PHILOSOPHICAL FOUNDATION OF RELIGIOUS COURT COMPETENCE
TOWARDS ENCUMBRANCE RIGHT EXECUTION

Abd. Shomad¹ and Rahadi Wasi Bintoro²
¹Faculty of Law, Airlangga University, Surabaya - Indonesia
E-mail: abd.shomad@fh.unair.ac.id
²Faculty of Law, Jenderal Soedirman University, Purwokerto - Indonesia
²Candidate Doctor from Doctoral Programme, Airlangga University, Surabaya - Indonesia

Abstract

Religious court as forefront in economic sharia dispute resolution in litigation has not ideal place to perform their duty since there are still regulation conflicts such as implementation of encumbrance right execution which still becomes a domain in district court. As explained, this article discusses philosophical foundation of Religious Court competence to resolve economic sharia issues. In regard to this, conceptual approach, law approach and historical approach are respectively used. Based on the analysis, basic competence of religious court is Islamic personality principle which carries the use of Islamic law elements (sharia principle) in its legal relationship. From the analysis the implication is drawn that as long as a dispute belongs to economic sharia, then it is Religious Court which is competent to handle including court decision.

Keywords: law enforcement, economic sharia dispute, absolute competence, court decision implementation

Abstrak


Kata kunci: penegakan hukum, sengketa ekonomi syariah, kompetensi absolut, pelaksanaan putusan pengadilan

Introduction

Economic sharia system has regained its momentum in early 70's.¹ The development of economic sharia is criticism towards the economic system in that era where capitalist and communist economic systems ignored the social prosperity then affected the establishment and the development that can only be reached by certain circle.


Economic sharia and universal comprehensive teachings of Islam are inseparable, the nature and the wide and flexible scope of Islamic teachings especially on Muamalah (Human Relationship) field is applicable to every community including non-Muslim. One of the pioneers on running the economic sharia system in Indonesia can be seen from the establishment of Islamic bank (bank Muamalat) as a part of economic sharia system since 1992 till present. The rapid development of economic sharia in the world, mainly in Indonesia cannot be separated from the muslim expectation to be kafiah in running its syariat (Islamic law). Moreover, in banking field, conventional banks apply some prohibited matters ruled by syariat such as gambling (maysir), indefinite/doubtful element (garar), or interest element (riba).

As the consequence of significant development, it is likely to cause dispute between the parties involved in economic sharia activity. Thus, it needs a device and institution which are credible and competent in economic sharia field, either judicial or non-judicial institution.

According to the decision in Article 49 Law Number 3 Year 2006 on change of Law Number 7 Year 1989 on Religious Courts (then mentioned as Religious Courts Law) that Religious Courts is competent to investigate, decide, and solve the matter in economic sharia. Economic sharia case is a case emerges from economic sharia dispute which uses the sharia principle on its law relations. Economic sharia activity like in banking points out obligation and rights fulfillment voluntarily between debtor and creditor. Practically, there is a secured goods to fulfill the rights and obligation. The law on security over land and building has been regulated in Law number 4 year 1996 on encumbrance Right Over Land with the Land-Related Goods that the execution can be applied through the decision of district court. The District Court meant by the Law here is under the Jurisdiction of Legal Court.

A problem related to the execution of encumbrance rights occurs when the parties finished the law relations (akad) based on sharia principle. On one side, the law relations becomes the competence of Religious Court while on the other side, the execution of encumbrance rights is the competence of district court under the Jurisdiction of Legal Court. This law issue is the discussion of this article, then there is the legal certainty on the execution of encumbrance rights.

Discussion

The rapid development of economic sharia, as Muslim necessity in indonesia, finally has influenced the financial industry which brought implication towards the regulation and the organization of its financial institution as well as to the solving dispute mechanism. The Provision of Article 2 on Religious Courts Law regulates that Religious Courts is one of the judicial power actors for the Muslim who seek justice related to a certain case which has been mentioned by the Law. This regulation shows that the Religious court is a court for Muslim for particular case. The cases as mentioned in Article 49 Religious court Law has given the limitation for what kind of cases that become its absolute

authority including marriage, inheritance, last will, bequest, benefaction, zakat, infaq, shodah-qoh (charity), and economic sharia. The economic sharia based on the (i) Article 49 is a deed or entrepreneurship activity done according to sharia principle which includes: Sharia Bank, micro-sharia financial institution, sharia insurance, sharia reinsurance, sharia mutual funds, sharia obligation and sharia medium term security, sharia security, sharia financing, sharia pawnshop, and retirement finance of sharia financial institution, and sharia business.

Both regulations has identified the subject and object that become the competence of religious court. Subject is a person, but it needs to be understood that the legal subject as the stakeholder of rights and obligation on law is qualified as person and legal entity. Hence, the subject can be interpreted that it is not only for person but also the legal entity.

The phrase ‘believe in Islam’ as explained in article 49 Religious court Law includes the people and the legal institution who naturally obey and lay on the Islam rules for the case that become the authority of religious court with the requirement of this Article. This decision highlighted that believing in Islam does not only fit the legal subject, not only human but also the legal institution. Furthermore, this decision encourages the presence of Islamic Law as the base of law relations happened between the subjects. It is important here, that human activity base in the world is Al-Qur’an and As-Sunnah as the system that brings people to the blessed way by Allah SWT. This system based on Islam as “rahmatan vil alamin”, meaning that mercy over the world. This shows that Islam does not only concern Muslim people but also for all creatures in the world. Thus, it means that non-Muslim can also do litigation in religious court as long as they obey the Islamic law or in other word as it relates to the law. In the context of legal subject as legal institution, then the phrase of ‘believe in Islam’ means that the legal institution runs its activities based on Islamic law or based on its legal institution in doing the law relations according to Islamic law. The legal institution that runs the law relations using Islamic law is considered that it has laid on Islamic law. This legal institution can be characterized into 4 categories. First, the legal institution founded based on requirement of Islamic law such as; Amil Zakat Agency, Amil Zakat Institution, Baitul Maal, Nadzir waqaf, etc; Second, legal institution in economic sharia like in sharia banking, sharia pawnshop, and others as mentioned in Article 49 letter h; third, Muslim-owned legal institution; Fourth, other legal institution that possibly run the business or business activity using the sharia principle.

To sum up, the cases of legal subject which become the competence of religious court are First, Muslim; Second, Non-Muslim but he can lay on Islamic law; Third, The legal institutions that run Islamic law-based activities; and Fourth, The legal institution that its article of association is not based on Islamic law but it lays on Islamic law. All four criteria of legal subject can do litigation in religious court in the cases that have been mentioned in Article 49 Religious court Law.

The use of Islamic Law by legal subjects that becomes the competence of religious court here is mentioned as the principle of Islamic Personality. The principle is based on formal factor without considering the Muslim quality. The principle of Islamic personality according to Yahya Harahap includes the meaning that the party that is subject to religious court is Muslim. Someone’s faith in Islam in this case can be the basis of court authority in religious court. The personality principle standard of Islam that someone has based when the law relations happened is measured by 2 conditions: first, both parties are Muslim when the law relations happened. Or the second, the law relations is based on Islamic law. Consequently, problems are solved based on Islamic Law. The


principle of Islamic personalities is the distinct characteristics of religious court. This principle emphasized that the investigated cases are those of which legal relations is conducted between legal subject and using the sharia principles.

The application of Islamic personality principle is used to determine whether a dispute becomes the competence of religious courts or not. To apply this principle in Indonesia is not easy due to some regulation conflicts that make it ineffectively implemented in judge’s decision like in encumbrance rights implementation.

The encumbrance rights has been regulated in Law Number 4 Year 1996 on encumbrance Right Over Land With The Land-Related-Goods (then become encumbrance Rights Law). Prior to encumbrance Rights Law existed, the rights imposition over the land as guaranteed debt was applied by mortgage Insurance Agency, because at that time the rights over the land is the legal object in mortgage insurance. Then after the implementation of encumbrance Rights Law, the rights imposition over the land as the guaranteed debt does not apply the mortgage insurance anymore but the encumbrance.

Based on Article 1 Number (1) Law of encumbrance Right, the definition of encumbrance right is right imposed on to right of the land as mentioned in Law Number 5 Year 1960 on Basic Agrarian law. It states that with or without land-related objects, it will be a debt payment mainly to one creditor rather than other creditors. This definition implies that encumbrance right is identical with guarantee rights, which is charged over right of ownership, right to build and/or right to cultivate. It serves main position to particular creditors and swapped the other creditors in case debtor breaches his contract or default in paying his debt. In other words, the holder of first encumbrance right is preferred than other creditors. This case is emphasized more on Article 6 Law of encumbrance Right.  

Philosophical foundation of encumbrance Right Law makes creditor easier to execute or sell the objects that have been guaranteed without trial. The definition of execution according to M. Yahya Harahap is execution of court’s decision by force with the help of general power if the executing party or defendants unwillingly do it. The execution is an effort by winning party to gain their rights with the help of judiciary power, force the defeated party to do the decision. According to the explanation above, it implies that only the decision with permanent judiciary power (in kracht van gewijsde) is the decision which cannot be opposed with executable legal effort such as verzet, appeal and cassation.

The execution of encumbrance right is done in case of debtor default (Article 20 Law of encumbrance right). The execution of encumbrance right is the right of the first holder to sell the object in his own power through public auction and pay the debt from the income. Execution can also be done with an agreement by the guarantor and the holder of encumbrance right to sell privately the encumbrance right object to reach the highest price. This execution is only possible after one month since written notification by guarantor/holder of encumbrance right to concerned parties and be announced at least in 2 local newspaper or mass media without objection. The explanation above shows at least three executions in encumbrance right, first, through private selling. The execution of private selling is an easiest way to be conducted under an agreement, so the debtor is default, the object would be sold in higher price. Consequently it will not harm the debtor (owner of collateral objects) since selling properties through auction will make the price goes down than the normal price. Law gives debtor chance to find buyer by himself before collateral objects are sold in auction. What if the debtor dodge? So it means there is no agreement between creditor and debtor, according to Article 6 Law of encumbrance right, creditor can ask State Assets and Auction Ser-

---


vice Office (KPKNL) to sell it through auction without trial. Second, execution on first encumbrance right authority (parate executie). According to general explanation Number 9 Law of encumbrance right that the idea of “for the sake of justice based on the One God” in encumbrance right certificate aims to make an executorial power in court decision that has been incracth. Therefore, when debtor’s default, the collateral objects can be executed based on court decision that has judiciary power along with civil code procedure. In this execution implementation, trial is not needed. Third, the execution based on executorial titel. This condition emerges when debtor defaults, and the creditor fails in private selling or sell on his own. Creditor in this case can file a request to the court to conduct execution based on encumbrance right certificate which has executorial titel. This execution is regulated on Article 224 HIR/258 R.Bg. Practically, the next pro-cess is the court will do a warning (aan maning) to debtor to pay his debt and its interest rate. If the debtor has paid them, auction would be stopped. Nonetheless, if the debtor does not pay his debt, confiscation would be conducted by bailiff and then court will ask KPKNL to do an auction of encumbrance right object.

The execution through court is the last alterna-tive after private selling or selling under the authority failed. The private selling execution cannot be done if the debtor cannot be met, intentionally dodge or hide after the un-performed loan occur. Thus, private selling of encumbrance right object is not likely to happen. Since one of the requirements of private selling is an agreement between guarantor and holder of encumbrance right. Therefore, Law of encumbrance right provides an authority to the court, which is state court under public court jurisdiction, to conduct the execution.

Encumbrance right surely started by law relationship between law subjects. The problem is when encumbrance right is conducted to a legal relationship within the sharia economic field. On one side, law of encumbrance right gives its competence in state court that in-cluded in public court jurisdiction. On the other side, economic sharia is the competence of religious court. The problem arises when law relationship in economic sharia is sued to religious court and where should be the execution of encumbrance right conducted? Conflict between equal regulations is manifested through law. In that condition, it refers to preference principle which are lex posterior derogat legi priori or lex specialis derogat legi generali.

In order to answer those discourse, the history of religious court is worth examining. Islam and Islamic law always walk side by side. This happens because Islamic law is a living and inherent law in Muslim life. The existence of religious court is a sign the more accepted religion in society. Judge position in Islamic juris-diction is a complement of Islamic syariat (law) implementation, meanwhile its justice is a collec-tive obligation (fardlu kifayah) that something exist and must be done in any circumstances. The existence of Islamic justice has been ups and downs until now. Islamic justice has existed far before the independence of Indonesia. Its naturalistic development leads to ideal Islamic justice in the past to get relevant matter and make ideal Islamic justice in the future convenient with Islamic aims as revelation region and within the context of national law development.

At first, religious court as Islamic justice had competence in all of human live aspects. As time goes by it decreases and limited in particular field such as family and marriage law, will, grant, endowment (wakaf), and sadaqoh and its
just specialized to Muslim, 18 even it did not cover muamalah field such as economic sharia. Religious court competence, in its development, it extends to implementation of economic sharia, thus, muamalah field in form of economic sharia was added. Economic sharia based on explanation of Article 49 Law religious court is business activity conducted based on sharia principle. Article 26 Paragraph (2) Law Number 21 year 2008 govern sharia principle becomes the basic operational of product and service in sharia finance institution stated by Indonesian Ulema Council (MUI) and then stipulated in Indonesian Bank regulation. The definition of sharia principle is emphasized more in Indonesian Bank regulation Number 11/15/PBI/2009 on money market among banks based on sharia principle. It is considered as Islamic law principle in banking activity based on decree issued by Indonesian Ulema Council.

Any issues of religious court competences including marriage, inheritance, will, wakaf, zakat, infaq, shadaqoh, grant (hibah) until economic sharia problem are attached matters in Muslim life. The extended religious court competence is inevitable regarding asymmetrical correlation between society development and law. Therefore, there will be no gap between problem and solution.

The extended competence includes muamalah field in form of economic sharia in 2006 through Law Number 3 year 2006. The philosophical foundation is that religious court as Islamic justice must fulfill society needs over dispute settlement of economic sharia. Hence, it can be understood that law of encumbrance right made in 1996 had not yet accommodated society needs over sharia principle implementation in economic activity. Consequently, they gave the execution of encumbrance right to state court under public court jurisdiction. Especially in banking field, economic sharia term used was “profit sharing principle”. In 1998 through Law Number 10 Year 1998 change of Law Number 7 Year 1992 on banking that Islamic banking which called “profit sharing-based bank” was clearly claimed in those law to be called “syariah-based bank”. The existence of economic sharia in banking field grew stronger due to Law Number 21 Year 2008 on Sharia banking.

Regarding regulation conflict about execution competence of encumbrance right between law of religious court and law of encumbrance right, it actually can be solved with lex specialis derogat legi generali principle. Religious court as justice applying Islamic law with its Islamic personality principle can be placed as lex specialis. Meanwhile law of encumbrance right providing general rule becomes lex generalis. Thus, execution of encumbrance right, even fiduciary execution will be the competence of religious court as long as its law based on sharia principle.

Conclusion

Islamic Personality principle is a philosophical foundation of religious court’s competence to execute encumbrance right as long as the law based on sharia principle. Islamic personality principles emphasize on problems of law subject that become religious court’s competence are: first, Islamic people (Muslim); second, Non-Muslim but they obey the Islamic law; third, law institution of which article of association is based on Islamic law; and Fourth, Law institution that their article of association does not refer to Islamic law but they obey the Islamic law.

References


18 See Law Number. 7 Year 1989 on Religious Court


