

## **Djamaluddin Wak Ketok: Work From Struggle to Independence in Padang City (1945-1959)**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This article discusses the work of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* during the struggle for independence and after independence. Then it will also discuss the role of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* in improving the economy of the community as well as his struggle career during the independence period and after independence. This article uses historical and library methods consisting of several stages, namely heuristics, source criticism, interpretation, and historiography. The source used is the primary source in the form of observations, documentation, and interviews conducted with family or the public who know Wak Keto. This article shows that *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* started his career when in 1945 he returned to Padang and became a member of the Indonesian Youth Information Center (BPPI) Padang City. Then became vice chairman at the Independence Struggle Council in Padang City, became the Head of AKR/TKR/TRI in Padang, Division IX Leader of sector IV/A commander based in AsamPulauAnduring front area of Padang Area and Padang Luar Kota, until his position as military district officer (PDM) in Pasaman Lubuk Sikaping became the career peak of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok*. *Wak Ketok* role is that he is a respected figure of the community, Indonesian freedom fighters, his exaltation, and his religion. *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* work in building public roads, now named *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* Street from Simpang Pisang Pauh to Simpang Pasar Ambacang Kuranji Sub-district. Another great service is to build with mutual cooperation tali bandar, irrigation for irrigation of rice fields from Gunung Nago Kuranji Sub-district, through Nanggalo, to Belanti Village, North Padang.

*Keywords: Global warming, extreme natural phenomena, changes in weather and climate, participation.*



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### **INTRODUCTION**

Padang City as the capital of West Sumatra has many heroes or persistent figures in fighting for and defending the independence of the Republic of Indonesia. Among the Padang City fighters widely known by the community is *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok*. *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* can be seen from the name of the street in Pauh IX made and named after him, Street *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok*. This road was made as a form of appreciation to *Wak Ketok* who has been instrumental in fighting for and defending Indonesia's independence, especially in Padang City. As the research conducted by Muhammad Hafiz Halim in 2018 in his research is *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok A Warrior Kalumbuk (In The Collective Memory of Kuranji Society)*" writes about the figure of *Wak Ketok* in the study of historiography, namely using memory or memory. That *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* is a figure from the perspective of people's memories who know and even meet directly with *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok*. This can be proven because the figure of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* has become a collective memory in kuranji society which then cannot be separated from the background of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* life and the struggle he made against kuranji community during his life (Halim, 2018).

In addition to the research that contains about the memory of the community towards *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok*, Maigus (1999) research entitled *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok: Biography of Kuranji Warriors* writes that the role of *Wak Ketok* in fighting for independence in Padang City is important and widely known in the community. This research contains a biography of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* and his involvement during the independence revolution in 1945-1950 in Padang City and Padang Luar Kota. From the author's search for literature on the struggle of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok*, there has not been a deeper historical disclosure. As with previous research conducted by Maigus Nasir. The research is limited to studying biography, family background, in the struggle during the physical revolution, as well as the perception of compatriots about the struggles carried out by *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* (Maigus, 1999).

*Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* position is so strategic in Padang City because Padang City as the capital is very limited in its national figures. Which is where the first mayor became a national hero. Whereas the national heroes who come from Padang City are very much like pauh people's fighters, Koto Tengah people's fighters, and Kuranji Tigers where *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* is also part of the kuranji tiger warrior figure. *Wak Ketok's* work as a fighter is so inherent in the memory of the people of Padang City, but there are still many sides of the historical value of his struggle that have not yet been revealed scientifically. Among the gaits of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* that became a discussion and remembered by the community to this day is the existence of *Wak Ketok* more than just the struggle for independence. He is widely known in the community for his activities and activities in empowering the community, promoting road construction in Nanggalo, Kuranji, Pauh, and surrounding areas. In addition, *Wak Ketok* is also known to be strong in building irrigation, urban ropes for rice fields in the area. *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* also has a high gait in inviting, reminding, and even reprimanding people who violate customs and social regulations that apply in their respective environments. Based on the two research works above, the author is interested in raising the issue of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* work both during the struggle for independence and after independence. Based on that, the research was titled "*Djamaluddin Wak Ketok: Gait Since the Struggle Until Independence in Padang City (1945-1959)*".

## METHODS

This research is qualitative research using field research and library research. Field research is conducted using historical methods, reconstructing the past systematically and objectively, by collecting, evaluating, verifying, and synthesizing facts and to obtain strong conclusions, and accurate in conducting research (Zed, 2005). Library research is research conducted in libraries where research objects are usually excavated through a variety of library information (books, exclusions, scientific journals, newspapers, magazines, and documents). This research, also assisted by using historical methods, the historical method is the selection of topics studied, the collection of researched sources, testing the sources studied, tracing the sources to be studied. (Golttschalk, 1986).

This research refers to four steps of research, namely heuristics, criticism, interpretation, and historiography. The source of the data in this study is information obtained from documents supported by informants who know the historical biography of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* such as family members who are still in this case are descendants or relatives of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok*. The data source is also obtained through writings on the biography of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok*, in addition to using literature and archives,

documents and books that write about the life history of *Wak Ketok* and awards that *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* has obtained during his life.

## FINDINGS

*Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* was a young man who was born in Kalumbuk village, Kuranji Sub-district in 1916 and died in 1959. *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* has a large family, 4 (four) wives, children of 7 (seven) people and has a wide relative, according to the *Minangkabau* kinship line (*kemanakan, ipar, besan*, and other families). His name, children, grandchildren, and nieces are widely known in the community of Pauh, Kuranji, Nanggalo, and Lubuk Begalung Sub-districts, because of his great service as a hero. As a young man who grew up in *Minangkabau*, *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* had a strong personality, was able-bodied, loved scholars, intellectual figures, and warriors who were loved by the community. Therefore, he was called uwak by the community of his environment. Uwak means the one who is elder or respected. After entering school age, he entered *Muhammadiyah* Kalumbuk College, then continued to *Thawalib* School *Parabek* Bukittinggi until 1930. As a teenager, he left for Singapore in search of his brother Anwar because he had not returned home for a long time. After meeting his brother he returned to Padang and later edited a girl named Nursiah in 1936 (Maigus, 1999).

*Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* is better known by the public for his assertiveness and courage in enforcing the rules. He does not hesitate to rebuke and punish anyone who does wrong, does not follow the worship in the mosque and other immoral acts. *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* is also known in the military environment, he is very firm in protecting the public and often deals with soldiers and police (Husein, 1991). *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* pursued a military career from his desire to travel to Singapore. His goal was to come to Singapore at first to meet his older brother, Anwar. Anwar was already there and worked as a Singapore Policeman. This step trace from Anwar was followed by *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok*. However, before joining the Singapore police, he also took an English course first, because Singapore was still an English colony, so the language that became every day was English. In addition, *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* intends to master English because it is one of the requirements to work in various government agencies in the British colony, including the Singapore police. In early 1945, after the return of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* to Padang, he was concerned to see the state of his hometown, after being colonized by the Dutch and the Japanese Occupation, so he had the initiative to gather young men in his village. Although he had just returned from the other side of the country, he quickly stood out in his neighborhood because of his attitude that attached importance to the state of society as well as he who was also respected by the clergy family. The people's army he once commanded was the Special Ranks, Extremist Forces, and The Brave Army of The Dead (Halim, 2018). Regarding track record and, the struggle that was done also began from the beginning of independence. *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok's* early career began when he joined the membership of the BPPI as a cadre center and young fighter galvanizer at the time. Even further, he did, not quite get there, he was also one of the figures who founded the Struggle Council formed in 1946.

*Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* is widely known in the independence struggle in the city in particular since he formed and led his army and actively participated in the organization of the people's warriors such as the Special Line, Ectrimis Army, and Brave Dead Army. In 1946 he was also the leader of AKR/TKR/TRI in Padang Member of the warrior body.

Late in 1947 in addition to being vice-chairman of the Council of Struggle with the rank of Second Lieutenant with his control area in Alai Limau Manis Padang City. During the first Dutch military aggression in July 1947, he was transferred to the 3rd Regiment of the Kuranji Tiger Army with its control center in Sawahlunto/Sijunjung Regency. The struggle of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* during the revolution continued until the arrival of the Allies to Padang City. On arrival allied forces managed to form several enclaves in the city of Padang until April 1949. They concentrated and were tasked to secure and guard the area. Various incidents occurred between the youths in Padang city and the allies (Kahin, 1998). In the precarious and struggling atmosphere, *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* was one of the militant youths who were anti-colonial who then also joined the Kuranji Tiger army along with the ranks of the people's army and strengthened the unity and strength in the area (Zed, 1998). From 1948 to 1949 he was transferred again with the rank of Second Lieutenant of the IX Division Staff, he was assigned to the equipment section with the leadership of Lieutenant Colonel Dahlan Ibrahim. He was also tasked with forming 1 (one) ton of anti-guerrilla forces of the service core linen who served in Padang Area and Padang Luar Kota. Later, *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* was appointed as the commander of Sector IV sub-command "A" which at that time was based in Asam Pulau Anduring with the meeting area of Padang Area Front and Padang Luar Kota during the battles during the Dutch military aggression II. (Idroes, 2010)

*Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* was subsequently promoted and trusted in sector VI, as he had also previously consolidated troops in the PaninggahanSolok area and conducted guerrillas in Padang Luar Kota. In addition, he is also familiar with the battlefield commanded by him whose area includes the Outer Padang Area and Padang city itself (Mourbas, 1990). During a period of heroic aggression, *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* was the Commander commander of Sector VI of the Sub Command 'A' war area led by Major Kemal Mustafa Kemal. On the eve of the handover and restoration of the City, *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* was appointed as The Company Commander named "*Wak Ketok Company*" under the leadership of Battalion IV of the Major Kemal Mustafa Bull Brigade. This happened on the eve of the surrender of sovereignty in November 1949 and there has been a change in the structure of the TNI in West Sumatra. Due to the policy of RERA or Reorganization and Rationalization of the Territory Command of West Sumatra which was changed to Brigade and named with The Bull Brigade. (During the RERA policy, Lieutenant Colonel Dahlan Ibrahim, formerly commander of the Sub Territorial Territory of West Sumatra, resigned in November 1949 and was replaced by Lieutenant Colonel Dahlan Jambek as Commander of the Bull Brigade).

It was during the restoration of the city that *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* formed a company named Dan Kompi DWK AN B/P BAT.105 Gumarang, DBP. MayyorSofyan Ibrahim in Sicincin and DWK Company stand alone, the department of Commander Brigebe in Batusangkar and Company IV BAT.124 "KINANTAN" RI IV In Kayutanam. After that in 1952, *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* joined DAN KOMPI IV along with battalion commander DPB. NURMATIAS and served operations to West Java for 9 Months.

*Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* returned to Padang after a 9-month stint in West Java in 1953-1954 he served as a PA in the form of KOPRI IV TERR I /BB in Padang City. In 1955-1956 he then became a Military District Officer (PDM) in Pasaman Lubuk Sikaping Regency, which is the peak of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok's* career. (See the appendix to the curriculum vitae of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* written by Djakar Chairullah (former Tiger Kuranji army).

Some community leaders of Nanggalo Sub-district, Kuranji Sub-district, Pauh, and Lubuk Begalung who are over 65 years old tell that *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* is a child

leader of Padang City whose name is attached to the hearts of the community because of his strength, struggle, and attention to the welfare, kindness, and safety of the community. When the author asked about *Wak Ketok* to people who passed *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* street from Simpang Empat Pisang Pauh Sub-district to Simpang Tiga Pasar Ambacang, all of them mentioned their strength and struggle felt by those who enjoyed the road (interview with M.Shiddiq, July 10, 2021). Terms of the role of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* in the field of improving the welfare of the community directly clearly can not be shown, because as a fighter he has no financing and financial assistance for the community. However, the indirect and long-term impact on *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok's* role in the field of economic improvement and community welfare is clearly on two important aspects. *Wak Ketok's* role as a fighter who cares about improving the economy and welfare of the community is carried out in conjunction with carrying out his function as a freedom fighter. In 1944 he returned from Singapore until he was transferred to Pasaman as a Military District officer in 1956. Then his role in promoting the development of *Nagari* in Kuranji, Nanggalo, Lubuk Begalung, and Pauh districts was even stronger when he returned to duty in Padang in 1958 during the upheaval of the area. Similarly, in consolidating the struggle of West Sumatra or PRRI, *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* is known for his influence. During PRRI *Wak Ketok* served as commander of Bazooka Battalion. His role in improving public transportation facilities by building roads that connect 4 (four) Sub-districts in Padang Luar Kota, was done simultaneously by carrying out its function as a freedom fighter and the Indonesian National Army. The role of *Wak Ketok* is to build a religious, cultural, and social life both in the military environment and amid society. *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok's* personality, conscientiousness, and exaltation towards people's lives made him a respected and respected person. Almost everyone who was born in the 1950s, when the author asked about *Wak Ketok*, answered with a spirit that *Wak Ketok* is a caring fighter and highly glorified by the community.

The same community story about *Wak Ketok*, mentioned by Haji Fajri that the people in *Nagari* Nanggalo, Kuranji, Pauh, Lubuk Begalung when they hear the name *Wak Ketok*, will spontaneously answer he is our fighter, leader, and defender of the people indiscriminately (interview, July 10, 2021). The role of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* who is also very prominent as a National Army that cares about the welfare of the community in the broader sense is done together with the Pasaman Regional Government and West Sumatra Province *Wak Ketok* approved the arrival of Transmigration to Pasaman to manage land in *Nagari* Togar. There is an interesting story of *Wak Ketok's* efforts to maintain people's feelings and the welfare of the community, he asked the Governor of Central Sumatra at that time, that an agreement was made with the central government in Jakarta. The government should make a decree that transmigrates residents who will occupy the Pasaman area should be able to mingle with the community, respect customs and adhere to the same beliefs as the local people, namely Muslims.

The agreement between the Government and the community on the terms of the Trasmigrasi residents as outlined in a joint decree between the Government and indigenous leaders and Pasaman community leaders in 1958. In fact, in the author's interview with a told that the role of *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* defending the community about Trasmigrasi first time, so dramatic. Even mentioned *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* had committed acts of violence against the Governor of West Sumatra at that time when the agreement was not kept, namely the existence of non-Muslim Transmigration citizens and many transmigration residents who were less able to conform to the community environment. The same is also found in some literature also contained the story of *Wak Ketok* slapping the Governor. The impeachment of Governor Roeslan Moelyohardjo. As explained

earlier, *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* once slapped Governor Roeslan because he at that time could not hinder the arrival of transmigration from Java. At that time in February 1958, the government moved the transmigration community to Pasaman areas such as Tonggar. In that year, *Wak Ketok* had also previously been assigned to Pasaman as a Military District Officer, at which time the government planned to move the Javanese transmigration community to Central Sumatra, namely Pasaman.

Pasaman area is an area that according to the government is the right place for transmigration communities. As many as 300 family heads who were placed in the Tonggar area then formed a village. Initially, 300 Heads of Families were mistaken for Muslims. However, after the inauguration of a village for 300 Heads of Families, it was only known that they were Christians. This is what makes *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* involved and feel objected to it (Chaniago. 1998). But in the end, the settlement is also unknown. The stories about the governor's screening by *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* developed and were known by the people of Padang City, especially in kuranji community. This event has become a byword by the Kuranji Society. *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* was briefly detained and given punishment for his actions. But the public also knows that. So the people of Padang City, especially kuranji people who have long known *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* did not accept the detention and punishment given to him. Many people flocked to the Governor's Office to demand that *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* not be detained. Regarding the work that has been done by *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* in the struggle that is still felt by the community is related to the hard work of building public roads as a means of connecting between 4 (four) Sub-districts on the outskirts of Padang City which is now the road is named a street *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* from Simpang Pisang Pauh to Simpang Pasar Ambacang Kuranji district more than 7 (seven) kilometer, and Jamil Jamal Road from the intersection of four NanggaloPoltekes to Kuranji Padang Bypass road, over 5 (five) kilometers. *Wak Ketok's* great service that is quite felt by the community is also to build with cooperation rope city, irrigation for irrigation of rice fields from Gunung Nago Kuranji sub-district, through Nanggalo, to the Village Belanti North Padang more 10 (ten) kilometers in length.

Broadly speaking, it can be said that *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok's* work in improving the economic, social, and welfare of the community in the Padang Luar Kota area, is a fact of historical heroism still strong in the collective memory of the Padang luar kota community. According to M.Siddiq, *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* died, in 1959, shot from behind, during an attack by the Central Army in Kalawi village, by one of his men who could not be ascertained, but there was an allegation made by Anas who got a lure from the central army. *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* until now, has been more than 60 (sixty) years of death, name, struggle, and devotion are still strong in the memories of the community in Padang Luar Kota and Padang City. *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok's* son, Amirdas *Wak Ketok*, was once a member of the Padang City Parliament and a candidate for Mayor of Padang, who died in 1990, becoming a tangible form of personality, style, attitude, and spirit of life that he showed.

*Djamaluddin Wak Ketok's* work is felt by everyone who passes through *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* street in Pauh and Jamal Jamil Street in the Lawas Desert, currently an alternative road for people who will go to Padang City from LubukMinturun and Limau Manis Pauh Sub-district. The farming community since from upstream banda in Gunung Nago Pauh Sub-district to the rice fields in Kuranji, Nanggalo, Pauh even to Belanti North Padang District is indebted to *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* who led the opening of a rope of almost 10 kilometers that he moved from 1946 to 1956 he occupied the task as a military comman.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the research and discussion above, the author concluded that *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok's* work in the Struggle for Independence in Padang City includes: *First, Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* was a young man who was born in Kalumbukvillage, Kuranji Sub-district in 1916 and died in 1959. *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* has a large family, 4 (four) wives, 7 (seven) people and has a wide relative, according to the Minangkabau kinship line (*kemanakan, ipar, besan*, and other families). His name, children, grandchildren, and nieces are widely known in the community of Pauh, Kuranji, Nanggalo, and Lubuk Begalung Sub-districts, because of his great service as a hero. *Second, Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* career began from his involvement in the Board of Struggle of the Indonesian Youth Information Agency Kota Padang (BPPI) when the beginning of independence, then he recorded himself as a People's Security Agency (BKR), then joined the People's Security Army (TKR), was appointed as The Second Lieutenant of Division IX under the leadership of Colonel Ibrahim, then served as the commander of sector IV/A based in Asam Pulau Anduring with Padang area front area and Padang Luar Kota. And at the end of his career, he became a military district officer (PDM) in Pasaman Lubuk Sikaping. *Third, Djamaluddin Wak Ketok's* strong role in the memory of the community is his strength to be a respected figure of the community because of his sincerity in carrying out his duties as a struggle for independence of The Republic of Indonesia, his concern for religious practice and loyalty of the people to the customs, and Minangkabau culture, by reprimanding anyone who wanders during Friday prayers, when wirid and teenage children who do not recite. In the field of education, *Wak Ketok* important role is to establish an elementary school (SD) in Gurun Lawas, Tk Aisyiah in Kalumbuk, Tk, Aisyiah in KuraoPaggang. The school he founded was on his land. *Fourth, The work of Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* in the struggle that is still felt by the community is related to the hard work of building public roads as a means of connecting between 4 (four) Sub-districts on the outskirts of Padang City which are now called street *Djamaluddin Wak Ketok* from Simpang Pisang Pauh to Simpang Pasar Ambacang Kuranji district more than 7 (seven) kilometers, and Jamil Jamal Road from the intersection of four Nanggalo Poltekes to Kuranji Padang Bypass road, over 5 (five) kilometers. *Wak Ketok* great service that is quite felt by the community is also to build with cooporetion rope city, irrigation for irrigation of rice fields from Mount NagoKecatamanKuranji, through Nanggalo, to the Village Belanti North Padang more 10 (ten) kilometers in length.

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