

# The Importance of Verponding in Indonesian Land History: Historical Overview and Implications

**Yuyun Kadarlia**

Universitas Islam As-Syafi'iyah, Jakarta, Indonesia

[yuyunkadarlia@gmail.com](mailto:yuyunkadarlia@gmail.com)

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## Abstract

*Verponding, a land administration system that has long been an integral part of Indonesia's land history, plays a crucial role in land formation and mapping in the country. In historical context, Verponding has provided a strong foundation for land ownership regulation, infrastructure development, and community building in Indonesia. This paper presents an in-depth historical review of the role of Verponding in Indonesian land history and its implications for modern land development. Verponding, derived from the Dutch word "verponding," refers to the process of land mapping and registration carried out during the Dutch colonial period. This system not only records land ownership but also delineates land boundaries and associated rights. Over time, Verponding became the basis for land administration in Indonesia and influenced land policies implemented to this day. Through historical review, we can understand how Verponding laid the groundwork for Indonesia's land system, shaping land ownership patterns and regulating relationships between landowners and the state. The implications of Verponding are still felt in various aspects of community life, including agriculture, infrastructure development, and land conflict resolution. However, despite its significant historical value, Verponding also poses several challenges and controversies. Issues related to document validity, unregistered land ownership, and conflicts between traditional and modern systems are part of the complexity in implementing Verponding principles. In the context of modern land development, it is essential for the government and stakeholders to consider the legacy of Verponding in designing inclusive, fair, and sustainable land policies. Further research on the history, implementation, and impact of Verponding can provide valuable insights into addressing contemporary and future land challenges in Indonesia.*

Keywords: *Verponding, Land History, Land Administration, Land Ownership, Social Implications.*

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Amidst the complexity of Indonesia's land history, verponding, a land recording system introduced by the Dutch colonial government in the 19th century, is a major highlight. Starting from Eigendom, which is a term from the Dutch colonial era. Eigendom is defined as a person's ownership right to a piece of land. Eigendom is divided into 2 (two) types, namely ordinary eigendom and verponding eigendom. Ordinary eigendom is land that had property rights status during the Dutch colonial era, where this eigendom could only be owned by Europeans and Eastern Foreigners,

indigenous people could also have eigendom with agrarische eigendom status or special land ownership rights for natives. verponding, namely a tax bill for land and/or buildings which is currently called a Tax Return for Land and Building Tax (hereinafter referred to as SPPT-PBB). Based on this, verponding eigendom is defined as land ownership rights which can only be proven by verponding or proof of a tax bill. Customary land law is known as Indonesian land rights such as ulayat land, owned land, business land, gogolan land, bent land, agrarian land, etc.

The history of verponding eigendom reflects the Dutch colonial government's efforts to regulate and control land resources in the Dutch East Indies. Although this system has changed over time and the process of decolonization.

By introducing verponding, the Dutch colonial government intended to create official and systematic records regarding land ownership. These records include information about the land owner, land area, property boundaries, and other details related to land ownership status. Its aim was to bring order and clarity in land administration as well as to facilitate the administrative, taxation and economic interests of the colonial government of the time.

Although the verponding system brought clarity and order to land administration in the Dutch East Indies, its implementation did not always go smoothly. There are challenges in recording complex land ownership, including disputes over property boundaries and social justice issues related to land redistribution often arising in the process. Nevertheless, verponding eigendom remains an important part of Indonesian land history. It reflects a period of major change in colonial administration and provides insight into how Indonesia's modern land administration structures evolved from its colonial past.

Historical background of Indonesian land which occurred from pre-colonial times to Dutch colonial rule and the modern era. In the course of history, the land system changed from a local customary one to a system regulated in an organized manner by the colonial government. It is hoped that this will provide a solid foundation for readers to understand the context and urgency of discussing the topic. In this way, we can analyze in more depth the importance of verponding in Indonesian land history.<sup>1</sup>

## **II. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **A. History of Eigendom Verponding**

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<sup>1</sup> Soetojo, M. (1961). Basic Agrarian Law in implementing land reform. Jakarta: Staff of the Highest Higher Education Authority.

Revolution, the King is God's representative on earth, likewise in his time the Kings in Europe had great power to regulate the affairs of the country, even the king was considered to have power over everything in this case, the King was the ruler of the State and it was the King who ruled the land in their country. In France, the motto *Le'etat c'es Moi* or 'the country is me' is applied, a theory that reflects great power over the land. The King was considered the representative of the state and state landowners. This theory also applies in England and the Netherlands. Indonesia as a Dutch colonial implemented this theory in Indonesia, which meant that all land in Indonesia belonged to the King and because the King was subject to colonial rule, all land in the colonial country was changed to the King of the Netherlands<sup>1</sup>. We can understand that conflict occurs because there is a gap in authorization/utilization due to discriminatory policies/legislation that regulate the relationship between granting power of attorney.

According to Dutch East Indies law<sup>2</sup>, 'Eigendom is the right to obtain free enjoyment of an object and have complete control over it as long as it is not used in conflict with the law or general rules established by the competent authority to form it and when it does not interfere with other rights, except revocation of public interest rights with restitution'. The term *Verponding* in Law Number 72 of 1958 concerning *Verponding Tax* for 1957 and Subsequent is used to refer to one type of tax imposed on fixed objects (land). Apart from that, in the Supreme Court decision Number 2082 K/Pdt/2013 the term *Eigendom Verponding* is used to designate an ownership right to a land.<sup>3</sup> During the *Eigendom Verponding* period, indigenous groups used customary law so that at that time there was a dualism in land ownership law, namely Western Land Law and Customary Land Law. The implementation of the conversion of western rights is carried out by providing a time limit of up to 20 years from the enactment of Law No. 5 of 1960 concerning Basic Agrarian Regulations, hereinafter referred to as (UUPA). This means that it requires that rights to eigendom land, *Erfpacht*, *Opstal* and so on be converted into ownership rights no later than 24 September 1980.<sup>4</sup> Land rights regulated in Article 16 paragraph (1) of Law No. 5 of 1960 concerning Basic Agrarian Principles Regulations grant ownership rights to land by the state to individuals or legal entities in the form of land ownership rights, building use rights, business use, use

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<sup>2</sup> Agussalam Nasution, 2012, *Agrarian Law Theory* has been applied

<sup>3</sup> Sudikno Mertokusumo (1988) *Indonesian Agrarian Rules*, Edition 2, Yogyakarta: Liberty pages 35-36.

<sup>4</sup> Parlindungan A.P, *Conversion of Land Rights*. (Bandung: Mandar Maju 1991), p. 1.

rights, lease rights, rights to clear land, rights to collect forest products.<sup>5</sup> Juridical control is based on rights protected by law and generally gives the right holder the authority to physically control the land they own.

Control in the juridical sense is control that has both civil and public aspects, and with the existence of control over land, it is necessary to strengthen control over it, namely with Ownership Rights, Cultivation Rights (HGU), Use Rights (HGP), or Building Use Rights (HGB) which will become the foundation for the person or institution that controls the land. Based on the second part (conversion provisions) of Article 1 of Law Number 5 of 1960 concerning Basic Agrarian Basic Regulations (UUPA), it is stated that, "Eigendom rights over land that exist at the entry into force of this law (UUPA) from that moment on become rights ownership, unless the owner does not have the conditions mentioned in Article 21." Article 21; (1) Only Indonesian citizens can have property rights; (2) The Government determines legal entities that can have property rights and the conditions thereof; (3) Foreigners for whom this law has been in force have acquired property rights due to inheritance without a will or by mixing due to marriage, as well as Indonesian citizens who have property rights and after the enactment of this law have lost their citizenship are obliged to relinquish those rights within a period of one year. since the acquisition of that right or the loss of that citizenship. If after this period of time the ownership rights have not been released, then these rights are extinguished by law and the land falls to the state, provided that the rights of other parties encumbering them continue; (4) As long as a person in addition to his Indonesian citizenship has foreign citizenship, he cannot own land with ownership rights and for him the provisions in paragraph (3) of this Article apply. Article 20 paragraph (1) reads as follows: "ownership rights are hereditary, strongest and fullest rights that people can have over land, bearing in mind the provisions in Article 6". Article 6 reads as follows: "all rights to land have a social function". Article 34 of Law No. 5 of 1960 concerning Basic Regulations on Agrarian Principles reads as follows; Cultivation Rights are terminated because: a) The term expires; b) Terminated before the end of the term due to conditions not being met; c) Released by the rights holder before the term expires; d) Revoked in the public interest; e) Abandoned; f) The land is destroyed; g) Provisions in Article 30 paragraph (2). Article 30 paragraph (2) reads as follows: "Persons or legal entities who have business use rights and no longer fulfill the requirements as stated in paragraph (1) of this Article are obliged within a period

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<sup>5</sup> Yamin Lubis et.al. Land Registration Law. (Bandung: Mandar Maju, 2008), p. 218.

of one year to relinquish or transfer those rights to a party. others who meet the requirements. This provision also applies to the party who obtains the right to cultivate, if he does not fulfill these conditions.

"If the right to cultivate is not released or transferred within that time period, the right is extinguished by law, provided that the rights of other parties will be respected, according to the provisions stipulated in a Government Regulation."

*a. Eigendom Rights (Recht van Eigendom)*

In article 570 of the Civil Code, it is stated that the right of eigendom is the right to enjoy an object freely, and to act freely with that object with complete sovereignty, as long as it does not conflict with the law or general regulations established by a certain authority. has the right to determine it, and does not interfere with the rights of other people, all of which does not reduce the revocation of the property rights in the public interest based on the provisions of the Law and with the payment of compensation.

*b. Erfpacht Rights (Recht van Erfpacht)*

Erfacht rights, according to Article 720 of the Civil Code, are a material right to fully enjoy the use of immovable property belonging to another person, with the obligation to pay annual tribute to the owner as recognition of his ownership, whether in the form of money or other income. It is also stated in it that the erfpacht holder has the right to fully exploit and enjoy the results of the object. This right is hereditary, widely requested for agricultural purposes. In Java and Madura, erfpacht rights are granted to large farms, inland residences, plantations and small farms. Meanwhile, in areas outside Java it is only for large farms, plantations and small farms.

*c. Opstal Rights (Recht van Opstal)*

Opstal rights are a material right (zakelijk recht) to own houses, buildings and plants on land belonging to another person. Opstal rights according to Article 711 of the Civil Code are the right to rent, namely a material right to own buildings, structures and plantings in someone else's yard.

**B. Land Administration System in Indonesia**

*1. Land Ownership Rights*

In essence, the Indonesian people have communalistic land rights, which means that all land within the territory of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia is land with the Indonesian people. Apart from that, it also has religious characteristics, which means that all land in the territory of the Republic of Indonesia is believed to be a gift from God, the Greatest. Common land is declared as national land wealth which shows the civil element, namely the ownership of

the relationship between the Indonesian nation and the law of the general public. However, the rights of the Indonesian nation do not mean private property rights which do not allow individual rights. In <sup>6</sup>this case, the land owner, according to his juridical control, has the right to demand that the land in question be physically handed back to him.<sup>7</sup> In land law, it is also known that there is juridical control which does not give authority to physically control the land in question. The land owner begins by occupying an area by the indigenous people of the community which is then referred to as ulayat land (public land). In rural areas outside Java, land is recognized by unwritten customary law based on both descent and area of relationship.

As socio-economic patterns change in any society, the common lands of indigenous communities are gradually controlled by members of the community through alternating cultivation. The individual ownership system is thus starting to recognize the communal ownership system<sup>8</sup>.

In national land law there are various control rights over land, namely:

- a) The rights of the Indonesian people as the highest right to control land have civil and social aspects.
- b) The right to control from the state is only owned by aspects of society.
- c) Indigenous peoples' land rights have civil rights and public aspects.
- d) Individual rights, which have a civil aspect, include land rights as individual rights which are owned either directly or indirectly, rooted in the rights of the nation. The various types of land rights in Article 16 stipulate that: Rights to land that can be cultivated by individuals include, among others:
  - 1) Property rights; 2) Correct cultivation; 3) Building use rights; 4) Correct use; 5) Hire right; 6) Land clearing rights; 7) The right to collect forest products 8) Other rights, including the rights above, are determined by law and are temporary rights.

The state does not have the authority to sell or mortgage land. Agrarian problems arose when the HMN in power faced individual property rights and communal rights (shared land). People who have been there before the State existed, their ecological rights. All human rights are recognized in our constitution UUD 1945.<sup>8</sup>

### 2. Conversion of Verponding Eigendom Land into Ownership Rights

According to Subekti, Eigendom is the most perfect right to an object. A person who has eigendom (ownership) rights to an object can do anything with that object (sell, pawn, give away, even damage), as long as he does not violate the law or

<sup>6</sup> Urip Santoso (2012) Agrarian Law – Comprehensive Study, Jakarta: Kencana Prenadamedia Group, page 78; Boedi Harsono (2002) Towards Improving National Land Law in Relation to TAP MPR RI IX/MPR/2001, Jakarta: Trisakti University, page 43.

<sup>7</sup> <http://e-journal.uajy.ac.id/361/3/2MIH01442.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> Bernard Limbong (2014) Agrarian Policy Opinion, Jakarta: Pustaka Margaretha, First Printing, June 2014 page 90.



other people's rights.<sup>9</sup> Looking at the formulation above, it can be concluded, that property rights are the most important rights compared to other material rights, because those entitled to them can enjoy them fully and control them freely. This property right cannot be contested.<sup>10</sup>

Eigendom verponding land status was in effect at that time. The Dutch East Indies Agrarian Law after the enactment of the 1960 agrarian legislation had to be changed to property rights through land registration, which was the duty of the government and land owners, with a period of 20 years.

To carry out the mandate contained in Article 19 of Law Number 5 of 1960 concerning the Basic Agrarian Law (UUPA) that land registration is carried out throughout Indonesia, Government Regulation Number 10 of 1961 concerning Land Registration was issued, which was then refined by the issuance of a Regulation Government Number 24 of 1997 concerning Indonesian Land Registration.

Land registration is the main task of the Ministry of Agrarian Affairs and Spatial Planning/National Land Agency, namely to provide a legal basis in the land sector. For a plot of land that has been registered by the owner for a right, the Agrarian and Spatial Planning Office/National Land Agency (ATR/BPN) will issue and publish a certificate of title, namely a certificate of land rights in the name of the owner.<sup>11</sup>

To date, there are still some lands owned by the community that do not have certificates. In fact, in the field, many people still have land ownership in the form of Indonesian Verponding, even though before the UUPA came into force, Indonesian Verponding was only proof of tax payment. Until now, there are still people who only own land in the form of an Indonesian Verponding letter. In general, people still think that an Indonesian Verponding letter is proof of ownership of their land, so people think that by having a letter in the form of an Indonesian Verponding, they feel safe. Therefore, proof of land ownership in the form of Indonesian Verponding after the enactment of the UUPA is very vulnerable to disputes arising where the land has changed ownership and been certified by another party.

### **C. Role of Verponding in Land System**

There are differences in proof of land ownership of Eigendom Verponding and Verponding Indonesia, so that in this researcher's novelty, Verponding Indonesia does not recognize the conversion period, so it is interesting to research in terms

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<sup>9</sup> Boedi Harsono, *Indonesian Agrarian Law History of the Formation of the Basic Agrarian Law, Content and Explanation*. Djangkat, Jakarta, 1999, p.147

<sup>10</sup> *ibid*

<sup>11</sup> Simanjuntak, *Indonesian Civil Law*, Djangkat, 2009, Jakarta, p. 216

of legal protection for Indonesian Verponding land, which has not yet had land registration after the enactment of the UUPA and PP No. 24 of 1997.<sup>12</sup>

The enactment of the Basic Agrarian Law no. 5 of 1960 as positive law in the land sector which aims to provide legal certainty regarding land rights. This is in Article 19 paragraph (1) of the UUPA, which in essence is to guarantee legal certainty (recht cadastral) by the Government, land registration is carried out, from this process a certificate is issued as proof of land ownership rights whose certainty is guaranteed by law and the holder receives protection by law.

Land that has not been registered can be said to have no proof of ownership, meaning that the land is very vulnerable to disputes and can be claimed by other parties at any time. However, if the land has ever been subject to tax collection, the land usually has proof of ownership in the form of a tax certificate.

Proof of land ownership for tax collection is the Indonesian Verponding, even though the Indonesian Verponding is only a proof of tax payment before the UUPA came into effect for customary land in the Gemeente area<sup>13</sup>. Land originating from Verponding Indonesia is a tax levy for customary land, which was collected until 1961, so for Verponding Indonesia land after the enactment of the UUPA it had to be converted. According to A.P. Parlindungan, conversion of land rights is the arrangement of land rights before the enactment of the UUPA to enter the UUPA system (Parlindungan, 1994). Thus, land originating from Verponding Indonesia after the enactment of the UUPA must be converted, which means that Verponding Indonesia land can be converted into property rights, building use rights, business use rights and use rights. Land registration is regulated in Government Regulation Number 24 of 1997, implementing the conversion of land rights in PP No. 24 of 1997 is known as proof of old rights. Thus, if Indonesian Verponding land is to be registered, then in accordance with Article 24 paragraph (1) PP No. 24 of 1997 which regulates proof of old rights for the purposes of registering land originating from the conversion of old rights, proven by written evidence in the form of Indonesian Verponding, witness statements, and relevant statements whose truth level is determined by the Adjudication Committee.

If the land owner does not have proof in the form of an Indonesian Verponding, then the land registration can be carried out by proving physical control of the land for 20 consecutive years by the applicant who will register the land on condition that the land control is carried out in good faith and confirmed by witnesses who

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<sup>12</sup> Sugianto, B. (2017). Customary Land Registration to Obtain Legal Certainty in Kepahiang Regency. *Legal Panorama Journal*, Vol.2, (No.2), pp.131-148.



know that the land is controlled by the land owner. Land registration as in Article 3 paragraph (1) of Government Regulation Number 24 of 1997 aims to provide legal certainty to the holder of rights to a registered plot of land so that he can easily prove himself as the holder of the rights in question. Apart from that, it not only provides legal certainty, but also provides legal protection to land owners.<sup>13</sup> Thus, for land with proof of ownership in the form of Indonesian Verponding, in order to obtain legal certainty and protection, land registration is carried out in accordance with the purpose of land registration in Article 3 paragraph (1) PP No. 24 of 1997. The land registration system in Indonesia adheres to a registration of titles system, in which there is a land book as a document containing juridical data and physical data listed in the certificate as proof of rights.

#### **D. Implication for Land Policy**

There are two types of legal principles regarding the land registration system, namely the principle of good faith and the principle of *nemo plus juris*. The principle of good faith means that a person who obtains a right in good faith is the holder of the right according to law, while the principle of *nemo plus juris* means that a person cannot transfer rights beyond the rights existing to him/her<sup>15</sup>.

The principle of *nemo plus juris* aims to provide protection for the actual land owner and good faith aims to protect people who in good faith obtain rights from people who are suspected of being the right holders. The principle of *nemo plus juris* provides protection for land owners who actually file a lawsuit against another party who has certified their land. In the negative publication system, the name listed on the certificate can be challenged, if the name listed on the certificate is proven to violate the principle of *nemo plus juris* through a court decision then the ownership of the land rights will be erased, the person's registration in the land book will be erased, the land ownership will also automatically be erased. Apart from preventing violations of the *nemo plus juris* principle, the negative publication system with positive elements is also intended to protect people who acquire land in good faith, so that someone who acquires land in bad faith can also have ownership and rights to their land removed.<sup>14</sup>

Proof of land only with Indonesian Verponding is very weak, disputes often occur, in this case there are cases of land with proof of Indonesian Verponding which

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<sup>13</sup> Harsono, B. (2013). Indonesian Agrarian Law (History of the Formation of Basic Laws, Content and Implementation) Volume 1 National Land Law. Jakarta: Trisakti University.

<sup>14</sup> Sutedi, A. (2018) Transfer of Land Rights and Registration. Jakarta: Sinar Garafika.

came from an inheritance from their parents, a dispute occurred when a certificate was issued on the land in the name of another party.<sup>15</sup>

Legal protection for land originating from Verponding Indonesia after the enactment of UUPA and PP No. 24 of 1997, in order to obtain legal certainty and protection, land originating from Verponding Indonesia must undergo land registration, where in land registration a certificate will be issued as proof of title, so that when the land is registered it will avoid disputes.

Legal protection for Indonesian Verponding land which is certified by another party, the owner of Indonesian Verponding can file a lawsuit to the District Court regarding another party who certified his land, so that according to the principle of *nemo plus juris* if it is proven in court then the certificate issued is not in the name of the actual land owner. has no legal force.

### III. METHODOLOGY

This study aims to investigate the implications of converting Verponding Eigendom land into property rights in Indonesia, especially in relation to the land administration system and land policy. A qualitative approach was used in this research, with a descriptive analysis method that allows an in-depth understanding of the context of agrarian law and changes in land ownership. A research design with a qualitative approach was chosen because it is able to provide rich and detailed insight into the dynamics of land law in Indonesia. Descriptive analysis is used to comprehensively describe changes in land ownership, legal regulations, and associated socio-economic consequences.

### IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The research results describe the process of implementing verponding in various regions in Indonesia, starting from data collection to implementing the land registration system. The development of verponding over time and the challenges faced are also discussed comprehensively, exploring important results in understanding verponding in the context of Indonesian land history. Through an in-depth historical review, as well as analysis of social, economic and political implications, several key findings have been identified.

#### *Understanding Verponding*

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<sup>15</sup> Santoso, U. (2012). Agrarian Law: Comprehensive Study. Jakarta: Kencana.

One of the main results of this research is a better understanding of verponding as a Dutch colonial instrument in managing and controlling land resources in Indonesia. Verponding was not just an administrative process, but also a mechanism that changed the land landscape and power structure in Indonesia at that time.

#### *Evolution of Land Systems*

This research reveals the evolution of the Indonesian land system from a verponding perspective. It was found that verponding became the foundation for the formation of the modern land system, by classifying land based on ownership and related rights. It illustrates how Dutch colonial policies had a profound impact in shaping the legal and administrative framework of the Indonesian state.

#### *Social Impact*

The research results also highlight the social impact of verponding. This process often sparked conflict between local communities, because their traditional concepts of land were often inconsistent with new concepts introduced by the colonial government. In this way, verponding creates inequality and polarization in society, which impacts social stability and relations between citizens.

#### *Economic Implications*

From an economic perspective, verponding has significant implications. Registered land provides legal certainty for its owners, allowing them to access the resources and investment necessary for the development of agriculture and other businesses. However, unregistered land is often subject to speculation and uncertainty, hindering economic development at the local level.

#### *Political Implications*

Verponding also has political implications that cannot be ignored. This process strengthened the colonial government's control over land and other natural resources, creating a more centralized power structure. Thus, verponding became one of the colonial instruments in maintaining their political dominance in Indonesia.

#### *Contributions to Land History Research*

This research makes an important contribution to our understanding of Indonesian land history. By highlighting the role of verponding and its impact on various aspects of people's lives, this research helps open a new window in the analysis of history and social development in Indonesia.

#### *Contemporary Relevance*

Finally, the paper highlights the contemporary relevance of the study of verponding. Although the practice of verponding itself is no longer relevant in the current context of land law, an understanding of its history and impact can provide valuable insight into the challenges and opportunities in land management in Indonesia today.

Thus, the results of this research not only offer historical insight into the role of verponding in Indonesian land history, but also highlight its relevance in understanding the social, economic and political dynamics of Indonesia today.

In the discussion section, the social, economic and political impacts of the verponding system are analyzed. Comparisons with land administration practices in other countries are also carried out to highlight the advantages and disadvantages of verponding and its relevance in the current global context.

Discussions regarding the implications of Eigendom Verponding land conversion in Indonesia resulted in an in-depth understanding of the various aspects involved in this policy. The following is a comprehensive analysis of the results of the discussion:

#### *Historical and Legal Context*

Eigendom Verponding land conversion in Indonesia is the main topic of discussion because of its broad implications in historical and legal contexts. Since the Dutch colonial era, the Eigendom Verponding land registration system has been the legal basis for land ownership in Indonesia. However, along with changing times and the need for agrarian reform, the Indonesian government has taken steps to change or replace this system.

#### *Legal Certainty and Land Ownership*

One of the important results of the discussion is the need to provide legal certainty for land owners. The Eigendom Verponding land conversion is expected to simplify the registration process and clarify land ownership status, reducing disputes and uncertainty which often become obstacles to investment and development.

#### *Fairer Access to Land Ownership*

The discussion underscored the importance of expanding access to land ownership to various community groups, including small farmers, indigenous communities and other vulnerable groups. It is hoped that the Verponding Eigendom land conversion will open up opportunities for those who were previously marginalized in terms of land ownership, thereby increasing welfare and economic empowerment.

#### *Changes in Land Use Patterns*

## **V. CONCLUSION**

This paper concludes the importance of verponding in Indonesian land history as the foundation for the current land administration system. Policy implications resulting from this historical learning are outlined, including suggestions for increasing efficiency and fairness in future land administration.

Thus, this paper not only provides an in-depth understanding of the role of verponding in Indonesian land history, but also provides valuable insights for the development of better land policies in the future.

This research illustrates how significant the role of verponding is in Indonesian land history and its widespread impact on social, economic and political structures. The following conclusions can be drawn:

1. *Verponding as a Colonial Tool:* Verponding was not only an administrative process, but also a Dutch colonial instrument to control and organize land in Indonesian territory. This was part of a colonial strategy to control natural resources and regulate power structures.
2. *Evolution of the Land System:* Verponding is an important milestone in the evolution of the Indonesian land system. This creates a legal framework that forms the basis for land ownership and other related rights. However, this system also carries complex social consequences.
3. *Social and Economic Impacts:* The verponding process creates inequalities in access to land and natural resources, triggers inter-community conflict, and affects local economic structures. In particular, indigenous peoples and small farmers are often victims of this policy.
4. *Political Implications:* Verponding had significant political implications, as it strengthened the colonial government's dominance over land and natural resources. This created structural injustice and strengthened centralized control over colonial territories.

Based on the findings and analysis in this research, several practical suggestions can be put forward:

1. *Public Education and Awareness:* Efforts need to be made to increase public understanding of Indonesian land history and the impact of verponding. This can be done through formal and informal education and community awareness programs.
2. *Land Policy Reform:* The government needs to carry out land policy reform that is more inclusive and pro-community. This includes protecting the traditional rights of indigenous communities and small farmers as well as empowering the local economy.
3. *Community Participation:* It is important to involve the community in the decision-making process regarding land. This can be done through participatory mechanisms that allow community representatives to contribute to policy formation.
4. *Further Research:* Further research is needed to understand more deeply the impact of verponding in a broader social, economic and political context. This research can provide a strong foundation for the development of more effective and sustainable policies.
5. *Environmental Protection:* It is important to pay attention to the impact of verponding on the environment and ecosystem sustainability. Environmental protection measures should be an integral part of implemented land policies.

By implementing these suggestions, it is hoped that a land system that is more just, sustainable and inclusive for all Indonesian society can be created. These steps can also become the basis for sustainable and equitable development in the future.

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