

## **CHAPTER II**

### **The Emergence of Migration of Indonesian descents in Southern Mindanao, the Philippines**

This chapter will explain about the migration history of the Sangir-Talaud people from their homeland to the Southern Mindanao, the history of the Indonesian descents since the first waves until now, as well as the problems that the Indonesian descents now face.

#### **A. The History of Indonesian descents in Southern Mindanao**

##### **1. First Opinion**

The earliest wave of the migration of Indonesian descents to southern Mindanao according to Shinzo Hayaze was in 1675 and 1775. Hayaze mentioned that the earliest wave was divided into two paths in which one headed to Sarangani and Mindanao Island which consisted of the Moslem Sangir, while the Catholic Sangir of Social proceeded to Manila which at that time was the capital of the Spanish colonial. According to Hayaze, the waves of migration of the Sangir-Talaud people were divided into groups. The first one consists of Muslim Sangir that migrated to the Sarangani Island and Southern Mindanao. The second one came from the "Catholic Sangir of Siau," which proceeded to Manila, which was the capital of the Spanish colonial government. At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, there were also several documentations which mentioned that there were also people from Sangir that came to the Southern Mindanao (Espina-Varona, 2016).

### a. Push Factors

The first push factor that the author would like to explain is the Dutch presence and the rule of the Dutch colony in Indonesia. The existence of the Dutch that has

Colonialized Indonesian territory for centuries, had given a push action to the Indonesian descents that live in the Southern Mindanao nowadays. It triggered them to leave the Dutch East Indies because of several unfair treatments that they have gained from the colonial government.

The author would like to highlight the notion of *Cultuurstelsel*, which was an unfair policy that gave unfair treatment, given by the Dutch colonial government. This policy was unfair because the rules from the government of Dutch obligate 75% of every harvest to be given to the Dutch and only 25% to the people of the Dutch East Indies. Other than that, 20% of the land of the people should be planted by particular plants such as coffee and sugar cane. In the other hand, people who did not possess any land should work for a minimum of 75 days each year.

Additionally, another disadvantage that was experienced by the people of the Dutch East Indies revolved around the educational system. During that time, only the elite, the wealthy and the royal family that could go to school while the rest remain uneducated. During that time, the education system was a luxury to be obtained.

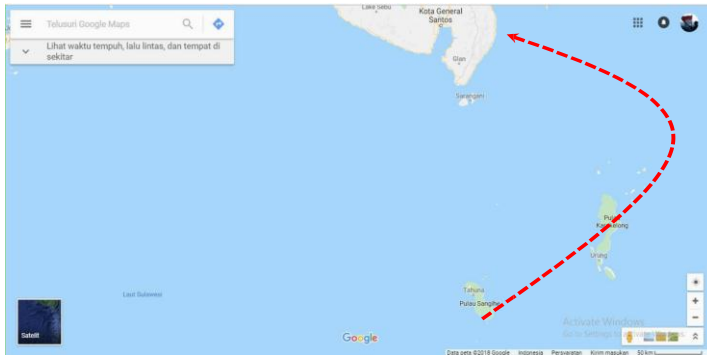
The scarcity of resources that took place during the Dutch colonialization was also one of the disadvantages experienced by the people of the Dutch East Indies. During the Dutch colonialization, the resources for basic living such as decent food were hard to gain, especially during the "*cultuurstelsel*"

time. The problem at that time created the high number of famine in the Dutch East Indies territories, with several places like Demak and Grobogan experiencing a decreased number of people (Firdausi, 2017). In fact, the Dutch East Indies was a very fertile region but the ignorance from the Government of Dutch Colonial created the domino effect, because the Dutch only focused on forcing the local people to cultivate plantations without considering the living conditions of the workers, which in this argument relates to the health and the endurance of the local people.

b. Pull factors

The first factor that the author would like to explain is about the geographical proximity between Sangir and Talaud Island to Southern Mindanao. The mileage from Sangir and Talaud to Southern Mindanao only takes three until five days by the sailing ship, and it is proven that the distance between these islands is not too far. The distance between these Islands is 242 km which would take a one-hour plane flight.

The author believes that the proximity factor becomes the pull factor for the Sangir and Talaud people to migrate to the Southern Mindanao. The Sangir and Talaud are sailors, and the sea located between these islands becomes their advantage.



**Figure 2.4 The route of Sangir's decent Migration from Sangir to Glan**

*Source: Maps, G. (11, 201805). Google Maps. Retrieved from <https://www.google.co.id/maps/@4.6689336,124.3950718,8z>*

The picture above shows the proximity between Sangir and Talaud Islands to the Southern Mindanao. We can conclude that the geographical factor is legitimate to become one of the pull factors. In the following sequence, the author believes that when we compare this fact with the occurrences nowadays, the logic is that humans tend to go to the place that is the closest first before they travel to farther places. Thus, the author believes that this is the reason why Sangir people have chosen to reside in the Southern Mindanao.

Similar climate and environmental conditions would be another pull factor that brought the Sangir and Talaud People to the Southern Mindanao, the Philippines. The climate of Indonesia and the Philippines are not that different as both of the countries are tropical states. Because of that, the two locations possess many

similarities, such as the plantations and sea produces. Sangir and Talaud Islands have similarities with the Southern Mindanao in the agriculture sector which allow the people to adapt quickly.

The social environment in Southern Mindanao was not very different because of the physical appearances of the community is relatively similar to that of the Indonesian descents that lived in the Southern Mindanao. Thus, they did not face any significant discrimination from native people. The way of living is also not that different because the typical occupation of the seashore people is a fisherman. Thus, they can continue their way of living by becoming a fisherman. The Southern Mindanao people welcome any religion, which was proven by the way that they did not resist the Spanish who were mostly are Catholic. This means that the Sangir people will not face any discrimination, whatever the religion they embrace.

The Sangir people have seen that the economic opportunities are offered in the Southern Mindanao because during their earlier waves of migration to the Southern Mindanao the situation back to the Dutch East Indies territorial including the Sangir Talaud was unpleasant. The People of Sangir and Talaud only have got few chances in the market and even have an unfair price during the selling process because the Dutch give the unfair price to the local seller. The unfair treatment by the Dutch colonial government finally become one of the pull factors to go to the Philippines.

The Economic opportunities that offered in the southern Mindanao were promising because they will not face any unfair treatment in trading because the Southern Mindanao that at that time were colonized by the Spanish and the American were not same like the Dutch. The situation over there was good because they can have fair trading and got a fair price. The Agriculture and the

Aquaculture were right in the Southern Mindanao, and it was becoming the right points for the Sangir and Talaud people because the everyday job from the Sangir and Talaud were the fisherman and the farmer.

The Aquaculture supports the Sangir and Talaud people to develop their economic stage because when they went to the Southern Mindanao they were most commonly lived in the near sea shore thus, it made them more accessible to run their business as the fisherman. In the side of the farmer the land of the Southern Mindanao is not too different with the land in the Sangir and Talaud, and mostly the farmer was planting the *Copra*, and several fruits like Durian and those plant are easy to be planting. That situation made the farmer that stay in the Southern Mindanao are not facing any big adjustment from their previous place in Sangir and Talaud to continue their way of living after the migration.

The pull factor of the migration of the Sangir and Talaud is also because there is a historical link between the Ternate Sultanate and the Southern Mindanao. The Sultanate already established since the last of 13<sup>th</sup> century precisely in 1257 at that time still called as Moluku kie Raha. Meanwhile, the development of the Sultanate of Ternate at 16<sup>th</sup> century the problems emerged when the Portuguese coming to the Ternate's area. The Ternate's people started to reign their struggle to dismiss the Portuguese. In 1580 the Spanish and the Portuguese were merged to invade the Ternate and to respond about that the Ternate respond it by an action to have allies. The Ternate created allies with the Mindanao at that time to dismiss the Spanish, but they have failed, and the Sultan Said Barakati got caught.

The historical link between the people near Sulawesi and Maluku remains strong even after the failure in action against the Spanish. The functional relationship

between them to the Mindanao area became one of the pull factors of the Migration of Sangir and Talaud people. The Sangir and Talaud people were kind to migrate to Southern Mindanao not because it was only based on the economic factor or the geographical proximity between these islands.

The socio-cultural ties of the history of the Indonesian descents also became one of the pull factors that the author would like to explain. The Indonesian people already migrated to the Philippines since the era of kingdoms in Indonesia. The early sailors of the Indonesian descent who came from the Sriwijaya Empire went to the Visayas area, namely Cebu. There are also few opinions that mention that the name of Bisaya, which is the primary language of the Mindanao people, came from the word Wijaya or Sriwijaya (Putri, 2013).

During the trading with Sriwijaya's merchants, they have also chance to spread their cultures and norms. The Sriwijayan people that were doing trading in the Mindanao also had chances to marry with the local people and settled in the Mindanao. However, it is hard nowadays to track their descendant because of the lack of information on marriage data. This argument has supported that the socio-cultural tie was also one of the pull factors that drove the Indonesians to migrate to the Mindanao.

## 2. Second Opinion

The next opinion will explain about the History of the migration of the Indonesian descents that live in the Mindanao based on the waves of their coming. The author will take the references from the book "*Menyingkap Tabir WNI*" that was created by the Consulate General of Indonesia in Davao City.

### a. The First generation from 1930th

This generation commonly was not educated and only lived using their limited education and knowledge.

Mostly, they were living based on using their abilities in farming and fishing, in farming, especially in copra and coconut. This generation living in the Philippines still did not consider their education and as right the citizen because at that time Indonesia and the Philippines are still not existed. They lived in the Philippines to search for better life prospects in the Southern Mindanao.

b. The Second Generation from 1960st

This generation was entirely different compared to the previous generation. This generation was already improved in the economy sector. The Indonesian descents that lived there at that time had been adapted with the situations. Thus it was easier to live in terms of the economy. In the education sector, they were many of them that still could not read and was not able to speak in Bahasa Indonesia. The lack of ability of the people to speak in Bahasa Indonesia and understand English created an issue. When the Indonesian descents faced the problem especially about their citizenship document, it made them feel hesitant to go to the Indonesian government, because they could not speak in Bahasa. Additionally, the lack of education, lowered their competitiveness to improve themselves. This situation weakened their will to change their way of life.

c. Third Generation in 1970th

In this generation, the people already experienced much improvement not only in the economic sector but also in the education sector. According to the book, they have already gained improvements in terms of the economy. This happened because their farming already produced results that had given positive effects for the Indonesian descents. The result of their economic production was not too good for them because it only



provided their basic needs such as food, and maintaining their place to live.

This generation was more willing to search for better jobs for their living and finding solutions for their citizenship problem whether they want to stay in Indonesia or the Philippines. In this generation, the letter of instruction No.270, 11 April 1975 has already been applied. This letter of instruction was initiated from the corporation between the government of the Philippines and Indonesia about the naturalization process and return the migration process that made 432 people from Southern Mindanao return to Indonesia. By 1977, 432 people have been returned to Indonesia because of the security threat that happened in the Philippines at that time.

d. Fourth Generation in 1980st.

This generation was considered as the transformation generation because at this time there was a huge of migration from the Indonesian descents from one place to another place in search of better chances of living. In this generation, the Indonesian descents already improved their abilities in term of economic and also education and at this time they were a lot of Indonesian descents that be able to speak in Bahasa Indonesia. In this time they were also the policy coming from the government of the Philippines to "closing their eyes" from the existence of the Indonesian descents over there thus, they were more protected from the citizenship problem.

In this generation, they were also 210 people of Indonesian descents that migrated to Indonesia. They were also plenty of improvement in this generation, many of them are more expert to speak in Bahasa and be able to go to have an education. They also more improvement on the relation between them and the Consulate General of Indonesia, because they were braver to consult to Consulate General of Indonesia because at that time the relationship

between the consulate and the Indonesian had improvement.

### **B. The Living History of Indonesian descents in Mindanao**

The people of Indonesia that lived in the Mindanao mostly came from Sangir-Talaud that came from North Sulawesi and because of the geographical approach that is proven between these two islands. The relations between these two islands have made the process of migration between them already happened since a thousand years before any documented files explained that. Commonly the common reasons why the Indonesian ancestor migrated to the Mindanao because of the economics motive such as trade because the number of chances to get high revenue in the Mindanao are more significant due to the number of people in the Philippines are higher compare to in Sangir or Talaud.

The first documented of the migration of the Indonesian ancestor that lived in the Mindanao, according to Shinzo Hayaze in his book *Mindanao Ethnohistory Beyond Nations* in the chapter entitled 'birth of Small Kingdoms' Hayase explained that the earliest documented of the Sangir's people in the Philippines was in 1675 and 1775 the Sangir people (People of Sangihe in Present day, North Sulawesi) (Talampas, 2015). The Next wave according to Alex Bacarro the counsel for the Philippines Justice Department's refugee and stateless Persons unit, he said that the second wave already documented was at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and it has been proven in one of the interviews from United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. In this time the Indonesian ancestor still not faced any statelessness problem because at that time there

were not any laws that to arrange the citizenship process and the special citizenship status of each person.

The Indonesian descents that lived in the Philippines started to face the statelessness problem after the Independence of the Philippines and Indonesia. The Indonesian people that lived in the Mindanao, commonly are coming Undocumented that have categorized as an illegal entrance. The Indonesian people that lived in the Mindanao are commonly lived in the sea-shore or in the island such as Sarangani Island, Balut Island, Glan, and Davao city by the status that still not in the legal until 2018.

The Indonesian descents that lived in the Southern Mindanao have faced many obstacles that are mostly related to the economic status and the citizenship issue. This status created a high tension of problem for the Indonesian descents. The Indonesian were fighting against many unfair actions, but in the other way, they did not have any power against that illegal action because they are also living with no legal citizenship status.

In these circumstances, the Indonesian descents had the low power to have a good life living or even pursue to have a better living situation. Because of this not legal status that they owned it made they would be really vulnerable in the name of law, it means when the Indonesian descents face criminal problem, either they become the villain and get prosecuted by the government of the Philippines or the police they will quickly be deported because they do not have any legal papers that can make them stay in the Philippines. In the other hand, if they become victims of theft, rape or harm by other person/people they also will find it hard to prosecute the suspects because they cannot go to the police station like an average citizen. This is because they also break the law, which means that they were fragile before the law.

The Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia already created registrations for the people that lived in the Southern Mindanao, based on the date they were 7152 people that lived in Mindanao and 1625 head of families. Most of them were living in the islands such as the Balut and Sarangani Islands that only had a 74 km distance from Marore Island which could be reached around three until four hours (Agung, 2019).

The Indonesian people that lived there mostly lived in Davao Del Norte and Cotabato, and they also came from Talaud Island and Balut Island. The Indonesian people worked as farmers, laborers, house-keepers or housemaids, workers in the factory, and there were also those who have sufficient education to become teachers in the “Sekolah Indonesia Davao” (SID) *or* to become a local staff in the Consulate General of Republic of Indonesia in Davao City. However, for those who cannot master written and spoken English, they will be stuck to only become laborers, farmers, and fishers in the village.

The causes of the bad economic situation in Indonesia were mostly caused by the level of education that was very low and because of the unclear status of the citizenship of the Indonesian descents. Thus, it was hard for them to find other varieties of jobs to earn money for a living.

Based on the data from the Consulate General of Indonesia in 2006, the revenue of Indonesian descents for their work was horrible. The lack of soft skill and the variation of hard skills kept them on the same situation, and their education levels that were very low made them hard to improve themselves for the better.

For example, the copra farmers earn only P.2500 until P.3000 on average every three months, or Rp 875.000.000 in Rupiah (2019 currency rate). The laborers that lived in the warehouse mostly earn around P.1500 or

Rp 412.500.000 (2019 currency rate), while housemaids could earn around P.1000 or 275.000.00 in Rupiah for each month. The author could imagine that the number of their incomes were meager and the government of Indonesia should help the Indonesian descents to find the solution for the problems.

The common field-work that was received many Indonesian workers until before the Susi Pudjiastuti administration as the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries before 2014 were mostly in the fishing sector. The people were working in the Fishing Factory in the Southern Mindanao and mostly in General Santos, and they had even become the fourth largest producer of Tuna in the world at that time. The average of their income was around P.3000 or Rp 875.000.000 in Rupiah (2019 Currency). However, there were many unfortunate circumstances that they had in that factory, such as the fact that they did not have any legal papers or even insurances from their employer, in which if there were an accident, there would be no insurance that will help them to overcome the effects of the accident. Furthermore, many of them only became the tools of the employer to conduct fishing in Indonesia because some of them could speak Bahasa Indonesia or the Sangir Language, which would avoid suspicions from other Indonesian Fisherman that comes from Indonesian territories when they see them do their fishing business in the Indonesian territories.

In the next argument, the author would like to explain the Indonesian government's action to overcome the problem of the PIDs. After the agreement of crossing boundaries had already been accepting between the Indonesian Government and the Philippines government in 1956 and 1965, and following by the Joint Implementation Agreement in 1975, based on the data from the Consulate General of Republic of Indonesia in Davao city, there were

several actions to solve the problem by using repatriation, legalization, naturalization, by the elaboration as follows:

**Table 2.1 The Chronology of the effort from the Indonesian Government for Person of Indonesian descents**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Initiator</b>	<b>Exposition</b>
1975	Letter of Instruction No. 270, April 11, 1975, about the Naturalization process	Philippine	Limited Time
1976	Return Migration for 452 peoples	Voluntary	Security Threat
1977	Return Migration 432 People	Voluntary	Security Threat
1978	Re-Registration for Indonesian descents	KJRI	Data Validity
1979	Return Migration 175 People	Voluntary	Security Threat
1980	Return Migration 210 People	Voluntary	Economics Reason
1984	Closing our eyes policy to Illegal Indonesian descents	Philippines	President Marcos Policy
1993	Inter-deep Meeting to discussing repatriation with the transmigration program	KJRI	No Progress
1994	Act No.7919, July 25, 1994 On Naturalization	Philippine	It was too expensive and only have a short time
1995	1 <sup>st</sup> Joint Committee on Bilateral Cooperation (JCBC) about the undocumented Indonesian Nationality in Southern Philippine	KJRI	There will be a joint survey

1995-1996	Repatriation for 396 people	KJRI	Talau and North Maluku
1998	Commission meeting to discuss the bilateral agreement, February 23-25 in Jakarta	KJRI	Alternative Solution, Repatriation, Legalization & Integration
1999	KJRI Survey: Repatriation, 1.783, Legalization 3.672, Undecided 1.158 (6869)	KJRI	The limited fund further, need discussion with the Senat
1999-2002	Memorandum Order Commissioner Immigration No.32 on June 26, 2002, On Acr.	Philippine, BI	The Adjustment of ACR price
2004-2007	The Help for Alien Certificate of Registration about ACR	KJRI	1000 Illegal Migrant
2011	The Agreement of Joint Committee on Bilateral Cooperation (ACR)	Philippine and Indonesia	Registration PIDs with UNHCR

*Source: Majid, A. A. (2016). Registrasi dan konfirmasi kewarganegaraan bagi keturunan warga negara Indonesia di Mindanao. Davao City: Consulate General Republic of Indonesia.*

In this decade, the government of Indonesia and the Philippines have agreed upon the cross boundaries to talking about the rule of the borders between Indonesian and The Philippines. The next sequences in 1975 Letter of Instruction No.270, April 11, 1975, about the naturalization process from the Philippine government for the Indonesian descents to choose if they either they want to be Filipino or Indonesian, and the government of the Philippines only

gave one year for the Indonesian descents to settle all of the documents.

In 1976, the agreement of return migration for 452 people continued due to the security threat that happened between the separatism movement army with the Philippines national army. That action made many people homeless because their place has been becoming a place for conflict between two sides. Indonesian descents also become one of the societies that got influenced by that conflict and they voluntarily return to Indonesia. In 1977 the return migration continued for 432 people because also the same reason as previously. In 1978 the Indonesian government responding to the existence of Indonesian people in the southern Mindanao decided to re-registration the people of Indonesian descents after several return migration waves that happened.

In 1979-1980 Return Migration have happened in total they were 385 peoples that have returned to the Indonesian descents in same reason with previously which was the security threats and it becomes the last return migration in this decade that counted and noted by the Consul General of Indonesia. In 1984 Closing our eyes policy to Illegal Indonesian descents have established and implemented under President Marcos administration it means the Philippines government would give treatment to the Indonesian descents just like any other people that live inside the Philippines, and it enabled them to have an education and medical treatment like other people without being considered as illegal people.

The 1993 inter-deep meeting to discuss repatriation with the transmigration program to discuss the plan to repatriate the Indonesian descents that lived in the Philippines have ended with no progress and no decision came out after the meeting. In 1994, the Philippines government through Act No.7919 on 25 July 1994 had



established this act on naturalization for the Indonesian descents that would like to embrace the Philippines citizenship. However, it had not given any significant influences because it was too expensive and there was minimal time to conduct the process of naturalization.

In this act of the government of the Philippines gave an obligation to the foreigner to pay a particular fee as the recruitments if they want to embrace Philippine Citizenship, which is as follows:

**Table 2.2 The amount of the Indonesian descents to naturalize become Pilipino**

No	Classification	In Peso	In Rupiah
1	Currency	P.1	Rp.270
2	Head of Family	P.200.000.00	Rp.54.000.000
3	Wife	P.50.000.00	Rp.13.500.000
4	Children	P.25.000.00	Rp.6.750.000
5	Administration	P.1000.00	Rp.270.000
6	Publication	P.5.000.00	Rp.1.350.00
7	Total	P.265.000.00	Rp.75.870.000

*Source:* Philippines, B. I. (2019, February 11). *RECOGNITION AS FILIPINO CITIZEN.*

Retrieved from Bureau of Immigration: <http://www.immigration.gov.ph/services/citizenship-retention-and-acquisition/recognition-as-filipino-citizen>

From this table, we could see how could the policy from the Philippines government for the foreign People failed for the Indonesian people. Undoubtedly the Indonesian descents could not pay for that because the average money that they could gain was only P.2000-3000 per month. This policy the author believes were already good. Thus, the foreign people that would like to embrace

Philippine citizenship have a clear rule of how to embrace it. However, for Indonesian people, it was still a long way to go for the Indonesian descents if they want to have Philippines citizenship. The first thing that they should do is increasing the Salary of them and manage their own money but, the problem was they cannot have an excellent job without clear citizenship status.

In 1995 there was held first Joint Committee on Bilateral Cooperation (JCBC) about the undocumented Indonesian Nationality that was held by the KJRI this is the first joint committee with the Philippines government to solve the problem of Indonesian descents. In this year there was also repatriation for 396 people from southern Mindanao to the Talaud and North Maluku. This conference is giving three alternatives solutions.

1. Repatriation, it means they will be brought back to Indonesia
2. Legalization, it means they will have a clear legal letter as the legal people
3. Integration, it means they will be integrated between the Philippines Society

1998 there were also established Commission meeting to discuss the bilateral agreement, February 23-25 In Jakarta to discuss the action for the Indonesian descents in Southern Mindanao to find the right solution for the Indonesian descents. This meeting was held by the Consular General of Indonesia, and the result finally came up in 1999 and the result such as follows:

**Table 2.3 The number of the result of the Commission meeting in Jakarta**

No	Decision	Number
1	Repatriation	1.783
2	Legalization	3.672
3	Undecided	1.158
4	Total	6869

*Source: Indonesia, C. G. (2006). Menyibak Tabir WNI. Davao: Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia.*

This result has been proven that the Indonesian government in this decade the Indonesian Government already given good achievement by succeeding to bring back many Indonesian people to Indonesia and give them legalization. The Indonesian descents that live in the southern Mindanao to have clears citizenship status and this was the right decision for the Indonesian descents so they will not get easily get harm and if there is a criminal act they can have justice in the name of law and they will get protection same like the citizen like that legal citizen. It also brought the Indonesian descents to another level so at least they have a definite status in the name of law and it means they will have a chance to have a better future. However, until 2004 (In five years term), The Bureau of Immigration the Philippines just followed up after five years, and it was not a good followed up by the Philippines Government. The author believes at that time the Indonesian Government should give higher pressure to the Philippines government at that time, to take action to the government of the Philippines Immediately.

ACR immigration No.32 on June 26, 2002, On Alien Certificate of Registration. For the adult, they need to pay P.1060 for the 14 years or above and P.560 under

14 years old, and they need the registration pay need only to pay one time, and per one year they need to pay ACR for P.160 for renewal administration.

The ACR effect gave them several adjustments because for the Indonesian descents that work as the fisherman they need ACR as the recruitment for them to have work. In 2002 the Indonesian descents that have been given paid for the ACR were in meager percentage because of the lack of Information and inability from them to realize that what they should pay as the worker in the Philippines.

The Indonesian descents that would like to pay for requiring the ACR as their legal paper at that time because until 2005, there are only two places for giving payment for ACR which as:

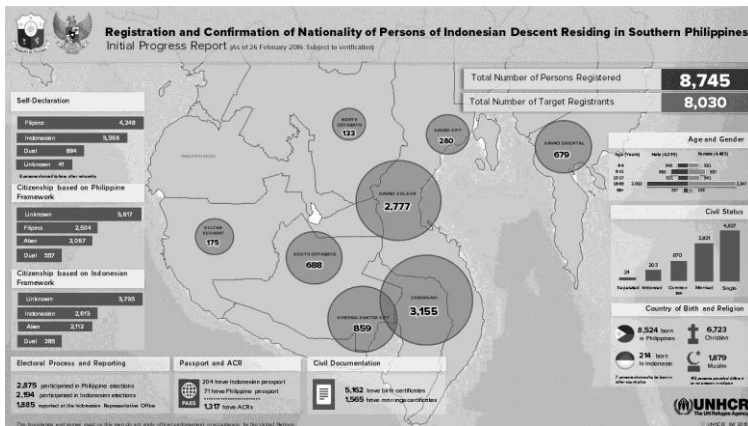
1. In Bureau of immigration in General Santos
2. In Glan Immigration

This action from the government of the Philippines still made the Indonesian descents faced the problems because not the Indonesian descents are close with the Glan and General Santos because they are not only live in the near of those two Bureau of Immigrations. Therefore, it still made a problem for them. In 2005 finally, the Indonesian government through Consulate General of Indonesia could also provide the Alien Certificate of Registration Process. The Indonesian government perhaps could force the Philippines government to allow the Indonesian descents to create ACR in the near Bureau of Immigration because it would make the process of legalization easier because if it is not it will become the problem, because they need to go General Santos or Glan and of course not all of the Indonesian descents live near that places based on the data from Consulate General of Indonesia.

In 2004-2007 The Consul General of Indonesia Succeeded to made 1000 Illegal Migrants have Alien Certificate of Registration and the process of the support

from the Indonesian government keep continued in the following years. The Help for Alien Certificate of Registration about ACR continue in 2011 The Agreement of Joint Committee on Bilateral Cooperation on ACR with UNHCR finally revealed many successful result that finally the Indonesian decent now are considering not as the People of Indonesian decent however, they are improving to become Registered Indonesian Nationality because the work from the Indonesian Government and the Philippines government alongside with United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees give a good result in the number of the Indonesian people that get registered Government through Consul General of Indonesia, The Philippines Government, and UNHCR.

**Figure 2.5 The Registration and Confirmation of Nationality of Persons of Indonesian descents Residing in Southern Philippines**



*Source:* <https://www.hurights.or.jp/archives/focus/section3/2016/06/indonesians-inmindanao.html#2>

The Process of the government, until they could finally register 8.745 Indonesian descents in the Philippines, was through several processes such as follows:

This registration process consists of a combination of groups from Consulate General of Indonesia of Davao City, Department of Justice, Bureau of Immigration, Public Attorney Office, UNHCR and LSM PASALI. The ground team consists of UNHCR and PASALI before they run the registration process first, they did community preparation and meet with the Local government Unit to prepare the invitation letter to the Indonesian descents with the help from the "penghubung" (liaison officer) to make the process to of registration become faster and efficient.

1. Orientation

In this step of registration for the Indonesian descents either they bring the invitation letter or do not, the committee divide them into several groups to discuss the documents that they should prepare for through the registration process. The committee hopes that the Indonesian descents that have known the documents that they should bring after this process could through the whole process without any confusion.

2. Reception

In this step of registration, the Indonesian descents will get the number of registration/queue and also a booklet and the rights and the obligation that they should do as the citizen. In this step, the Person of Indonesian descents that need help like PIDs and also the elderly will get special treatment like they will get an interpreter and will get help to fulfill the paper registration.

3. Data Verification

This step the Indonesian descents were asked to show any legal paper that they have to the Committee

(Passport, Birth Certificate, Identity Card, ACR, Election card). The documents that they have will be assessed from the Joint Committee. The interview would also be part of this process. They will get several questions of the validity of their data and how they can arrive in the Philippines and which state that they prefer to embrace.

#### 4. Registration

In this process, all of the personal data from the Indonesian descents would be input like who is their father and mother and do they have children or not. The occupation that they have and the origin of their life. The Indonesian descents would also through biometric data process (photo and fingerprint) and also scanning the documents that they have to database system of the Committee.

#### 5. Counseling

In this process, the Indonesian descents had a chance to meet Public Attorney or the lawyer and also from the staff from the Consulate General of Indonesia to know what is their right and their obligation as the citizen based on the Rule that applied in Indonesia or the Philippines. The Indonesian descents also could be asking in the quo status and the situation that they own now which one is more suitable for them to run thus, they could consider which citizenship status that they should embrace as the person.

**Table 2.4 The number of Indonesian people that have registered based on region**

No	Place	Number of people
1	North Cotabato	133 People
2	Davao City	279 People
3	Davao Oriental	679 People
4	Davao Del Sur	175 People
5	Sultan Kudarat	688 People
6	South Cotabato	859 People
7	General Santos	859 People
8	Sarangani	3.155 People
9	Total	8.745 People

*Source: Majid, A. A. (2016). Registrasi dan konfirmasi kewarganegaraan bagi keturunan warga negara Indonesia di Mindanao. Davao City: Consulate General Republic of Indonesia.*

After registered the whole of Indonesian descents in this data, the government of Indonesia found their status based on their self-declaration as follow:

**Table 2.5 The citizen base on their self-declaration**

No.	Variable	Quantity (number of people)
1	Admit as Indonesian Citizen	3.566
2	Admit as Philippine Citizen	4.284
3	Admit has two citizenship	848
4	Admit as other state citizens	6
5	Unknown	41
<b>TOTAL</b>		8.745



*Source: Majid, A. A. (2016). Registrasi dan konfirmasi kewarganegaraan bagi keturunan warga negara Indonesia di Mindanao. Davao City: Consulate General Republic of Indonesia.*

In the other date the committee found the data based on the law of Indonesian and The Philippines such as follows:

Based on the law of Indonesia:

**Table 2.6 The Citizen-Based on the law of Indonesia**

No.	Variable	Quantity (number of people)
1	Indonesian Citizen	2.613
2	Foreigner	2.112
3	Dual Citizenship	258
4	Unknown	3755
<b>TOTAL</b>		8738

*Source: Majid, A. A. (2016). Registrasi dan konfirmasi kewarganegaraan bagi keturunan warga negara Indonesia di Mindanao. Davao City: Consulate General Republic of Indonesia.*

Based on the law of the Philippines:

**Table 2.7 The Citizen-Based on the law of the Philippines**

No.	Variable	Quantity (number of people)
1	Indonesian Citizen	2.504
2	Philippines Citizen	2.067
3	Dual Citizenship	557
4	Unknown	3.617
<b>TOTAL</b>		8.745

*Source: Majid, A. A. (2016). Registrasi dan konfirmasi kewarganegaraan bagi keturunan warga negara Indonesia di Mindanao. Davao City: Consulate General Republic of Indonesia.*

Based on Documents Ownership:  
Indonesian Documents

**Table 2.8 The Citizen base on Indonesian Documents**

No.	Variable	Quantity (Number of people)
1	Own Indonesian Passport	204
2	Own Indonesian Election Card	2.194
3	Own ACR as Indonesian Citizen	1.317
4	Have reported themselves to Consulate	1.885

*Source: Majid, A. A. (2016). Registrasi dan konfirmasi kewarganegaraan bagi keturunan warga negara Indonesia di Mindanao. Davao City: Consulate General Republic of Indonesia.*

Philippines Documents

**Table 2.9 The Citizen based on Philippines documents**

No.	Variable	Quantity
1	Own Philippine Passport	71
2	Own Philippine Election Card	2.875
3	Own Birth Certificate	5.162
4	Own Marriage letter	1.565

*Source: Majid, A. A. (2016). Registrasi dan konfirmasi kewarganegaraan bagi keturunan warga negara Indonesia di Mindanao. Davao City: Consulate General Republic of Indonesia.*

*Surat Penegasan Kewarganegaraan Republik Indonesia (SPKRI) used as the guarantee letter that the person who owns that letter is the Indonesian descents. This*

letter was used as the letter for the Indonesian descents that have chosen for becoming Indonesia during the process of Registration between United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees and the Indonesia government and the Philippines governments. This document would be used as the legal paper until the upcoming legal paper like passport already owned by them.

2.425 have been given to the Person of Indonesian descents and start after SPKRI have been delivered to the Indonesian descents in Mindanao to the Indonesian descents in the Mindanao after the process of the Mission between the Joint Committee. The Consul General of Indonesia Mr. Berlian Napitupulu with the Assistant Chief of State Counsel in the Department of Justice of the Philippines Mr. Rubben Fondevilla on November 22, 2016, by symbolic have given the SPKRI to the Indonesian descents that have already stayed in Quilantang, General Santos City that before remain stateless.

Mr. Berlian Napitupulu had said that "as the neighbors country the cross-border between Indonesia and the Philippines had done for a long time even before both of the states gained their independence. The problem of their citizenship has been becoming long pending issues. Thus, it should be solved immediately. The affirmation that has just done was to great pace for finishing the process of that (2.399 Keturunan RI Diberi Status WNI, 2019)."

The Indonesian decent that finally decided to become the Indonesia after they have gained this letter, officially have changed their status from the Person of Indonesian Decent (PIDs) to become Registered Indonesian Nationalities (RINs) because they are already registered as the legal citizenship after they have own that letter and it was one of the corner-stones before they own their legal citizenship.

At 3 January of 2018 the Minister of Foreign Affairs Mrs. Retno Lestari Priansari Marsudi has given 300 passport by symbolic to the Indonesian descents as the remark of the final legalization process for the Indonesian descents that have chosen to embrace Indonesian citizenship and now, they have a legal status as the Indonesian Citizenship after they own their passport from the Indonesian Government by free and also gain the free visa for five years from the government of Indonesia.

The author believes that the decision from the Indonesian government through Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia to given the passport and free visa after five years are one of the best policy that they have been done. It would finally be giving the Indonesian people that live in the Mindanao finally become a legal citizen, and make them have clear nationality as the Indonesian by represented from their passport and visa. This policy will become the first step to create a dilemma among the Registered Indonesian Nationality.

The dilemma will come up as the problem after the period of the passport, and the visa becomes expired after five years. The RINs should consider preparing for pay to renew their passport, P.1500 for the Passport and P.3000 for the Visa. The problem will come up if the RINs could not pay it because their salary is meager compared to the price that they should pay. According to Madrudin during the Interview with the author, he said that" Mostly the Indonesian descents cannot pay the ACR that only cost P.160 per year, how come they could pay for the Passport and Visa after five years.

The dilemma of the legalization process that happened to the Indonesian descents would influence the stage of the welfare of the Indonesian descents to either increase or decrease.