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The Fulfillment of Children's Maintenance Rights in Post-Divorce Families: A Case Study of Dekatagung Village

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Abstract

Objective: This study aims to analyze the implementation of children's maintenance rights in post-divorce families and identify the factors influencing the fulfillment of these rights in Dekatagung Village, Sangkapura District, Gresik Regency, Indonesia. **Theoretical framework:** The study is grounded in the theory of parental responsibility and children's rights, which emphasizes that parents, especially fathers, remain legally and morally obligated to provide financial support for their children despite marital dissolution. **Literature review:** Previous studies have highlighted persistent challenges in child support enforcement, including economic hardship, weak legal compliance, and changing family structures. However, limited research has explored these issues within rural Indonesian contexts through in-depth qualitative investigation. **Method:** This research employed a descriptive qualitative approach using a field study design. Data were collected through in-depth interviews, observation, and documentation involving six mothers who held legal custody of their children following divorce. The data were analyzed through data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing to identify recurring patterns and themes. **Results:** The findings reveal that the fulfillment of children's maintenance rights in Dekatagung Village remains largely inadequate. Only one respondent reported receiving regular child support, while the remaining five experienced irregular payments or no support at all. Several factors contribute to this situation, including the former husband's economic instability, remarriage and shifting priorities, ineffective communication between former spouses, and limited legal awareness and sense of parental responsibility. These conditions indicate a significant gap between legal obligations and actual practice. **Implications:** The study implies the need for stronger collaboration among families, communities, and government institutions to enhance compliance with child support obligations. **Novelty:** The novelty of this research lies in its empirical examination of post-divorce child maintenance practices in a rural Indonesian setting, providing contextual insights into the socio-economic and legal barriers affecting the protection of children's rights.

Keywords: child maintenance, children's rights, divorce, parental responsibility, rural family welfare.

INTRODUCTION

Allah created all things in pairs, including male and female, to pass on offspring [1]. In Islam, marriage and divorce are part of destiny that can be changed through human efforts with Allah's permission. Households are bound to face challenges, and if couples can overcome them, they can achieve a state of sakinah peace and happiness together. However,

if you are unable to resolve the conflict, divorce may be a last resort. Divorce has psychological, social, and economic impacts. Therefore, efforts to introspect, communicate, and forgive each other are essential to prevent divorce and maintain the integrity of the household. However, just as fate can change through effort, divorce can also be avoided if married couples are able to make good efforts, including self-introspection and forgiveness of each other [2].

Marriage is a birth and mental bond between a man and a woman as husband and wife, which aims to form a happy family based on the One Godhead. Husbands and wives are equal partners, having a balanced position in the household and society. Family problems can be resolved through deliberation [3]. However, in reality, many couples are married and easily break the marriage bond due to a lack of agreement in resolving the problem. Although marriage is intended for life, there are certain conditions that cause it to end. Generally, divorce starts from economic problems, which then develop into quarrels, physical violence, and finally divorce [4].

From a religious perspective, divorce is known as talaq, which is the termination of the marital bond that ends the marital relationship. One of the impacts of divorce that needs to be resolved is the fulfillment of child support. As a result of a marriage, children remain the responsibility of the parents. Even if they have been divorced, the parents' obligations to care for and educate the child, including providing support, remain in effect [5].

Subsistence is an individual's living needs according to their conditions and environment, including food, clothing, shelter, and others. Children are still entitled to alimony even if their parents divorce. The obligation of fathers in providing support for their children is recognized in the Qur'an, as-Sunnah, ijma' ulama, and the positive law of Indonesia. Article 105 of the KHI states: (a) a child who has not reached the age of 12 years is in the care of the mother; (b) a child who has reached the age of mumayyiz has the right to choose to live with his or her parents; (c) the cost of child maintenance remains the responsibility of the father [6].

The word nafkah comes from the Arabic al-infaq, which means spending or spending. Alimony is a gift to meet basic needs, such as food, clothing, and shelter. Husbands are obliged to provide support for their wives and children as a form of responsibility in the family [7]. The obligation to provide sustenance is carried out based on the ability of each individual, taking into account the needs and capacity they have in accordance with the prevailing conditions and standards of life [8]. As with marriage, parental divorce has legal consequences for children resulting from the marriage. Either father or mother is still obliged to take care of and educate their children, solely based on the interests of the child. If there is a dispute regarding the custody of the children, the court gives its decision. So the father is responsible for all the necessary maintenance and education costs of the child. If the father is in fact unable to give the obligation, the court can determine that the mother also bears the costs [9].

Based on the provisions of the Marriage Law, the Compilation of Islamic Law (KHI), and referring to the Qur'an and hadith, the obligation to provide child support after divorce is a responsibility imposed on the husband [10]. However, in social reality, the implementation of these obligations in most societies often does not go well or is not fulfilled comprehensively. In reality, many children of divorced couples experience an inability to fulfill the rights they should still have after divorce. The fulfillment of these rights is often hampered by the father's inadequate economic condition to fulfill his child maintenance obligations. In addition to economic factors, there are also other obstacles in fulfilling the rights of children after divorce, such as when the father has formed a new family so that the maintenance obligation is divided with the needs of his new family, and when the father no longer provides news or relationships after the divorce. As has happened in the village of Dekatagung [11].

After a divorce, the fulfillment of alimony is often a problem, especially related to the fulfillment of children's basic rights, such as maintenance costs, education, and other supporting needs. In many cases, fathers as responsible parties tend to ignore these obligations, which can have a negative impact on children's growth and development [12].

A phenomenon that is commonly found in society shows that there are still many parents who are not optimal in carrying out their childcare responsibilities. This phenomenon occurs in the context of talaq and lawsuit divorces. In the divorce process, children are often the most affected, both as a result of the divorce itself and their inability to earn a living. Some of them do not get adequate maintenance, including basic needs and education financing, so the party who has custody of the child must bear all the childcare costs themselves. In this context, mothers, who generally have greater authority over childcare, are often charged with all the responsibility for childcare costs without any contribution or financial responsibility on the part of the father [13].

Parents are still obliged to provide support for their children, which includes basic needs such as clothing, shelter, and other needs, even if the relationship between the two parents has legally ended. This obligation is a form of parental responsibility for the growth and development of children physically and psychologically. Even if there is a divorce between the parents, the obligation of a father to provide for his children remains attached until the child reaches adulthood and can meet his life needs independently [14].

The level of understanding of parents in Dekatagung village regarding rights, especially related to children, is still relatively low. After a divorce, children are the most vulnerable parties to negative impacts, especially in terms of fulfilling their basic rights. In Dekatagung village, there are often cases where children's rights are neglected due to parental divorce. These children's rights include the right to education, maintenance, and facilities to support children's growth and development. Moreover, if the parents have formed their own new families, it is possible to reduce attention and time in taking care of children's rights. Even if the parents are no longer in the same family, the fulfillment of the child's rights remains the responsibility of both parents and cannot be transferred to any other party outside the parents [15].

This research was conducted in Dekagung Village, Sangkapura District, Gresik Regency. To obtain more in-depth information about the topics studied in this study. This study uses a type of field research that is included in the qualitative research category and uses a qualitative descriptive approach. The qualitative descriptive approach is used to provide an overview and obtain a deeper understanding of the social phenomena that occur in the society that is the focus of the research. Therefore, this study uses a qualitative descriptive approach to describe the main phenomenon of this study, namely the practice of child support rights after divorce [16].

LITERATURE REVIEW

Several previous studies have discussed the fulfillment of child support after divorce with different perspectives and focuses, including an article written by Mochamad Nurdin entitled Fulfillment of Children's Rights after Parental Divorce in Cikembar District [17]. Similarities with this research lie in the focus of the discussion, which both raise the theme of child support rights. However, the difference lies in the focus of the study. If Mochamad Nurdin highlights the pattern of fulfilling rights, meanwhile, this study specifically focuses more on the factors that cause the non-fulfillment of child support rights after divorce.

Article edited by Dian Ayu Safitri and Muh. Jufri Ahmad, entitled Parental Responsibility for Child Support After Divorce. The similarity with this study is that they both discuss child support rights, but the difference lies in the focus of the discussion. Dian Ayu Safitri's

research highlights more parental responsibilities in general, while this study focuses on post-divorce child support [18].

The article was written by Rizki Pratama and Azhar, entitled Father's responsibility for child support after divorce in a review of Islamic law and Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Child Protection. The similarity with this study is that both discuss child support, but the difference lies in the focus of its implementation. Rizki Pratama and Azhar's research focuses on fathers' obligations, while this study discusses the implementation of alimony in the field [19].

The article was written by Eni Putri Sari, entitled Fulfillment of Child Support Rights Due to Divorce in Ulu Talo District, Seluma Regency from the perspective of Islamic law. The main difference with this study lies in the location of the research; Eni Putri Sari researched in the Ulu Talo District, while this research was conducted in Dekatagung Village, Sangkapura District, Gresik Regency. Nonetheless, the two have similarities in their focus on child support [20].

Article written by Heppy Hyma Puspytasari with the title Legal Protection in Child Support Payment Due to Divorce. The similarity with this study is that both research on post-divorce child support, but the difference lies in the focus; Their research focuses on legal regulation and child protection, while this research focuses more on the factors that cause non-fulfillment of child support [21].

The novelty of this research lies in the focus of the study on the factors that cause the non-optimal fulfillment of child support after divorce, with a research locus in Dekatagung Village that has never been researched before. Through a field study approach with in-depth interviews and observations, this study presents an overview of the condition of the village community, as well as providing practical contributions in the form of recommendations for the collaboration of families, communities, and the government in ensuring the fulfillment of children's rights [22].

Table 1. This study involved 6 (six) respondents, consisting of mothers or caregivers and those who bear child support in Dekagung village

Subyek	Number of children	Divorce year	Causes of divorce
IW	2	2019	Disharmonious
RS	1	2022	Third parties
IT	1	2024	Disputes and economics
UF	1	2023	Third parties
MT	1	2022	Economy and neglect
FS	1	2020	Economy

This study uses two types of data, namely primary data and secondary data. Primary data were collected directly from primary sources through interview techniques and field observations with 6 families holding child custody, while secondary data came from indirect references, such as articles, scientific journals, relevant previous research results, and websites that discuss the practice of fulfilling child support rights after divorce. The techniques used in data collection were through interviews with child custody holders (wives), fathers, and other family members, and observations at the place where the practice of child support rights took place after divorce. For researchers to ensure that the information is accurate and gain a better understanding of the phenomenon being studied [23].

METHODOLOGY

This research is a field research carried out in Dekatagung Village with a focus on the implementation of the fulfillment of child support rights after divorce. Field research was chosen because it allows researchers to obtain data directly from subjects who experience the phenomenon being studied, so that it can provide a more comprehensive picture of the actual conditions in society. This study uses a qualitative descriptive approach that aims to understand, describe, and analyze in depth various forms of implementation of child support obligations by parents after divorce [\[24\]](#).

The qualitative approach is used because the problems studied are related to experiences, perceptions, and social realities that cannot be quantitatively measured. Through this approach, the researcher seeks to explore in-depth information about the pattern of fulfilling child support, the obstacles faced by the parties, and the impact felt by children and mothers as custody holders. Thus, this research not only focuses on the normative aspects of the law, but also on its implementation in people's daily lives [\[25\]](#).

The data sources in this study consist of primary data and secondary data. Primary data was obtained directly from the main informant through in-depth interviews and field observations. The research informants were six mothers who obtained child custody after divorce. The selection of informants was carried out purposively by considering the relevance of their experiences to the focus of the research. In addition, observations were made to obtain an overview of the social and economic conditions of the family after divorce and the form of fulfillment of the maintenance received by the children [\[26\]](#).

Secondary data were obtained from various written sources relevant to the research theme, such as Islamic family law books, scientific journals, previous research results, official documents, and laws and regulations related to parents' rights and obligations to children. Some of the regulations that are the main reference include Law Number 1 of 1974 concerning Marriage as amended by Law Number 16 of 2019, the Compilation of Islamic Law (KHI), and various other legal provisions that regulate child support after divorce [\[27\]](#).

The data collection technique is carried out through three methods, namely interviews, observations, and documentation. Interviews are used to obtain in-depth information about the informant's experiences and views. Observation is carried out to directly observe conditions related to the fulfillment of child support, while documentation is used to complete data in the form of relevant documents, records, and archives.

Data analysis was carried out qualitatively using an interactive model, which included three stages, namely data reduction, data presentation, and a conclusion drawn. At the data reduction stage, the researcher selects and groups data according to the focus of the research. Furthermore, the data that has been reduced is presented systematically so that it is easy to understand and analyze. The last stage is the drawing of conclusions that are carried out continuously during the research process to produce valid findings, and in accordance with the reality that occurs in the field [\[28\]](#).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Child Support

Child support is an obligation that must be fulfilled by a person to the party who is entitled to receive it, such as the husband's obligation to provide maintenance to his wife and children. Alimony is basically intended to meet basic needs, including food, clothing, and shelter, and can be adjusted according to circumstances and living standards. Poor families and abandoned children also have an obligation to provide for themselves [\[29\]](#).

Parents or guardians are obliged to provide support for their children to meet their basic needs. These needs include nutritional intake, clothing, board, education, health services, and care to support the optimal physical, mental, and emotional growth and development of children. This provision is regulated in Islamic law and other legal systems, which require parents or guardians to ensure the needs of a decent life, as well as optimal protection and care for children. This obligation remains valid even if the marital relationship between the two has ended due to divorce. And it lasts until the child is an adult, financially independent, or in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the applicable laws and regulations.

In the view of Imam Shafi'i, both parents are obliged to provide for their child until the child reaches the age of puberty, boys are marked by wet dreams, and women are marked by menstruation. If a child has felt this, then both parents are no longer obliged to provide for the child [30].

Both parents are obliged to provide for their sons until they reach puberty, are sensible, and can work, while for girls, both parents are obliged to provide for them until they get married and have been interfered with by the husband who married them. A father is obliged to provide for his children because there is a kinship relationship. If a father has more property for himself and his wife, if he has a wife, then he is obliged to give half of his wealth to his children who do not have a job or his children who are not able to finance their lives. And if the child already has a job or can pay for their own living, then the father is not obliged to provide for his child [31].

Marriage Law Number 1 of 1974, as amended by Law Number 16 of 2019, regulates the rights and obligations between parents and children. In Article 45 of the Marriage Law Number 1 of 2019, paragraph (1) states that "both parents are obliged to maintain and educate their children as well as possible", while paragraph (2) emphasizes that "the obligations of parents as referred to in paragraph (1) apply until the child is married or able to stand on his own". This obligation remains attached to both parents, even if they have been divorced [32].

Based on Article 156 letter d of the Compilation of Islamic Law (KHI), the obligation to finance hadhanah and child support is charged to the father, adjusted to his ability, until the child reaches adulthood and can take care of himself, or at most until the child is 21 years old [33].

Because of the Onset of Maintenance Obligations

Reasons for Marriage

Marriage is one of the reasons for the existence of maintenance obligations, because through the marriage contract, a wife is bound to her husband, responsible for raising children, managing the household, and other responsibilities.

Cause of Heredity or Nasab

In the Islamic perspective, the relationship of the nasab is a vertical structure that shows the lineage from generation to generation. The right of obligation arises because of close family relationships as well as the responsibility to provide maintenance, both from the wife and husband to the children and to both parents.

Reasons for Ownership

A person has an obligation to provide sustenance to those in his possession, such as servants and pets, which includes providing food and drink to sustain their survival. If a person refuses to do so, then the judge has the authority to force the person to provide support for the pet or its servant.

Family life after divorce is indeed difficult and will have an impact on the children who grow up in the marriage if they have been blessed with a child [34]. Divorce can have a direct impact on children, one of which is the experience of witnessing the separation of their parents. Children are the first to feel the impact of divorce. Due to the large number of children who grow up in incomplete families, both parents often do not pay full attention to their children's development and growth [35].

In the event of a divorce, a father still has the responsibility to meet the maintenance needs of his children. Divorce does not remove the obligation of a father to provide for his children. A person is obliged to provide support for their children until they reach the age of 21.

Marriage breakdown due to divorce in general also concerns the issue of alimony. A husband who imposes talaq on his wife is still obliged to provide for his children, in the form of maintenance costs and their living needs, in accordance with propriety and ability based on the husband's position.

Regarding the obligation of a father who has neglected to provide for his child, according to the Hanafiyah school and the jurists, it is argued that the child's maintenance is lost due to the passage of time and cannot be considered as a debt, because the father's obligation to provide for the child is aimed at meeting needs. If these needs have disappeared over time, then the maintenance obligation has been lost. Meanwhile, Shafi'iyyah scholars argue that child support is basically not a debt to the father and will fall when the time has passed. However, the alimony can be determined as a debt if it is based on the judge's provisions, because the father is not at home or deliberately does not provide alimony [36].

Efforts that can be made by ex-wives and children so that their rights are fulfilled by the ex-husband or biological father, then the mother can apply for the execution of alimony payments to the Religious Court. This step aims to force the male parent (father) to carry out his obligations. An application for execution against a father who neglects his child support obligations can only be made if the person concerned has property that can be executed. If the father does not have property, then the legal remedy will not be effective because the execution becomes unenforceable. Furthermore, if from the beginning the maintenance costs were not requested by the mother at the time of the examination of the divorce dispute, and then the father did not provide child support, then the mother can file a child support lawsuit against the father to the Religious Court separately from the previous divorce case [37].

Implementation of the Fulfillment of Post-Divorce Child Support Rights in the Village of Dekatagung

Based on interviews with six informants, namely IW's mother (initials), who was a divorced party in Dekatagung village, who was divorced in 2019. The cause of divorce is due to continuous disputes and quarrels. In their marriage, they were blessed with 2 (two) boys who were still under the age of 8 years and 1 year. Mrs. IW said that the divorce was carried out in front of the families of both parties. In addition, both parties agreed that the provision related to the provision of alimony to the abandoned child per month must provide maintenance of Rp. 500,000 (five hundred thousand rupiah) in addition to the education and medical expenses borne by the ex-husband and the child in the care of his mother [38].

According to the confession of Mrs. IW (initial), her ex-husband did not fulfill his obligation to provide child support in accordance with the agreement that had been made. She felt that the ex-husband (father) did not keep the promise that had been agreed upon and was not responsible for their child. IW's mother (initial) once communicated with her ex-husband to ask for alimony obligations for her child, but she only gave a positive response and said yes without any real action. And never proved. Based on the information obtained, the ex-husband has remarried. Therefore, so far, she and her family have borne all the costs,

while her ex-husband and family have not provided assistance in meeting the needs of the children.

The information was obtained through an interview with the hospital's mother, one of the respondents who lives in the hamlet of Laut Sungai, Dekatagung village. Suing her husband for a third party, and was officially divorced in 2022. As a result of the marriage, the couple was blessed with a son who is currently 7 years old. The hospital mother explained that her ex-husband still provides support for her child through an account with a nominal amount of Rp. 1,000,000 (one million rupiah) per month. Even though his parents are divorced, his son often communicates via cell phone via WhatsApp with his father. According to the hospital's mother, she still communicates well with her ex-husband regarding the needs of the children [39].

The results of the interview with the hospital's mother showed that child support rights are the full responsibility of parents, even though the parents have divorced. In the process of growth and development, children have the right to receive care, education, and protection from their parents. In addition to that, children also have the right to get living expenses from their parents and obtain other children's rights. Fathers have the right to continue to pay attention to the growth and development of their children, both physically and spiritually.

Based on the results of an interview with FR's mother, who lives in the village of Dekatagung, who is divorced in 2024. During her marriage, her husband never fulfilled the obligations of maintenance and daily needs to his children and wife, lacked responsibility in the household as the head of the family, and there was no good etiquette as a husband; even the results of work were always given to his parents, and the wife was not given for daily needs. This is one of the main reasons for the wife to file a divorce lawsuit. From the marriage, a son was born who was still 1 year old at the time of this study.

In this case, FR's mother said that after the divorce of her ex-husband, who no longer fulfilled the obligation to provide support for the child she was responsible for, the divorce with the ex-husband occurred when the child was still four months old. After the divorce, the ex-husband no longer carries out his obligations in providing support to his minor child and does not pay attention to the child's maintenance obligations as a father. In an interview, she said that during the marriage, her husband neglected to support his children and wife. At the age of 6 months, the child experienced heat illness and had to be taken to the hospital. At that time, trying to contact her ex-husband to ask for medical expenses and necessities, along with baby supplies such as milk, diapers, and others, has not been successful until now. So far, all the needs of the child have been the responsibility of the mother, grandmother, and grandfather of the mother, as well as their siblings [40], [41].

From this statement, it can be concluded that the father neglected his responsibility in providing maintenance to his children and wife both during the marriage and after the breakup of the marriage.

Based on the results of an interview with UF's mother, who is a divorce victim in Dekatagung village, who was divorced in 2023. The cause of divorce is the involvement of a third party in their household. From this marriage, they were blessed with a male child. Based on information from UF's mother, after the divorce, her ex-husband did not carry out the obligation to provide child support, which is a shared responsibility.

Based on the results of an interview with MT's mother, she divorced her husband in 2022. In his marriage, they had 1 son who was 12 years old and of male sex. They divorced due to disputes and quarrels because the husband never provided support to his wife, and the husband worked as a migrant worker, but since then, he has never returned, and there is no more communication, and he does not care about the wife's children, and abandons his wife and children for 1 year. That is the reason for filing a divorce lawsuit. Based on information from MT's mother, the child is now in the care of her grandmother and grandfather because she has had a new marriage and is with her husband.

In addition, MT's mother also said that regarding post-divorce child support since 2022, the ex-husband has only provided child support only 1 time, which was sent through a bank account with a nominal value of IDR 500,000 (five hundred thousand rupiah). Despite the allowance, the amount received is not sufficient to meet the basic needs of children in daily life. Currently, all the needs of the child are completely the responsibility of the mother and the new husband, because until now, the ex-husband has not provided for the child.

Based on interviews with other respondents submitted by FS's mother, the divorce lawsuit filed by a housewife against her husband was based on the grounds of economic imbalance in the household, which then led to a formal divorce decree in 2020. He said that in his marriage, he was blessed with 1 child who was 17 years old, still in high school. Mrs. FS stated that: "When I officially divorced my husband, my child was the one who provided for me, because since then the ex-husband has never paid for his child. Before deciding to divorce, my husband rarely gave me money for daily needs. However, after a few years of divorce, and then the child wanted to continue his education, only then did my ex-husband give a sum of Rp 200,000 (two hundred thousand rupiah) to help with the child's education costs. Even though the money is a little, I understand because indeed his income is in accordance with his work as a fisherman".

Based on the results of the interview above, a father has neglected his obligation to provide support for his child as long as the child still needs financial support and affection from the father, while his child is not able to earn a living on his own, and is still in the period of studying. Ideally, a husband who has divorced his wife, who already has offspring, must be educated and maintained properly. The role of a father has a very important impact on the growth and education of his children.

Based on the results of the interview, the researcher concluded that many children who were victims of divorce in Dekagung village, after the divorce, did not receive full child support from their father. The researcher conducted in-depth interviews with 6 mothers as child custody holders, namely IW, FR, UF, MT, and FS mothers. From the interviews, it was found that the child's rights and alimony were not fully fulfilled after divorce. The fact that, after divorce, alimony is only given a few times with an amount that is very disproportionate to the needs of the children, some even never provide alimony at all. In addition, communication with children is also not well established, so that the child's non-material needs of the father are not met properly.

Factors that Cause Unfulfilled Child Support After Divorce

Based on the results of interviews conducted by researchers with 6 mothers who have taken care of children after divorce. Researchers found several problems that caused ex-husbands or fathers to not fulfill their child support obligations. Some of the factors that cause child support rights to not be fulfilled after the parents' divorce are:

Economic Factors

In an interview with MT's mother (initials), she said that: "So far, I have never demanded or asked excessively for all the needs of children because every time I ask for help for my children's needs, it is always the reason that I don't have money. Therefore, I chose not to beg anymore, even though the child's needs still had to be met. I just hope that if they really care and think about their child, no matter what amount they give, I will accept it sincerely. Whether it is big or small, even if it is only Rp 5,000 (five thousand rupiah) per day, it still means a lot to me. Because the most important thing is not only a nominal matter, but responsibility and care as a father".

Based on the results of the interview, it can be concluded that one of the main factors that causes child support obligations to not be fulfilled after divorce is economic factors. In fact, providing sustenance includes the child's natural and mental needs. Therefore, a father needs to realize that he still has a responsibility in providing financial support to his child, as a form of responsibility and affection. Although it may not be able to meet all the needs of the child, at least the father can still provide meaningful assistance, as a form of concern for his child's needs.

New Marriage

In an interview with UF's mother (initials), she said that: "Since the divorce, my ex-husband has remarried immediately and now has a new family. Since then, he has never provided for our child again. Maybe because he is focused on his new life, he forgets that the child also still needs attention and responsibility from him as a father".

Based on the interview above, it can be concluded that the factor of not fulfilling child support is because the father already has a new family, causing the father or ex-husband to prioritize the needs of his family or his personal needs over the needs of children from a previous marriage.

Communication Factors

In an interview with FS's mother (initials), she revealed that: "After the divorce, providing for the needs and maintenance of the children is entirely my responsibility, because communication with the ex-husband is quite difficult. Although the communication relationship still exists, messages via WhatsApp are often not answered, and phone numbers are rarely connected. In addition, his father also rarely came to visit or see his son, at least once a year, even if he had the time. So far, I have tried to meet all the needs of my children without help from the father.

Based on the results of the interview with Mrs. FS above, it shows that for the fulfillment of child support after divorce, the level of concern of the father is difficult to communicate or deliberate, and he rarely meets or visits the children. In this case, it can be seen that in the village near the Agung, the provision of child support after divorce is still relatively low, especially in the aspect of communication and direct meetings between father and child. This is based on the results of interviews that the author has conducted in the field. After the divorce, the father never contacted or asked how the children were doing, either directly or indirectly. He didn't even try to do so. A father must remain attentive to his child after a divorce, but those who continue to communicate with their father face difficulties because they are sometimes difficult to reach [42], [43].

Lack of Responsibility

In an interview with FR's mother (initials), she said that: "My ex-husband is arguably less responsible, both as a husband and as a father. Ever since the beginning of the marriage, she rarely provided a living or spending for daily needs. It is as if he does not fully understand what his responsibilities and obligations are as a husband and father in the household. When it comes to child expenses after divorce, I am determined to work and try to meet my own child's living needs, at least I am responsible for taking care of and meeting my child's living needs.

Table 2. Show A Summary of the Reasons for Not Supporting the Child

Subject	Number of children	Reason
MT	1	Economic factors
EN	1	Science

FS	1	Communication
UF	1	New Marriage

Based on the table above, it can be seen that all the subjects do not receive alimony from their ex-husbands for various reasons, mainly because the ex-husband does not carry out the obligations that should be fulfilled. The main reason is the assumption that there is no obligation to provide alimony after divorce, especially if the child is in the mother's care.

In addition, the head of Hamlet S also conveyed several factors that cause a father not to provide support for his child after divorce, because it is caused, among others:

Financial problems are the main cause of ex-husbands or fathers not having enough work or income, thus hindering the father's ability to provide for them.

The poor relationship with the ex-husband, coupled with the lack of an agreement, causes the father to feel reluctant or refuse to provide support.

The low responsibility of the ex-husband in providing support to the child, especially when custody is with the mother, often leads the husband to believe that the mother is responsible for the maintenance, because the mother is considered a party who plays a direct role in caring for and supporting the child's growth and development process.

The lack of understanding of the obligation of responsibility causes a father not to fully realize his legal obligation to provide for his child. In addition, there is an unawareness of the importance of the role of sustenance in the development and welfare of children. On the other hand, a lack of support from the family can also affect the father's attitude towards the obligation to provide for himself [\[44\]](#), [\[45\]](#).

CONCLUSION

This study concludes that the fulfillment of children's maintenance rights after divorce in Dekatagung Village has not been implemented effectively and remains far from the expectations set by legal and moral principles regarding parental responsibility. The findings demonstrate that many children do not receive adequate financial support from their biological fathers after the dissolution of marriage. In practice, child maintenance is frequently provided inconsistently, in insufficient amounts, or not provided at all. This situation indicates a significant level of paternal negligence in carrying out post-divorce responsibilities toward children. The inadequacy of child support has substantial consequences for mothers who hold custody. They are often required to bear the full cost of children's daily needs, including food, education, health care, and other living expenses. Although some mothers receive occasional assistance from their extended families, such support is generally informal and cannot replace the father's primary obligation to provide maintenance. As a result, the economic and psychological burden on custodial mothers becomes considerably heavier. The research identifies several interrelated factors contributing to the non-fulfillment of child maintenance obligations. First, economic instability and limited income among former husbands reduce their ability to provide regular support. Second, remarriage after divorce often leads to shifting priorities and the redistribution of financial resources to a new household. Third, poor communication between former spouses creates difficulties in discussing children's needs and arranging support payments. Fourth, some fathers demonstrate a low sense of responsibility toward their children after divorce. Finally, the lack of preparedness in carrying out the role and obligations of a family head contributes to weak commitment to child support duties. Overall, the study reveals a clear gap between the normative obligation to provide child maintenance and its actual implementation in the community. Therefore, greater collaboration among families, community leaders, religious institutions, and government agencies is needed to strengthen legal awareness, encourage parental responsibility, and

establish more effective mechanisms for monitoring and enforcing child support obligations. Such efforts are essential to ensure that children's rights and welfare remain protected even after their parents' marriage has ended.

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Author Contribution

Zulaikhatus Naziha conceptualized the study, conducted fieldwork, collected and analyzed data, and prepared the manuscript draft. Abdul Wahid contributed to research design, theoretical framework development, and manuscript revision. Abdul Halim supervised the research process, validated the findings, provided critical feedback, and approved the final version of the manuscript.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest regarding the publication of this article. The research was conducted independently without any financial, commercial, or personal relationships that could have influenced the study design, data collection, analysis, interpretation of findings, or the decision to publish the research results.

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