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MINDFULNESS BASED-ASSET IN ACCOUNTING: INTERDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to construct the concept of assets using a revised-hedonic treadmill theory approach. By using postmodernism paradigm with constructionism approach in case study design, this research tries to integrate concept of asset in accounting with hedonic treadmill theory to construct a new concept of asset. Empirical data obtained through in-depth interviews with 21 bank employees with various grade positions and working period which were grouped into Assistant (ASST), Assistant Manager (AMGR), Manager (MGR), Assistant Vice President (AVP), and Vice President (VP) in Indonesia. The data were analyzed using the framework of a revised-hedonic treadmill premises as an analytical tool.

The result of this research is a mindfulness concept of asset which includes asset as want, asset as need, and asset as blessing. The variation meaning of assets are formed due to events, experiences, or incident both physically and spiritually which ultimately make humans adapt to form self-awareness. They contemplate and finally make their own choices of happiness. At that point, humans are truly at a turning point without going through the assessment of mind. Only a sense of divinity on their heart. Because basically having assets is a mandate entrusted by God to humans so that assets are not the ultimate goal of the pursuit of happiness, but having sufficient and blessings asset will bring people to a sense of peace and gratitude. In essence, humans will seek happiness towards the meaning of life. The mindfulness concept of asset is expected to change the mindset of most people that assets are accumulated not for want but need and blessing. Having sufficient assets are a way to achieve God's blessing and bring humans to the meaning of life that leads to true happiness.

INTRODUCTION

In International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), assets are defined as resources controlled by the enterprise as a result of past events and from which future economic benefits are expected to flow to the enterprise. From this definition, it could be seen that assets are symbolized by economics (Martínez-toledano, 2017; Strunz, 2012; Córdova, 2009). Economics are symbolized by the wealth of the company. So that it is commonplace when companies pursue profit to accumulate company asset. Therefore, it is not wrong because the assumption used by modern accounting is homo economicus. Humans as creatures who are indeed pursuing economic benefits which include money and other economic materials (Sitorus et al., 2017; Gintis, 2000). So it is very natural when humans will pursue assets and accumulate wealth throughout their lives.

On the other hand, the concept of asset becomes wrong if humans ultimately make assets as an endless material pursuit when they work. So does the companies. The mindset of profit only enriched the company without thinking about employees and even the environment. Their mindset is money (material) ignoring the feelings such as love, compassion, peace, happiness and even the sense of divinity on their heart. Those feelings must be in humans because basically humans are spiritual beings [6]. Humans are creatures created by God with all those feelings. Those feelings seem to be closed or lost when humans only think about material things, namely how to accumulate as much wealth as possible while working. Sometimes, even ethics are violated just for a word namely "asset" (money).

If it is analogous to the hedonic treadmill theory, the pursuit of any amount of assets will never increase human happiness. Their happiness will always be neutral. Their experience, both bad or happy in getting these assets, are only temporary. And in the end, humans will never be able to find true happiness.

This research is urgent to do because the current concept of assets will change the human mindset that assumed assets as material [7]. Moreover, human could assume assets as their goal to reach happiness. In fact, a hedonistic lifestyle leads to pseudo happiness [8] Therefore, it is necessary to

construct a new alternative concept of assets that could bring people to a new mindset of asset not only material but also mental and spirituality that brings humans to their nature as spiritual beings [9]. By this new concept of assets, their pursuit of having assets is not just material which be able to bring the happiness but non-material side which might possibly give them true happiness (Walther et al., 2016; Holder et al., 2010)

To support the statement above, this study uses a revised-hedonic treadmill theory to be able to see humans more holistically in which the theory said that happiness is not neutral but happiness could change according to the set point of humans themselves. The varying of happiness meaning will be studied related to the phenomenon that have occurred in the banking community in Indonesia in this case study.

In Indonesia, a phenomenon occurred and caused a lot of "shock" in the banking world when many bank employees resigned when they had reached a high position in the bank, namely Managers (MGR), Assistant Vice Presidents (AVP), and Vice President (VP) (anonym). Of course, to reach that position they need a long working time and go through a long process. But the emphasis is not how long process to get their position but the emphasis is on the fact that they must have a high salary and a lot of assets on their position. The question is "why did they leave it? Their job is their assets, isn't it? As we know that banks provide many assets in the form of salaries, incentives, bonuses, health facilities, soft loans, credit cards and so on to support their positions.

Recent years, resignation is currently "popular" in the banking world in Indonesia and it is still ongoing today (anonym). What do assets mean to them? What are they really after? Reflecting on the above phenomenon, this study tries to look deeper into the meaning of assets not only from an economic perspective but also from a non-economic perspective. By using the assumption that humans are not just homo economicus but humans are creatures of God who have a heart and soul that could not be measured from just economic needs, the emphasis of this research is on the construction of the concept of assets by assuming humans holistically beyond homo economicus. Humans who have non-economic needs for their souls.

Why should the concept of asset be

constructed? When the concept of assets is seen not only from an economic perspective but also from a non-economic perspective, the company and the people in it will change their mindset of assets. Companies do not just think about getting profit, even by justifying all means such as exploiting employees and nature, creating a company system that suppresses employees and so on just to accumulate assets. Companies must also think about their people, their workers, who are the most important assets in the company, and also the natural environment around them. By assuming humans as holistic beings who have a physical body and soul, it will generate a new mindset of what "asset" actually is for the company.

Research on assets on the economy is mostly done by researchers. Research on the meaning of assets is also carried out such as heritage assets (Hull & Ewart, 2020) and assets associated with family business (Denison et al., 2004; Morck, Randall; Yeung, 2003), asset acquisition is associated with organizational behavior and culture (Beckmann et al., 2008; Fernandes, 2018), assets are associated with moral hazard (Brown & Davies, 2017), some have tried the construction of assets to the system, monetary and other economic crisis (Geromichalos et al., 2007; Borio & Lowe, 2002). Research on assets related to spiritual (James et al., 2012), and culture (Beckmann et al., 2008) is also still rare. The research is still examining the influence of spiritual and cultural on assets, not for construction purposes. This study focuses on constructing the concept of assets. For that reason, this study provides a new perspective on constructing concept of assets beyond not only assets that provide economic benefits but also assets as wealth that provides spiritual benefits in the future which will flow to the company and employees.

A mindfulness concept of assets is expected to be an alternative concept of assets that can raise awareness in companies, especially humans, not to always symbolize assets as company assets that only provide economic benefits to the company. By positioning assets as assets owned by companies that are economic and non-economic, in this case the spiritual side, it is hoped that assets are not only assets that are controlled to satisfy one's own envy who indulge in the lustful side of human beings (hedonism) but also assets as resources controlled

in accordance with religious teachings. When humans can control assets according to religious teachings, humans become the happiest humans in this world and the hereafter. Humans are not 'slaves' to assets, but humans are those who control assets to achieve true happiness.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Assets Based on Accounting Standard (IFRS)

Asset according to IFRS is a resource controlled by the entity as a result of past events and is expected to provide economic benefits in the future. This definition becomes true when humans are assumed to be homo economicus, namely humans as economic beings who behave rationally so that their behaviour and activities always take into account the economic benefits (profit/money) to be obtained. Basically, humans always want to meet their needs rationally to achieve prosperity. In addition, humans also have a desire to meet their want. Humans use various rational ways to achieve prosperity.

Therefore, humans, as homo economicus, will always pursue assets to achieve happiness. The assets are still focused on the material, namely those that could provide economic benefits in the future. It means that economic benefits are what they pursue to achieve happiness. Everything that brings profit/money is what they call an asset. Therefore, it is a natural thing when they pursue assets as if humans never stop because basically humans are creatures who are never satisfied.

Assets, Hedonic Treadmill Theory, Revised-Hedonic Treadmill and *Homo Spiritualist*

The hedonic treadmill theory said that when humans pursue assets as if they are running on a treadmill, they run more and more to pursue what they want but their happiness does not increase, and neutral. There is no happiness increases related with the increasing of assets. The theory also states that various kinds of experienced by individuals, whether sad or happy experiences are only temporary because humans will return to a neutral point.

It could be true if this theory assumes humans as homo economicus who are always material-oriented and ignore the feeling. Whereas, humans

have feelings, and souls in addition to the physical body. Therefore, the revised-hedonic treadmill theory appears. The theory said that humans do not stop at a neutral point, but humans adapt to all the incident and their experience. It means that the happiness is changing, not neutral. Every human being could change their happiness according to each individual.

Associated with the assumption that humans are homo spiritualists who emphasize that humans are spiritual beings who have spirit within themselves so happiness is not only to meet material needs but also the need of soul or spirit. When the physical and non-physical dimensions are met, true happiness will be created.

Revised-Hedonic Treadmill Theory and Mindfulness

Revised-hedonic treadmill stated that 5 important revisions to the treadmill model are required. First, individual set points are not hedonic neutral. Second, people have different set points, which depend in part on their temperament. Third, one person may have multiple happiness set points. Different components of well-being such as pleasant emotions, unpleasant emotions, and life satisfaction may move in different directions. Fourth, and perhaps most importantly, well-being set points could change under some conditions.

From the theory above, it could be concluded that each individual has a different set point for happiness and it could change in several conditions. Changes in a person's happiness in a different condition certainly could not be separated from the awareness of each individual (Sugiura & Sugiura, 2018; Ericson et al., 2014; Clark, 2008). The changing is an awareness which humans adapt to a condition. Mindfulness determine their goals which could change from the initial goal to other happiness set point. Of course, awareness is the result of a process of adaptation in a state of mind that focuses on recognizing what is being felt in the present moment, without going through judgment (Editor, 2020) That's mindfulness. At a certain point, humans will change their concept of happiness because they have already reached the point of mindfulness which not only involves the mind but also feels the senses in the heart without taking sides and judgments. Everything flows according to the consciousness of each individual.

Assets, Mindfulness, The Meaning of Life and True Happiness

Actually, the purpose of human life in this world is to achieve happiness. The pursuit of assets, accumulating assets is actually a human way to achieve happiness. Human nature always wants to meet all needs and desires. It ultimately leads humans to the endless pursuit of assets. The hedonic treadmill theory said that humans experience good and bad incident temporarily affect happiness, but people quickly adapt back to hedonic neutrality. So it could be concluded that any individual efforts to increase happiness will be useless because the level of happiness will not increase. The theory may be true when humans do not have awareness within themselves so that humans will continue to pursue these assets like running on a treadmill which happiness does not increase. The faster they chase assets, of course, the good or bad incidents go through will affect happiness. Ultimately, there will be no increase in happiness because their goal is to pursue material things.

Humans have consciousness in themselves. Revised-hedonic treadmill said that humans will not stop at one point but they could be a set of different component points of happiness when interpreting happiness. Therefore, when they are faced with a point which their happiness is neutral, then by their awareness, it is very possible that person will change other points of happiness that could bring them to true meaning and happiness. The mindfulness and focus on what their real purpose in the world will bring humans to a meaningful life that does not only aim at the accumulation of assets (materials) but also involves feeling, soul and spirituality in themselves [24]. When humans with full awareness have set a "new" goal as a result of their adaptation to all incidents, then and that point humans reach what is called true happiness (Bajaj et al., 2018; Bellin, 2015)

RESEARCH METHODS

Using postmodernism paradigm with constructionism approach in case study design: Integrating the Sciences of Accounting Disciplines with Psychology to Construct a New Concept of Assets

This study uses a postmodernism paradigm with constructionism approach which the research

uses the theory of the revised-hedonic treadmill to analyze a phenomenon that occurs in a case study research design. The integration of psychology sciences into the concept of assets in accounting will construct a new alternative concept of asset that could answer the phenomenon that occur in society.

Collecting Data

Empirical data were collected through in-depth interviews using participant observation in which researchers blended in and entered into the research so that the data obtained could be assured of reliability and validity. The framework of interview consists of the meaning of asset, form of assets, purpose having assets, economic benefit provided, sense of having asset, the shifting of the meaning of asset. The key informants include 21 bank employees in Indonesia spread across state banks, private banks and international banks are classified based on the following groups:

- a. Group 1 consist of active employees who work for a period of 1-7 years with the positions of Assistant (ASST) and Assistant Manager (AMGR).

- b. Group 2 consist of active employees who work for 8-15 years with a Manager (MGR) position.
- c. Group 3 consist of 5 active and former employees who work with 15 years above with 5 Assistant Vice President (AVP) and Vice President (VP) positions.

This groups are classified based on grade, position, and working period with skills, experiences and incident experienced at work so it is hoped humans already have the maturity to decide for themselves independently [26]

This groups are not made based on age and gender because maturity in deciding is not based on age and gender [27]

The selection of key informants was not done randomly but was chosen purposively in order to be able to represent in providing valid data as the purpose of the selection.

Information: ASST abbreviation of Assistant, AMGR is Assistant Manager, MGR is Manager, AVP is Assistant Vice President, and VP is Vice President. The banks in Indonesia used this for grade of positions.

Table 1. Informants Based on Grade and Working period

No	Group	Grade	Working period	Total
1	Group 1	ASST, AMGR	1-7 years	9
2	Group 2	MGR	8 -15 years	7
3	Group 3	AVP, VP	>15 years	5
Total Bank Employees				21

Empirical data obtained from the interviews will be collected and constructed based on the framework of the premises of revised-hedonic treadmill.

Data Analysis

The data analysis included steps below:

1. Grouping data according to key informants' perceptions of assets so that meaning of assets is formed.
2. Meaning of assets are grouped based on the purpose of having assets.
3. Then, the results of the meaning assets that have been formed in number 2 are regrouped based on the sense of having assets.
4. The results of meaning of assets in number 3 are regrouped based on human awareness
5. Then, the results of the meaning of assets

in column 4 are regrouped based on the level of happiness that arises in the sense of informants.

6. The results of the meaning of assets in number 5 were analyzed using the framework of the premises of revised-hedonic treadmill.
7. Constructing a new concept of asset based on Revised-hedonic treadmill theory.
8. Comparing the new concept of asset to the existing modern asset concept.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Asset: Needs, Wants or Blessing?

Human pursues profit to accumulate the assets. Similar to banking businesses, one of the most important things for a bank is how to get a maximum profit. All bank employees must work

to achieve it. They try to achieve the highest profit. Of course, the result of their achievement used to accumulate their assets. Then, to what extent will the pursuit of asset accumulation end? will the pursuit stop when they already have abundant assets? But what is the measure of that abundance? Then, when they have these assets, how do they feel? Happy? or are there other feelings that arise? Don't humans chase something in their life just for happiness. As explained above human as God's creatures consist of material and non-material body. Human was created not only as a piece of flesh and blood (body), but also have sense (psycho) and soul.

In this study, empirically it was found that Group 1 interpreted assets as wants which assets are considered as resources that will provide economic benefits in the future so that they will pursue these assets according to their desires (lust). Assets are identical with satisfaction in themselves, their social status in their community, as well as long term investment. All of which lead to the accumulation of as much material (assets) which is controlled by lust (hedonism). The sense of satisfaction, pride and pleasure when they receive social recognition from their social status is what they feel when they have these abundant assets.

Empirically, A lust for meeting the needs is "facilitated" by banks where they work. It is not a public secret that banks in Indonesia provide facilities to their employees in the form of soft consumptive loans for buying vehicles, houses, or other consumptive needs. Informant 1, one of HRD staff in AAA Bank said that this soft loan is given to permanent employees with a certain service period in which the amount of the soft loan is adjusted to their salary level. Soft loans can be taken repeatedly if they meet the soft loan agreements that have been set. Usually, it is in the form of a specified salary percentage. So, basically the more salaries, the more soft-loans given by banks. As revealed by informant 2 who was recently appointed a head of Customer Relationship Manager,

"This is the second time for me to get a soft loan. The first one was used for buying a house in which I live in now. For the second soft loan, I plan to buy land to build a boarding house. Its prospect for this business is good. The income for this business could be a passive income."

Based on the statement, it is clear that the primary need for housing is no longer as the basic need which is really needed for a place to live in, but rather to a lust to invest and to get money. Similar to Informant 1, Informant 2 also has a lust motivation in the beginning of his work as disclosed:

"At first my motivation to work was the income and experience ... I didn't realize that I had worked for 11 years. I moved from one bank to another just to find a higher and higher salary. Just for money! . I was in four different banks, more or less for 11 years, also in the credit unit. It is the most important part of the unit in the bank!"

The pursuit of accumulated asset seemed to be endless. He was himself a "jumping bug" moving from one bank to another just to pursue a higher income. It is all about money. Even they have much asset but it could make him stop to accumulate asset.

Then Group 2 interpreted assets as needs. They pursue assets because the assets are used to meet their needs. The amount of assets they pursue is adjusted to their needs. There are senses of peace in their heart when they have sufficient assets according to their needs. That is what they feel. Moreover, empirically, they feel if they have abundant assets, it must have been any consequences such as the fear of losing assets, a sense of anxiety, a sense of belonging. The feeling made them uncomfortable and for them it is a "cost". Therefore, they feel it is better not accumulating assets abundantly but pursuing as sufficient as according to their needs. Actually, they could afford it if they want, but they are more concerned with the feeling within themselves. The peace of life is more important than thinking about "the cost". In this case they are more able to control their lust than Group 1, not to follow their desires in pursuing assets. Simplicity reflected in this group within the company.

But empirically, after in dept interview, it was found that the actual meaning of asset as a need did not just stay, it was found that before working at a bank they interpreted assets as a need as stated as follows:

"Before I became a bank employee, I was quite satisfied when eating at a simple restaurant

on the roadside or shaving my hair in a simple barber place near my boarding house. But three months after working as a bank employee, I felt ashamed when I had to eat and shave my hair at the usual place. I Feel embarrassed! What is wrong with me!”

I also interviewed some informants. They admitted that they have also “changed” their behavior when he worked in bank. One of the informants expressed:

“There is a feeling of shame when I have to visit my customers whose savings balance is above 1 billion rupiahs by motorcycle. It looks like I’m not a professional. It was the reason why I have to buy a car.”

The statement shows that when he come to a bank and become a bank employee, there is a “changing” behavior. He who used to live in simplicity, as he is, then turned into a person who feels ashamed when he looks a “simple” person as he used to.

The last is Group 3, it was also found that there were several informants who interpreted asset is not only assets as needs or wants that prioritized material and physical (psychological) feelings. Group 3 interpreted assets as blessings. They will pursue these assets when they think the assets are indeed halal fortune that brings them to peace and tranquility of soul, and a sense of divinity. Halal for them is when the asset is obtained in the way of God’s command. Therefore. they do not pursue the amount of material (amount) but they pursue the assets to seek God’s blessing. They are even willing to leave abundant assets if they think that the assets obtained are not in accordance with their religion. This action did without considering “what they will eat tomorrow”. There is a trust in their religious teachings that God will give fortune if they obey what God ask. Just leave it without any rational thought. The reason is only one namely they are afraid to die by having assets that are not blessed by God and not in accordance with religious teachings as one informant said:

“One reason I resign form my AVP position in the bank cause I trust that God will give the fortune more if they leave something

because of God. Well, it’s hard if we want to live an anti-mainstream life like this. There must be a contradictory. But the prophet Muhammad SAW had a message, “Surely if you leave something because of Allah, surely Allah will replace you with something better. And for me, this is certain and clear. Starting in 2016, I focus on finding a blessed life. Focus on finding halal sustenance starting from zero. We only live once, so live only those you like and believe to be meaningful.”

Almost the same with above statement, the other informant who resign from his work in bank as VP position also tell about his submissiveness to God for his fortune as he said,

“...right now, I live off chicken porridge stall. The income (money) is far less than that when working at the bank. Learning from my life experience so far, I currently have another definition of the term “working” which is different from the definition of humans in general. The definition of working on humans is generally “doing something to get money”. So if one doesn’t get money from what he does then people don’t think he is “working”. Now if we believe that fortune comes from God and our goal is to work to take fortune from God, and then there is a volunteer who helps others with sincerity, do you think God does not count his “working”? ... I think it’s impossible. What if there is someone who chants the *Adhan* in the Mosque, would God not count him that he was “working”? I think it’s impossible. So right now I don’t want to limit the term of work to myself, whatever I can do as long as it is in the blessings of God, I will do it, whether it brings money or not. What I should make sure is whether the working is in God’s blessing or not. Going to meet invitations around the region for attending bank gathering is now my job. Even I had to spend my own funds, but it doesn’t matter. For me running a porridge stall business is part of my efforts to make a fortune. I am sure that when I went around the area at that time, God was welcoming people to come to my chicken porridge place”.

According to Group 3, a sense of peace when having assets, whether much or little, is God’s

prerogative to give them. The point is that they pursue assets only to seek the blessing of God. Everything is aimed at blessing. This sense of peace, a sense of being close to God is what they feel when they have these assets as the informant said,

“I currently run a clothing business and this is not the job or business that I wanted to pursue at first. But my small family and I can live off my business... this is my way to open a fortune. Until now, despite losing a high salary from my previous job at the bank, Alhamdulillah I can fulfill all the needs. Although not all desires can be satisfied. I am sure that for

people who are still given the opportunity to live and breathe, God will give their fortune no matter how many or few. it's God's prerogative. This is what makes me believe in my current condition. I'm sure I can overcome all the problems in my life by leaning my life to God.”

They believe in God. God will give the fortune more if they leave something because of God. Connectedness with God occurs because they sacrifice, submissiveness and belief in God. Empirically, based on the interviews above, there are others meaning of assets besides material as table below:

Table 2. Meaning of Assets

No.	Group	Meaning of Assets	Form of Assets	Amount	The Purpose of Having Assets
1	Group 1	Assets as Wants	Material	As much as they want	To meet the lifestyle, social status and future investment
2	Group 2	Assets as Needs	Material	As needed	To meet their needs sufficiently, invest in the future based on their own's resources
3	Group 3	Assets as Blessing	Halal Material	More concerned with blessings than amount	To get blessings

Asset, Economic Benefits and Happiness: Plus, Zero or minus?

Assets and economic benefits are indeed inseparable in accounting, and so are in human life. Naturally, the reason of the company having resources is expected to provide economic benefits in the future. So it could be said that the more assets, the more economic benefits. Even in a broader context, it could be interpreted that assets are symbols of wealth.

In the same thing when humans or even companies accumulate assets, actually to what extent, assets could provide economic benefits to both companies and individuals. From the empirical results, it was found that when assets increased, it was found that the economic benefits could be plus, zero, even minus. How could it be happened? Empirically, for the Group 2, when they add assets, the economic benefits will increase (positive) because the resources were changed in the form of other assets such as cash changes into securities, shares, houses and buildings or other forms of investment. It could generate passive income.

For the Group 1, assets are due to hedonism. The desire to accumulate assets as much as possible is not enough by shifting in the form of assets as the Group 2 did. Empirically, it is found that they increase their assets by applying for loans. They used their cash such as salaries, bonuses etc to pay loan instalments as the informant said,

“Every month I receive a salary. Not only salary but also incentives as well. A lot of money actually, but the money disappears before the end of the month. Many expenditures must be paid monthly, such as housing installments, credit card installments, etc. So, I have to be able to get more and more incentives for the following month in order to meet my daily needs.”

It means that assets increase as debt increases. therefore, this is what causes the economic benefits could be zero or even minus. Zero if the economic benefits generated are equal to the costs. But it could be a minus if economic benefits are less than the cost which is used to pay off their debts. The lifestyle wrapped for reasons of their soft loan

facilities made them trapped in a cycle of fulfilling endless accumulate assets. The increasing want are difficult to control. They are already trapped in them. The more asset, the more cost. Lifestyle and consumptive behavior seem to follow accumulated assets. They will never be satisfied with how much asset they get.

Then, the Group 3 interpret assets as blessings. The economic benefits can flow positively, zero, or minus depending on the fortune given by God. The main point is not on the amount of assets or even economic benefits but more towards a sense of peace of having halal assets whatever the amount as the informant said,

“When I reached the peak of my career, I felt empty, due to the fact, that a high salary, luxury facilities, unlimited insurance, many bonuses were not able to eliminate anxiety from his heart. I just realized that the spiritual side needs attention. And get this after leaving my job [resigned]. It was a great relief because I believed I had done the right thing and now I had the freedom to determine my own destiny, live with my own rules, and improve religious knowledge.”

Then, when they have a lot of assets, how do they feel? Are having a lot of assets as their “dreamed” goals? What do triggers them? From group 2 and group 3 it is clear that asset accumulation is not the main goal but they focus more on the sense. For the Group 2, Assets provide a sense of peace because the accumulation of assets is adjusted to their needs and they can control their desires. As well as Group 3, having assets gives a sense not only peace, but also gratitude and blessing because they believe that their assets are obtained from the halal source in a way of God. The accumulation of their assets intended to obtain blessings.

Then what about the Group 1, is it true that accumulating as much assets as possible as their goal in life? From the results of the interview, it was found that the desire to accumulate assets increased when the work environment indirectly “forces” them to always be “in line or more” with the appearance of their colleagues, customers, and other friends. There is a feeling of shame when they look “simple” in their environment as the informant said,

“When I was at the Assistant Level, I didn’t have any contacts with many customers. Having a motorcycle is enough for me at that time, but now I am placed in the Priority Customer Service Section with savings over 1 billion rupiahs, and I think I have to buy a car. On working hours, I always utilize the official car. But, on a weekend sometimes there is an event with a customer that I have to meet. For this purpose, I have to use my own car.”

Moreover, the soft loan facility triggers them to accumulate assets over and over again. Behind it all, they admit that their high salary at the same time run out to pay for any soft loans that support their lifestyle as the informant said,

“Every month I receive a salary. Not only salary but also incentives as well. A lot of money actually, but the money disappears before the end of the month. Many expenditures must be paid monthly, such as housing installments, credit card installments, etc. So, I have to be able to get more and more incentives for the following month in order to meet my daily needs.”

So, it is clear that the economic benefits of their assets are never enough to fulfill a hedonistic and consumptive lifestyle even though salary incentives, and other sources are already high. Soft loans seem to be their lifestyle routine for accumulating assets. In fact, higher salary would increase their want to follow consumptive lifestyle. So there is no sense of peace in their hearts. How to pay off their loans and applying more and more new loans are “cost”. It made them never feel the peace of life as the informant said,

“...Unpleasant conditions damaged my mind and caused my health to decline dramatically. I was often sick until finally I decided to leave the office and resign, I let go of my burden. Now my income is only from my chicken porridge stall business in Yogyakarta. It makes peace of mind, physical health, more productive. I have less income [money], but I feel happier and more peaceful possibly, because I have more free time to worship. I feel the quality of my worship has improved. I usually use my time to repent of what I have done before,

the quantity and quality of my worship has increased, very different from before. Really, I feel the difference!”

The other informant also explained that he felt anxious within his heart even after he got the highest position and huge material income as described,

“I was placed in Singapore. It was just like a dream that I had imagined in my childhood. Really, I was so happy. My family and I lived in a condominium near the city center with exceptional facilities. I worked in branches in Asia such as Pakistan, India, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia and Jakarta. I was paid thousands of dollars of salary; you can imagine how much money I got! I was flying Singapore Airlines, sitting in a Business Class seat, sleeping in a five-star hotel, etc. All of them were normal things for me at

that time, but somehow at the same time, I felt completely empty, even though various pleasant life facilities were given to me. I felt empty, something was missing in me, maybe because I didn't think a lot of religion. Maybe this is also guidance [*hidayah*] coming to me...”

A lifestyle could change someone's life especially related with the social status. Meeting needs is no longer a matter of achieving basic needs as expressed by Maslow, but rather has become wants (lifestyle). The desire to accumulate assets will be followed by some loans. Besides, there was a feeling of emptiness that touched the informant's the spiritual side coming from feelings of confusion, discomfort, and many others. They felt that all the income, position, and enjoyment could not get rid of these feelings. The more assets, the more “cost” paid. Empirically, it could be concluded as table below,

Table 3. Meaning of Assets, Economic Benefit, and Sense of Having Asset

No	Meaning of Assets	Economic Benefit Provided	Sense of having assets
1	Assets as wants	Positives, zero, negatives	A sense to accumulate assets over and over again. Lust controls desire
2	Asset as needs	Positives	A sense of sufficiency, a sense of peace in accordance with the resources they have. Already able to control between lust and want
3	Assets as blessing	Positives, zero, negatives depending on the fortune that Allah has given	A sense of peace, gratitude, a sense of sufficiency, a sense of blessing because they believe that their assets are obtained from halal sources according to religious teachings. Lust is controlled by the heart.

Variation Meaning of Assets: Starting from a Sense and process of adaptation and contemplation

Starting from the phrase expressed by Descartes, the famous French philosopher who said that “I think, then I exist” proves that human existence is shaped by their thoughts. Mind could determine what kind of human being he wants to be. Mind make up a person's self-concept. Then the question is how a mind can determine a person's self-concept? As neuroscience said that the mind will be formed when something is received by the five senses, for example the eye sees something, the nose smells something, the skin feels something, the heart feels pain, etc.

Neuroscience also said that humans are made up of brains, passions and hearts. The perception is the work of the brain, lust and heart. It is

impossible for a person to form a perception when they have never heard, seen or even experienced the experiences that eventually led them to their current self-concept. To make it clearer, let me give an example, someone who has been burned by a fire, he will definitely not want to approach the fire without protection. This means that the person with full awareness will learn from their experiences. And finally, humans perceived and made their self-concept with full awareness.

Reflecting on the explanation above, the researcher tried to conduct in-depth interviews with informants related to the meanings that arise from assets. Researchers want to know whether these meanings occur spontaneously or need a very long journey of human consciousness to made up the meaning. When it is associated with human

nature who always wants to pursue material, the meaning of Group 2 and Group 3 becomes a big question for researchers.

Through in-depth interviews, it was found that group 2 who interpreted assets as a need turned out to have been in group 2 who always pursued assets and accumulated assets. With the passage of time, of course, the experience and feeling that they always feel blessing such as they are being chased by debt, they are wary of all kinds of feelings of anxiety, made them control themselves by using assets as needs as the informant said,

“My *“hijrah”* does not end here. My current happiness is not enough to atone for all my past sins. I always imagine how many people suffer because of my decision at work. What I can do now is repent to God for all the work I have done before. The porridge business that I do now is still experiencing ups and downs and I think that is one of God’s ways to “wash away” my sins in the past. Alhamdulillah, I sincerely accept everything with gratitude. I was still given the opportunity to *“hijrah”* before leaving this world forever.”

That is their turning point. There is a shift meaning of asset from wants to needs. There is a sense of happiness when they could determine their self-concept. A natural desire to accumulate assets could be controlled by the heart and finally form a sense of contentment and a sense of peace in themselves.

Then what about Group 3 who interpret assets as blessings? How could a human being form a self-concept without thinking about how many assets they have but blessing? Is it right blessing is the purpose of their life? Weird? At first, I was also surprised, but after going through in-depth interviews with informants, I found that meaning arises when they feel the fear of death, the emptiness of their souls in the midst of their abundant assets and spiritual experiences. Through in-depth interviews, it was also found that those feelings emerged when they went through what the Group 2 felt as the informant said,

“...At that time, I felt very guilty of persuading this customer to use the loan. Even though

I knew exactly that later, it would trap the customer with interest. At that time, I envisioned the incentives I got as a result of achieving my loan Targets. I had many incentives because the nominal loan is 7 billion Rupiahs. Can you imagine how much I got? a lot of money! This made me realize that there were so many tears behind my incentive. I felt so guilty. Because of me, so many tears and sweat of customers who are stuck in loan interest.” What about me if I die now? Full of sin! I was very scared! [crying...]. What was on my mind at the time was how to leave work. That’s all! I was afraid what if I died suddenly and I was still struggling with that job. That made me feel guilty. It was more painful, wasn’t it?”

The same thing was said by Mr. Yudi about the concept of his fortune,

“Well, it’s hard if we want to live an anti-mainstream life like this. There must be a contradictory. But the prophet Muhammad SAW had a message, “Surely if you leave something because of Allah, surely Allah will replace you with something better. And for me, this is certain and clear. Starting in 2016, I focus on finding a blessed life. Focus on finding halal sustenance starting from zero. We only live once, so live only those you like and believe to be meaningful.”

The other informant said that,

“It was the most painful and hurtful experience during my long years working at the bank. Feelings of guilt and sin became stronger when I thought and imagined how many people suffered because of my decision [taking a deep breath]. I felt excited when I started my pilgrimage to Mecca and had a spiritual experience in Medina. My anxiety increased and got worse.”

The fear of death, the emptiness of the soul and the spiritual experience made a self-concept of fortune dilemma which they had to choose. Through a process of long contemplation, they

finally realize with full awareness that all the feelings lead them to the question “what exactly are they looking for? What is their purpose in life on earth?

Could assets bring them to happiness? As explained in the following table:

Table 4. The Shift of Variation Meaning of Assets and Human Consciousness

No	The Journey of senses	Human consciousness	The Shifting the meaning of assets
1	Physical discomfort that turns into a desire to live a more peaceful life	Psychological Consciousness	The shift from Assets as Want into Assets as Need
2	Spiritual discomfort turns to fear of death, soul emptiness, and spiritual experiences	Psychological and Spiritual Consciousness	The shift of meaning could be: 1. The shift from Assets as Wants into Assets as Blessing. 2. The shift from Assets as Want into Asset as Need

Revised-Hedonic Treadmill Theory as a Tool to Design a New Concept of Asset

In this research, the revised hedonic treadmill is used as a tool to design a new asset concept. As a tool, this theory is used to answer social phenomena that occur which assets are interpreted in a broader context. Empirically, it was found that there was a shift in the purpose of having assets, which were initially pursued as wants, shifted to the goal of assets as needs and blessing. So that the resources owned not only provide economic benefits related to the nominal amount but also provide psychological and spiritual feelings such as a sense of sufficiency, a sense of peace and gratitude.

Revised-hedonic treadmill theory is a theory that explains the human pursuit of happiness. In this study, researchers relate asset ownership with happiness. Modern accounting that assumes humans as homo economicus which humans as economic creatures who work hard to pursue assets to provide happiness are empirically refuted (Mogilner & Norton, 2016; Matz et al., 2016). Economic assets do not guarantee a person's happiness. To make it easier to answer the phenomenon, a framework that contains the integration of concept of asset in accounting and the concept of the revised-hedonic treadmill is made. The integration of these two different disciplines consist of premises to make it easier to conduct the analysis. The premises include the following:

- Humans pursue assets to achieve happiness (Premise 1)
- The meaning of happiness for each individual varies (Premise 2)
- The concept of happiness is not neutral (Premise 3)

- The concept of happiness could change over time during the pursuit of assets and humans adapt (Premise 4)
- Human adapt to incident or experiences happened physically or non-physically (spiritual experience) that involve sense (Premise 5)
- The result of adaptation is a form of self-awareness that changes the mindset of the initial goal of pursuing assets. (Premise 6)
- The change in the pursuit of assets is a turning point for humans towards a higher meaning of happiness (Premise 7)

Mindfulness Concept of Asset: A Construction Based on the Revised-Hedonic Treadmill Theory

From general perspective, assets are a symbol of prosperity and happiness. Therefore, humans pursue assets to achieve happiness (premise 1). In modern accounting, assets are resources owned by humans or companies that could provide economic benefits in the future. This statement implies that resources that do not provide economic benefits in the future do not called as assets. In this case, assets are still interpreted as material (money). Asset is identic with amount, nominal or money. In the other words, the more amount of assets owned by humans or companies, the happier the owner will be. Is it really like that?

It was found empirically that the nominal/ amount of assets does not necessarily indicate happiness. It could be seen in the table above which concludes that the more assets they have owned, there will be a feeling of anxiety, fear of losing their assets and any other fear feelings. They called it is a “cost” for them that decrease their happiness.

On the other hand, those who only have sufficient assets feel happier with the assets they have. Some even ignore how much economic benefit than a sense of gratitude, a sense of peace, and a sense of divinity when having asset in the way of God. So what is exactly individual happiness?

The meaning of happiness for each individual varies (Premise 2). Empirically, it was found that when assets are defined as a need, they are happier with the sense of sufficiency of having assets. But when assets are defined as wants, the feeling of happiness may be temporary. Why is that? when they could not fulfill their desires then there is a sense of disappointment, sadness and so on. On the other hand, when they could get these assets, the pursuit becomes a relentless pursuit which will eventually lead to feelings of never satisfied, greedy and hedonism. Even, they used any way to fulfill their wants. Some of them are better off borrowing to meet their wants. Then if it's like this, is it what is called happiness? On the other hand, when an asset is interpreted as a blessing, individuals feel a sense of peace, gratitude and are always happy with having assets because for them the assets are fortune from God regardless of the amount. There is gratitude in themselves when they have assets.

So what exactly is the concept of happiness? When the meaning of happiness of the individual is at one point, will that happiness continue forever at that point? Or change? As in the revised-hedonic treadmill theory, it is said that the concept of happiness is not neutral (Premise 3). Empirically, it was found that there is a shift in the meaning of assets in individuals (tables 3). From this empirical data, it could be seen that the concept of human happiness always changes over time during the pursuit of assets and humans adapt (Premise 4). These changes could occur because human adapt to incident or experiences happened physically or non-physically (spiritual experience) that involve senses (Premise 5). These incident "force" humans to adapt and contemplate (non-neutral point) what have happened to them. The contemplation finally comes to a question to themselves "what is actually their real purpose in life? what is the real purpose of the pursuit of assets so far? when they adapt and reflect on this, self-awareness is formed and changes the mindset from the initial goal of pursuing asset (premise 6). This self-awareness is what makes the turning point for humans of having assets. The change in the pursuit of assets is a turning point

for humans towards a higher meaning of happiness (premise 7). The empirical results of this study differ from those of the hedonic treadmill theory which says that good events and bad events temporarily affect happiness, but people quickly adapt back to hedonic neutrality. In this study, good and bad events will indeed affect a person's happiness, but humans will adapt to the event not to hedonic neutrality but to a non-neutral point which humans will contemplate, feel the senses in themselves and then change their mindset about the initial goal of pursuing assets. At the time of contemplation, they will feel the senses inside and have a dialogue with themselves and asking to themselves "what is their real purpose in life? Is the pursuit of assets so far appropriate? What exactly are they looking for? The accumulation of assets or is there something else they're after? Self-contemplation involving this feeling is what forms human awareness of their identity. Human consciousness brings to a human turning point. Human consciousness to achieve the highest level of happiness. Gratitude, a sense of peace, always believing in God are manifested in interpreting assets with a sense of sufficient, a sense of peace of having assets. What God has given is blessing. The question is "Is there a higher meaning of happiness than that?"

Mindfulness is a state of mind that focuses on recognizing what you are feeling in the present moment, without going through judgment. Mindfulness concept of assets is a resource owned by humans that emphasizes human awareness that involves a sense of divinity within through contemplation of every event physically and spiritually and forms a turning point for humans in interpreting assets. This concept changes the initial goal of pursuing assets, which were originally assets as wants, shifted to assets as needs and ended up being assets as blessings. The concept of this asset is a concept that emphasizes what is felt without going through the justification of the human mind. Only humans who have mindfulness that bring humans to true happiness.

Essentially, a mindfulness concept of asset consist of asset as wants, assets as needs, and assets as blessing that involved human consciousness physically and spiritually. This concept describes the journey of human consciousness to the level of eternal happiness, namely the happiness of the hereafter. With this concept, it is hoped that it can build human awareness not to have excessive assets

but assets owned to seek God's blessings that will bring humans to the meaning of life that leads to true happiness.

CONCLUSION

A mindfulness concept of assets is a resource owned by humans that emphasizes human awareness formed through adaptation and contemplation of every incident physically and spiritually. The concept consists of variation of meaning of asset namely asset as wants, asset as need, and asset as blessing that brings humans to the different levels of happiness. Happiness could change, not something constant. Humans do not stay at one point, but humans will move to another point in interpreting assets according to the level

of human awareness. Mindfulness bring humans to true happiness.

A mindfulness concept of asset is expected to change the mindset of most people that assets are accumulated not for hedonism, but having assets are a way to achieve God's blessing. Gratitude, a sense of peace, a sense of sufficient, believe in God are manifested in interpreting assets that bring humans to the meaning of life that leads to true happiness.

This study emphasizes the broader concept of assets which is interpreted not only as economically but non-economically. The amount of having assets is not a measure of one's happiness but the emphasis on God's blessings leaves a sense that could not be measured economically.

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