

Decision to Evacuate Under Volcanic Risks in Merapi: Between Cultural and Non-Cultural Values

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This paper attempts to discuss the reasons of people's decision to evacuate (or not evacuate) under the volcanic risks in Merapi Volcano, Yogyakarta, Indonesia. We collected the interview data from communities living in the Southern slopes of Merapi. Our interview includes question related to both cultural and non-cultural values which are assumed as the reasons to evacuate (or not). A minor finding reveals that cultural matters (attachment of place, belief to spiritualities and traditional knowledge) are as the source of not evacuating. On the other hand, we found that non-cultural values (economic, fear of the risks, prior eruption experiences and environmental cues) are the dominant reasons that people evacuate. This paper provides conclusion and recommendation to what extent both cultural and non-cultural values play role in evacuation's decision in Merapi.

Keywords: cultural values, evacuation, Merapi Volcano, risk management