, starting in March after the monsoon season. Before the voyage, the big boat must be inspected and any damaged parts repaired first, so as to ensure its safety. The round trip takes 25 to 30 days. After the big boat enters the Terengganu river basin, the Customs and Health Officer will inspect them first.

2. METHODOLOGY

The methodology used in this study is qualitative, using historical research methods that involve the systematic compilation and evaluation of data related to events that occurred in the past in order to study the causes, effects, and events that occurred (Muhd Yusof Ibrahim 2009, 145-153). Qualitative methods focus on two historical sources: primary and secondary. The primary sources refer to annual reports, telegrams, letters, memoranda, maps, and wills from the files of the Terengganu Government Secretary's Office, the Terengganu Land and Mines Commissioner's File, the Badariah Palace Office, and the British Colonial Office. This process becomes more accessible with the existence of the National Archives of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, National Archives of Malaysia Terengganu Branch, Terengganu State Museum, and Terengganu State Library that collect and organise original materials to facilitate the search for materials. The file used is vital to see and study the economic development of sea products among the people in Terengganu during the administration of Sultan Muhammad Syah II from 1918-1920.

Once all the data is collected, data collection involves several steps for interpretation and analysis. To obtain precise and convincing results of interpretation and analysis, the study hereby presented needs to be based on the help of a table to strengthen the findings. Therefore, in addition to using primary sources, researchers also collect information from secondary sources, such as books, journals, monographs, papers, theses, working papers, newspapers, articles, and encyclopedias referring to the economic activities of sea products in Terengganu in 1918-1920. Secondary sources are library studies that involve visiting and researching existing works in university libraries that are significant in history, such as the Main Library, Universiti Malaya (UM), Tun Sri Lanang Library, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Malaysian Science Library (USM), and the Sultan Idris University of Education Library (UPSI). In addition, the National Library of Malaysia, the Terengganu State Public Library, and the Terengganu State Museum Library. These secondary sources have been consulted and analysed to complete this study and strengthen the primary sources obtained.

3. MARINE PRODUCT ECONOMY

During the administration of Sultan Muhammad Syah II from 1918-1920, a large part of the Terengganu coastal Malay community was involved in the sea product economy, due to the high market demand by local and foreign communities for seafood products. Initially, the cultivated seafood products were for family and personal use only. However, high demand from foreign markets led to the export of marine products. Based on the British Colonial Office records, the seafood products cultivated by the Malay community in Terengganu were to meet local and foreign demands. From 1918 to 1920, the export commodity of sea products reached thousands of *pikul* every year. It shows that the Terengganu Malay community can produce their seafood products for their own needs, as well as for a broader market. Export commodities of sea products during the administration

Table 1.

Terengganu Sea Products Export Commodities Year 1918-1920. (Source, C.O 840/1, 07 April 1917, hlm.5, C.O 840/1, 7 April 1918, hlm.3, C.O 840/1, 07 April 1919, hlm.4, C.O 840/1, 15 Jun 1920, hlm.4, C.O 840/1, 15 Jun 1921, hlm.3 dan 1343/1341, Malay States: Reports for 1921 on the Unfederated Malay States under British Protection).

Year	Pikul	\$
1918	83,617	\$844,444
1919	92,474	\$1,044,966
1920	96,354	\$1,499,965

of Sultan Muhammad Syah II in 1918-1920 are shown in Table 1:

Table 1 shows the number of export commodities of seafood products in the state of Terengganu during the administration of Sultan Muhammad Syah II from 1918 to 1920. In 1918, seafood products exported to Singapore, Cochin China and Siam amounted to 83,617 *pikul* worth \$844,444. According to J.L Humphreys Walter in the Annual Report in 1918, the export of marine products, including preserved and dried fish to foreign countries, especially to Singapore, is the most important export product in the state of Terengganu compared to other export commodities (C.O 840/1. 7 April 1919, 4). The high demand for seafood products drives the coastal Malay community of Terengganu, consisting mostly of fishermen, to try and catch as much fish as possible every day to meet the fish supply needs for seafood companies, either in dried form or preserved with salt for export purposes (Ruhaizan Sulaiman, 2017). In comparison, entrepreneurs and fish sellers try their best to produce seafood products to meet the demand of both the local and foreign

markets. It is proved by the high increase in exports in 1919, reaching 92,474 *pikul* at \$1,044,966. Compared to 1918, the increase in the number of exports of sea products in 1919 was as much as 8,857 *pikul*. Therefore, the total market demand for Terengganu seafood products is high. However, the number of exports of marine products continued to increase by 1920, amounting to 96,354 *pikuls*, with a high price rate that reached \$1,499,965. This explains that this very impressive amount of seafood commodity exports was the result of the cooperation between the people and the government. Terengganu, under the leadership of Sultan Muhammad Syah II, is currently emphasising the economic development of the community, also proving the state to be a stable and harmonious one.

If we compare the total exports of Terengganu state products from 1918 to 1920, marine products are the highest export commodity, compared to other Terengganu state export products. It is shown in Table 2 below:

Table 2.

Comparison of Types and Amount of Terengganu Export Product Commodities in 1918-1920. (Source. C.O 840/1, 7 April 1918, p.3, C.O 840/1, 07 April 1919, p.4, C.O 840/1, 15 June 1920, p.4, C.O 840/1, 15 June 1921, p.3 and 1343/1341, Malay States: Reports for 1921 on the Unfederated Malay States under British Protection.

Types	Pikul/\$ (1918)	Pikul/\$ (1919)	Pikul/\$ (1920)
Marine Products	83,617/844,444	92,474/ \$1,044,966	96,354/ \$1,499,965
Tin Ore	10,194/1,005,916	10,580/ \$828,966	8,117/ \$813,683
Tungsten Ore	10,368/882,288	9,408/ \$611,670	2,567/ \$102,582
Dried Coconut	17,548/137,876	26,052/ \$455,322	18,430/ \$365,815
Black Pepper	4,742/146,934	4,982/ \$185,873	5,115/ \$118,867
Para Rubber	3,166/227,082	5,100/ \$454,666	5,097/ \$426,247

Table 2 shows the type and amount of export commodities of Terengganu state products from 1918 to 1920, including marine products, tin ore, rice, tungsten ore, dried coconut, black pepper, and para rubber. In 1918, marine products showed the highest amount of export compared to other export commodities, which was 83,617 *pikul*, compared to para rubber which was as much as 3,166 *pikul*. In 1919, marine products remained the highest export product of the state of Terengganu, which was 92,474 *pikul* with a value of \$1,044,966, compared to the export commodity of tin ore which was 10,580 *pikul* with a total of \$828,96. Wolfram ore exported in 1919 was 9,408 *pikul* with a total of \$611,670, dried coconut was 26,052 *pikul* with a total of \$455,322. The total export of black pepper was 4,982 *pikul*, valued at \$185,873. For rubber products, they recorded a total export of 5,100 *pikuls* valued at \$454,666. Compared to

1920, marine products still remain the highest export product compared to other products. Terengganu state's total export of marine products in 1920 was 96,354 *pikul*, reaching a value of \$1,499,965. It is a very high number which seems to prove the fact that the state of Terengganu's income from sea products during the administration of Sultan Muhammad Syah II, was indeed remarkable.

Nevertheless, this amount represents about 7/8 of the seafood products exported annually, while the local community uses another 1/8 for their daily needs. According to the Annual Report by J.L Humphreys Walter in 1917, this probably represents about seven-eighths of the total export. This statement explains that Terengganu's seafood exports are in high market demand from foreign countries. In contrast, the export commodity of tin in 1920 was as much as 8,117 *pikul* with a value of \$813,683.

While Wolfram ore exported is the least, which is 2,567 *pikul* with a value of \$102,582. Dried coconuts were 18,430 *pikul* with a total of \$365,815. The export commodity of black pepper was as much as 5,115 *pikul* with a value of \$118,867. The total amount of rubber exported in 1920 was 5,097 *pikul*, totalling \$426,247. Marine products were the main export commodity products in the state of Terengganu from 1918 to 1920, based on the amount and quantity of exports, as well as the comparison of export production to products of tin ore and tungsten ore, dried coconut, black pepper, and para rubber. Marine products are exported in large quantities to meet the needs of foreign markets every year.

The total export commodities of Terengganu in 1918-1920 included the production of marine products from the districts of Kuala Terengganu, Kuala Besut, Kuala Kemaman, Kuala Marang, Dungun, and Kuala Setiu. The total export of marine products from the Kuala Terengganu district was reported by the Chief of Shahbandar from 1918 to 1920, as shown in Table 3.

The head of Shahbandar Terengganu reported that the export commodity of marine products from the Kuala Terengganu district in 1918 amounted to \$371,700, while the export of marine products from the Kuala Terengganu district in 1919 was as much as \$277,420. In 1920 the total export of marine products from the port of Kuala Terengganu showed an increase to \$428,339. It is a very high amount of exports for the economy of the community and Terengganu. The increasing economic achievement of sea products among the Malay community in Terengganu was an encouragement to the ruler at that time, Sultan Muhammad Syah II. The increase in seafood export commodities from the port of Terengganu to Singapore every year shows that Terengganu is an advanced state in seafood trade activities. J.L Humphreys Walter reported in 1919: Dry and salted fish to the value of \$1,044,966 was exported to Singapore in the year under review. In addition, belacan and *budu* (smelly fish pickle) are made and exported in considerable quantities (C.O 840/1 15 June 1920, 7). Ports and piers are the main economic pillars of the community, and the state of Terengganu is a leader in exporting marine products to foreign markets. Various fish landed in the Kuala Besut district base in November 1918.

Table 3.

Total Export of Dried Fish and Dried Anchovies from the Port of Kuala Terengganu Year 1918-1923. (Source, C.O 840/1, 07 April 1919, p. 3-4, C.O 840/1, 01 May 1920, p.3, C.O 840/1, 15 June 1921, p.3-5, C.O 840/1, 18 May 1922, p. 3, C.O 840/1, 09 May 1923, p.3, C.O 840/1, 25 April 1924, p.7).

Year	\$
1918	371,700
1919	277,420
1920	428,339

Table 4.

Types of Fish Landed at Pengkalan Kuala Besut in November 1918. (Source, S.T 50/37, Besut Report Serm. From Acting Besut Commissioner).

Types of Fish	Pikul	Price / 1 pikul	Total Price/ \$
Gelama	84.07	\$8	672.56
Selar Belah	9.23	\$8	73.84
Tamban	124	\$8	992.10
Pelata	13.58	\$8	108.64
Lecek	46.76	\$8	374.08
Selayang	2.54	\$8	20.32
Butir Nangka	2.46	\$8	19.68
Kikek	16.33	\$5	81.65
Rampai	127.40	\$2.50	318.50
		Total Amount	2,661.37

The data above shows the fish that landed at the Kuala Besut base in November 1918. Among the types of fish that were landed at the Kuala Besut base include Gelama, Selar Belah, Tamban, Pelata, Lecek, Selayang, Butir Nangka, Kikek, and Rampai fish. Based on the table above, Gelama, Selar Belah, Tamban, Pelata, Lecek, Selayang, and Butir Nangka fish were priced at \$8.00 per *pikul*, and the total number of fish landing at the Kuala Besut base was 282.64 *pikul*, with a total price of \$2,261.22, while the Kikek fish landing in Pengkalan, Kuala Besut, was 16.33 *pikul*. The price of Kikek fish for one bushel was \$5.00. The total amount

of Kingfish was \$81.65. Based on Table 4, Rampai fish was the cheapest type of fish, as compared to Gelama fish, Selar Belah, Tamban, Pelata, Lecek, Selayang, Butir Nangka, and Kikek fish, which all had a price of \$2.50 for one bushel. In November 1918, the amount of Rampai fish landing at Pengkalan Kuala Besut was 127.40 *pikul* for \$318.50. The total value of the total fish yield obtained from the total amount of fish landing in Pengkalan Kuala Besut in November 1918 was as much as \$2,661.37. The types and prices of fish in 1918 in the Besut district were as shown in Table 5.

Table 5.

Types and Prices of Fish in Besut District in 1918. (Source, S.T 50/37, Sembah Report Besut. From Acting Commissioner Besut).

Types of Fish	Prices (\$)
Besar	20.00/ekor
Muduk	15.00/pikul
Gelama, Selar Belah, Pelata, Selar Pucat, Selar Kuning, Tamban, Lecek, Selayang, Butir Nangka, Kerong dan Duri	8.00/pikul
Kikek	5.00/pikul
Rampai	2.50/pikul

Table 5 shows the types and prices of fish set in the Besut district in 1918. Among the dried fish produced are large dried fish, Muduk, Gelama, Selar Belah, Pelata, Selar Pucat, Selar Kuning, Tamban, Lecek, Selayang, Butir Nangka, Kerong, and Duri. Based on the table above, large dried fish are the most expensive compared to small dried fish, which cost \$20.00 each. In contrast, the Muduk fish costs \$15.00 for one bag. For Gelama, Selar Belah, Pelata, Selar Pucat, Selar Kuning, Tamban, Lecek, Selayang, Butir Nangka, Kerong, and Duri the price was \$8.00 for one bag. At the same time, the Kikek fish was priced at \$5.00 for one bag. The lowest-priced fish was the Rampai: \$2.50 for one bag.

The district of Kuala Besut is used as an essential port for large and small boats to dock. The fish landing base in Kuala Besut is the largest on the East Coast. Fishing boats from the waters of Kuala Terengganu and Kelantan make the base of Kuala Besut, a place where they also land fish (Ahmad Said 1983, 38,

Ruhaizan Sulaiman, 2018). Therefore, the state of Terengganu's income from taxes on export and import goods obtained by the government is very important to the development and economic progress of the community and the state of Terengganu. According to Walter D. Scott, the collection of export tax on sea products is the primary income for Kuala Besut, Kemaman, and Kuala Terengganu districts. Therefore, local merchants will be taxed on imported goods and marine products. The Head of Customs will collect goods tax at every port and base in Terengganu. The export tax payment imposed on marine products is as much as five percent of the total price of exported marine products, and the Customs Office adjusts that price from time to time (C.L.M 182/1352), as per Table 6, which is related to the amount of tax collection revenue of five percent, obtained by the Besut District Customs Office in October 1918 on exported seafood commodities:

Table 6.

Total Taxes on Sea Produce Collected by the Besut District Customs Office for the Month of October 1918. (Source, S.T 50/37, Sembah Report Besut. From the Acting Commissioner of Besut).

Types of Fish	Amount (Pikul)	Total Price (\$)	Total Taxes (5%) (\$)
Kikek	60.83	314.15	15.20.5
Rampai	354.23	885.57.5	44.27.5
Besar	42 ekor	840	42
Gelama	71.37	570.96	28.57
Selar Belah	66.21	529.68	26.53
Selar pucat	14.49	115.92	5.80
Selar Kuning	7.96	13.68	3.19
Tamban	106.50	852.60	42.61
Lecek	120.89	967.42	48.39
Selayang	70.42	563.36	28.16
Butir Nangka	5.96	47.68	2.39
Kerong	4.84	36.32	1.82
Duri	17.20	137.60	6.89
Pickled Fish	237 tempayan	237.00	11.85
Budu	9 tempayan	8.40	40.5
		Total Taxes	349.67

The data above shows the amount of tax collection of five percent on fishery products obtained by the Besut District Customs Office for October 1918. Fisheries products exported from Besut District in October 1918 included dried fish, pickled fish, and *budu*. Dried fish exported from the Besut district include Kikek, Rampai, Besar, Gelama, Selar Belah, Selar Pucat, Selar Kuning, Tamban, Lecek, Selayang, Butir Nangka, Kerong, and Duri fish. The total tax on dried fish collected by the Besut District Customs Office in October 1918 was \$297.32 for a total of \$5,874.95. In addition to dried fish, pickled fish and *budu* exported from the Besut district were also taxed at five percent of the amount exported. The tax collection revenue of five percent obtained on pickled fish was \$11.85 out of the total \$237.00 of pickled fish exported. In comparison, the tax payment on the *budu* charged was \$40.50. The total tax collected by the Customs Office on fishery products exported by the coastal Malay community in the Besut district in October 1918 was \$349.67.

4. BIG BOAT TERENGGANU (PERAHU BESAR TERENGGANU)

Sultan Muhammad Syah II played an essential role in changing Malay society in Terengganu towards stable and advanced economic development. However, economic dominance was subject to the power of the sultan who ruled at the time. The impact of the economic development of marine products, carried out by the coastal Malay community, has led to the development of large boats in Terengganu. Perahu Besar Terengganu is used for long voyages to the states of Siam, Indonesia, and Indo-China by carrying a large load of goods up to 2,500 *pikul* at a time. Based on the statement by J.L Humphreys Walter, Terengganu's British Advisor, in 1919, Terengganu's big boats not only managed to enter the waters of Siam but also to Singapore as many as 52 boats to export the main product of the state of Terengganu, which is seafood (C.O 840/1 9 May 1923, 6).

Terengganu's safe and a peaceful port makes it easy for Big Boats to sail when the weather is good between March and November. According to the Annual report by J.L Humphreys Walter, in 1919, six Terengganu Big Boats left the port with 90 voyages. The six Big Boats are from the districts of Kuala Besut, Dungun, Paka, Kemasik, and Kuala Kemaman. While the Chinese Tongkang (wangkang) and Malay sailboats, the Pinis Boats made by the local community, carry out sea trade to Hainan, Cochin-China, Siam, and Singapore. Among them is Big Boat Terengganu, registration number 183, which carries a load of export goods of 40 tons. J.L Humphreys Walter stated that Big Boat number 183 is a precious asset of Terengganu. As stated:

The Terengganu schooners on the local register number 183: they average about 40 tons burden and are a very useful asset to the state. There were in all 882 clearings of native craft in the past year (C.O 840/1 1 May 1920, 7).

According to the records of the Colonial Office, in 1920 Terengganu Big Boats left the port of Terengganu to Singapore for business activities on as many as 116 voyages. In addition, two motor boats regularly go back and forth between Kemaman and Kuala Terengganu when the weather is good, and another boat sails erratically between Kuala Terengganu and Kelantan. According to H.C Eckhardt, Terengganu's Acting British Advisor, the total number of Terengganu boats registered in 1920 was 2,076. Of that number, 165 registered boats were Pinis boats (C.O 840/1 15 June 1921, 5). Most Terengganu Malay traders sailed to Siam, Singapore, Borneo, and Cochin, China, with good trade goods, which were sea products (C.O 840/1 9 May 1923, 6). It clearly shows that at the beginning of the 20th century, Perahu Besar was widely used among the Malay community in the state of Terengganu to carry out various fishing economic activities, especially fishing and exporting marine products. The sea product economy proved to be an essential enterprise for the economic progress of the community and the state of Terengganu during the administration of Sultan Muhammad Syah II. The Terengganu state government is very proud of the economic achievements attained by the Terengganu coastal Malay community in the seafood industry. In the state of Terengganu in 1918-1920, the districts that developed in the seafood economy included the districts of Kuala Terengganu, Kerteh, Kemasik, Dungun, Marang, Besut, Setiu, and Kuala Kemaman. Marine products were exported outside using Big Boats, as shown in Picture 3.

The cooperation highlighted among the Terengganu coastal Malay community is also a factor in the progress of the seafood economy, particularly coupled with a dynamic and open market structure implemented as the basis for developing and expanding Terengganu state exports. The increase in the number of exports of seafood products every year to foreign countries, especially Singapore, shows that the state of Terengganu is advanced in the seafood economy. The ability of fish operators and state administrators to identify more significant market



Figure 3.
The Malay Community in Kemaman Unloads Seafood Products from a Small Boat into a Large Boat for Export.
(Source: National Archives of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur).

opportunities is essential in ensuring that marine commodity export activities always receive high market demand and obtain large profits every year. What is clear is that in the years 1918-1920, economic and trade affairs in the state of Terengganu were mainly carried out through sea connections, and fewer communications by land (C.O 840/1 17 April 1917, 6-8).

Meanwhile, to facilitate the landing of fish and matters related to the export and import of goods, stop waqfs need to be built at the ports of Kemaman and Kuala Terengganu. The construction of a stop waqf is also aimed at making it easier for boats and ships to stop near the Customs Office and the Shahbandar Office, so that taxed goods can be quickly inspected by the Head of Customs and the Head of Shahbandar. A letter from the British Adviser, J.L Humphreys Walters, in 1920 states:

“It is with respect that I inform you that at the time of visiting the tributaries and the stop of ships near the Customs Office in the town of Chukai Kemaman. So that it is easy for taxed goods to board directly from the ships through the said Customs Office. Likewise, in Kuala Terengganu, it is thought to be very beneficial if there is a waqf for the mooring of ships near the Shahbandar Office (S.A 552/1338)”

In 1920, the government began to propose the construction of a waqf stop in the town of Chukai Kemaman and Kuala Terengganu to make it easier for Perahu Besar to dock near the Shahbandar Office and the Customs Office. The built endowment can also facilitate any fishing, business and trade activities carried out by the coastal Malay community in the state of Terengganu with foreign countries. The unloading of goods brought from the country of Siam, such as salt and rice, as well as goods brought out, especially fishery products, requires a particular area to develop business and trade activities. In addition, the construction of a stop waqf near the Customs Office can facilitate the affairs of the Head of Customs to collect taxes on export and import goods carried out by local and foreign communities. The Chief of Shahbandar, the Port Officer, can also efficiently control the ships, boats and motor boats that enter the port.



Figure 4.
The Atmosphere at Terengganu State Port. (Source. Terengganu State Museum).

Based on the Secretary's Office of the Terengganu government records, the estimated budget required to build a stop waqf in the town of Kemaman is \$34,608,00 (Suk.Tr 76/1338). As a result of the visit of the Head of Terengganu Shahbandar to the Shahbandar Office in Kemaman Town in 1920, the government agreed to build a waqf where ships and boats dock to unload imported goods and raise goods for export. It will also make it easier for fishermen to land their fish catch at the built docks and piers. In addition, traders can unload merchandise near the Shahbandar Office (S.A 76/1338).

5. CONCLUSION

The Marine Product Economy in the state of Terengganu during the administration of Sultan Muhammad Syah II from 1918-1920 was focused on seafood products companies among the Malay community living along the coast of Terengganu. Seafood products, such as dried fish, anchovies, *budu*, belacan, and pickled fish are products produced by the Malay community and are the main business activities for the community's economic development and the state of Terengganu. What is clear is that seafood products are the highest and most important export commodity every year compared to other export code products. It is because working as a fisherman and fish operator is integrated into the life of the Malay community in Terengganu. Therefore, the state of Terengganu is famous for its seafood products, giving high-income returns. From 1918-1920, marine products cultivated by the Malay community became the main export product of the state of Terengganu, in addition to being a substantial food supply. Seafood products are exported to the Malay Peninsula, Singapore, Siam, and Cochin, China, to meet market demand. The development of the seafood economy is closely related to the leadership of Sultan Muhammad Syah II, who ruled the state of Terengganu at that time. Sultan Muhammad Syah II always encouraged his people to be involved in the economic activities of sea products by intensifying the manufacture of small and large boats for primary use in the development of the maritime sector. In addition, ports, docks, jetties, and endowments for anchored trawlers were also built to facilitate the economic affairs of marine products in Terengganu. It is clear that the development of Terengganu state's marine product economy is due to the government's encouragement, support and assistance given to fishermen and fish operators. In fact, Terengganu fishermen are skilled in using boats and nets to catch fish. In addition, Terengganu fish operators are able to produce their own products in large quantities to meet the demand of both the local and foreign markets.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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