



TARIKHUNA: JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND HISTORY EDUCATION
ISSN: 2777-1105 (PRINT), 2797-3581 (ONLINE)
VOLUME 8 NO. 1 MEI 2026

Submitted:
10 April 2026
Revised:
14 May 2026
Published:
30 May 2026

CONTACT

Correspondence Email:
amelianova595@gmail
.com

Address: Jalan Prof. Dr.
Hamka, Padang,
Sumatra Barat, Kode
Pos: 25132

KEYWORDS

Bukittinggi Lower
Market; Commercial
Space; Social History;
Social Interaction;
Traditional Market;
Urban Tourism

FROM TRADITIONAL MARKET TO URBAN SOCIAL SPACE: THE HISTORICAL TRANSFORMATION OF PASAR BAWAH IN BUKITTINGGI FROM THE PRECOLONIAL ERA TO THE PRESENT

NOVA AMELIA PUTRI¹, AISIAH², AHMAD NURHUDA³

^{1,2} Pascasarjana Universitas Negeri Padang, ³ Universitas Islam Negeri
Imam Bonjol Padang

ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the historical transformation of Pasar Bawah in Bukittinggi from a social history perspective. The study focuses on the transformation of Pasar Bawah from a traditional market that served as a community trading space to an urban social space associated to commercial activities, tourism, community mobility, and social interaction. Pasar Bawah was selected as the research subject because of its strategic location in the center of Bukittinggi and its proximity to Jam Gadang, Pasar Ateh, shopping districts, pedestrian paths, and various centers of community activity. These conditions have allowed Pasar Bawah to function not only as a site of economic transactions but also as a space that reflects the dynamics of urban development and community life. This study employs a historical method with a descriptive qualitative approach. Data were collected through field observations, in-depth interviews, documentation, government records, historical documents, and literature reviews. Data analysis was conducted through the stages of heuristics, source criticism, interpretation, historiography, and thematic analysis. The findings indicate that Pasar Bawah has deep historical roots closely connected to the development of Bukittinggi as a trading city. As the city has evolved, the function of Pasar Bawah has shifted from a traditional marketplace to a social space that connects the community's economic activities, population mobility, and tourism. Interactions among vendors, shoppers, tourists, and the surrounding community foster social relationships based on communication, trust, cooperation, and daily economic activities. This study demonstrates that Pasar Bawah not only holds economic value but also serves as a space of social history that reflects the interconnections between trade, urban development, tourism, and the historical identity of the city of Bukittinggi.

I. INTRODUCTION

Traditional markets play a significant role in social history studies because they are not merely venues for economic transactions. Markets also serve as community gathering spaces, workplaces, places for information exchange, spaces for bargaining, and spaces for the formation of social relationships. In social research, markets can be understood as spaces where actors, activities, meanings, and social relations are formed through everyday practices and interactions (Aspers and Corte 2019). Therefore, traditional markets can be interpreted as historical spaces that record community life, including trade patterns, merchant mobility, social relations, and changes in the function of urban spaces (Aliyah, Setioko, and Pradoto 2017).

Bukittinggi is one of the key cities in West Sumatra, playing a significant role in trade, tourism, and the social life of the Minangkabau community. The publication *kota bukittinggi dalam angka 2025* serves as an official source for information on regional conditions, population, and the general profile of the city (Badan Pusat Statistik Kota Bukittinggi 2025). In the context of urban spatial development, Bukittinggi is characterized as a small city with activities concentrated in commercial centers, tourist areas, and community mobility routes. (Warni and Ahyuni 2024) show that the development of Bukittinggi and its surrounding areas is linked to changes in built-up space and land-use patterns from 2005 to 2022. (Mirsa, Rahayu, and others 2022) explain that the spatial transformation of Bukittinggi is also influenced by tourism development..

The development of Bukittinggi is inextricably linked to the existence of markets as centers of community activity. Pasar Atas, Pasar Bawah, and Pasar Simpang Aur play a vital role in the city's commercial structure. The document titled "Profile of Pasar Atas, Pasar Bawah, and Pasar Simpang Aur in Bukittinggi" states that these three markets play a crucial role in Bukittinggi's development as a cultural and commercial hub (Pemerintah Kota bukittinggi 2015). In this context, Pasar Bawah holds strategic significance due to its proximity to Jam Gadang, Pasar Ateh, the shopping district, pedestrian walkways, and the hub of community activity. This proximity means that Pasar Bawah functions not only as a place for buying and selling but also as a social space connected to the city's tourism activities

In Minangkabau society, markets hold strong social significance. Markets not only bring together sellers and buyers, but also connect local communities, migrant traders, migrants, tourists, and informal workers. Damsar and Indrayani explain that markets in Minangkabau society are linked to sociocultural construction, mobility, and entrepreneurial practices (Damsar and Indrayani 2016). This perspective is relevant for understanding Pasar Bawah Bukittinggi because this market serves as a meeting place for various social groups with differing economic and social interests. Through buying and selling, bargaining, customer relationships, and mutual trust, Pasar Bawah shapes a distinctive pattern of social interaction within urban life.

Traditional markets can also be understood as socio-cultural spaces within the urban system. Ekomadyo emphasizes that traditional markets should not be viewed merely as commercial structures, but must be understood as economic and socio-cultural spaces (Ekomadyo 2019). Aliyah, Setioko, and Pradoto also explain that traditional markets serve as venues for commerce, socio-cultural interaction, and recreational activities within both urban and regional contexts (Aliyah et al. 2017). This perspective is crucial for reinforcing the position of Pasar Bawah as a vibrant space through the interplay of location, accessibility, types of activities, and community gatherings.

In the context of urban tourism, traditional markets can become part of the tourist experience. (Fusté-Forné 2023) explains that urban food markets can serve as spaces of identity and tourist experience because visitors do not only buy products, but also experience the local atmosphere and social interaction within the market. (Aliyah, Yudana, and Sugiarti 2020) also explain that traditional markets can function as outlets for cultural products and tourism destinations when they are connected to local identity, cultural commodities, and visitor experience. (Madeira et al. 2023) further show that urban food markets can attract tourists because they combine products, atmosphere, visitor perception, and urban experience. This is relevant to Pasar Bawah Bukittinggi, which is located near the city's tourist center, especially Jam Gadang and Pasar Ateh.

Studies on the social value of markets also show that urban markets can support the sustainability of public spaces. (Guzmán-Pérez et al. 2021) explain that urban food markets can create social value for the spaces in which they are located. (Vijulie et al. 2025) also explain that markets can support sustainable urban tourism by encouraging local consumption, cultural experience, and direct connections between tourists and local communities. Thus, Pasar Bawah Bukittinggi should not be understood merely as a traditional market, but as a social space that brings together trade, tourism, and community interaction.

Based on this discussion, this study aims to analyze Pasar Bawah Bukittinggi from a social history perspective. The study focuses on three main aspects: Pasar Bawah as a trade space, Pasar Bawah as part of urban tourism activities, and Pasar Bawah as a space for community interaction. Through this focus, this article seeks to show that Pasar Bawah functions not only as a place for buying and selling, but also as a historical space that records the relationship between the local economy, tourist mobility, urban spatial development, and the social life of the Bukittinggi community.

II. METHODS

This study employed the historical method with a descriptive qualitative approach and a social history perspective. The historical method was selected because the study not only describes the present condition of Pasar Bawah Bukittinggi but also examines the transformation of its functions as a space for trade, tourism, and social interaction within the broader development of Bukittinggi

City. During the heuristic stage, various primary and secondary sources related to the history and development of Pasar Bawah were collected through field observations, in-depth interviews, documentation, and relevant historical documents and literature. The source criticism stage involved assessing the authenticity, credibility, and relevance of each source to ensure the reliability of the historical data. The interpretation stage focused on analyzing and connecting historical facts to understand how the functions of Pasar Bawah have changed over time. Finally, the historiography stage involved organizing and presenting the findings in the form of a coherent historical narrative that explains the development of Pasar Bawah within its social and urban context. A social history perspective was adopted to understand the market not only as a center of economic activity but also as a community space that reflects merchants' mobility, social relationships, and the changing functions of urban space over time. The research was conducted in the Pasar Bawah area of Bukittinggi, West Sumatra. This location was selected because of its historical significance, its long-standing role as a commercial center, and its strategic position near Jam Gadang, Pasar Ateh, the shopping district, pedestrian walkways, and other major centers of community activity. The study utilized both primary and secondary data. Primary data were obtained through field observations, in-depth interviews, and documentation. Informants were selected using purposive sampling and included permanent vendors, small-scale traders, buyers, visitors, local residents, and individuals with extensive knowledge of the history and daily activities of Pasar Bawah. Secondary data were gathered from a range of historical and documentary sources, including studies on Pakan as the traditional market of Bukittinggi in the nineteenth century, the profile documents of Pasar Ateh, Pasar Bawah, and Pasar Simpang Aur, studies on the Bukittinggi heritage area, and other relevant scholarly literature. These historical sources were used to trace the transformation of Pasar Bawah from a traditional trading place into an urban social space closely connected with tourism and community life. Data were analyzed thematically through data reduction, thematic grouping, data presentation, and conclusion drawing. Observation was used to record market activities, interaction patterns, the physical condition of the market, visitor flow, and the connection between Pasar Bawah and the city's tourist areas. Interviews were used to explore informants' experiences regarding changes in market activities, the origins of vendors, the relationship between vendors and buyers, the influence of tourists, and issues related to market facilities. Data was analyzed thematically through data reduction, thematic grouping, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. Thematic analysis was employed to ensure that qualitative data could be organized systematically, consistently, and in a traceable manner (Nowell et al. 2017). Data validity was ensured through triangulation of sources and techniques by comparing the results of observations, interviews, documentation, and literature reviews. This approach aligns with qualitative research aimed at closely understanding social meanings and processes through the phenomena under study (Aspers and Corte 2019). If additional support is needed, the historical-qualitative orientation of this study can also be linked to the view that historical

approaches in qualitative research emphasize contextual understanding through sources, events, and social processes (Siregar et al. 2023).

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The Historical Development of Bukittinggi's Lower Market in the City Structure

The development of Pasar Bawah is inextricably linked to the history of Bukittinggi's emergence as one of the major trading centers in Minangkabau. From its earliest days, this area has served as a gathering place where people conducted economic activities and built social connections. At that time, the market served not only as a place for buying and selling but also as a space for interaction that brought together people from various villages. This situation demonstrates that the market has been an integral part of life in Bukittinggi since the city's earliest days of growth (Azmi 2016).

The early development of the commercial district in Bukittinggi is closely linked to the existence of Nagari Kurai, which served as the cradle of the city's founding. Before the Dutch colonial period, the people of Nagari Kurai already had Pakan Kurai, which served as the center of commercial activity. As trade in agricultural products, such as coffee and cinnamon, expanded, the area grew into Pakan Gadang due to its strategic location along trade routes. This development demonstrates that Bukittinggi's geographical position provided a distinct advantage, allowing the market area to evolve into the center of the community's economic activities during that period (Putri 2021).

Significant changes began to take place after the Dutch colonial government built Fort de Kock in 1826. The construction of the fort not only altered the city's urban layout but also spurred the growth of commercial activity in the market area. The reorganization of the area carried out by the Dutch East Indies government beginning in 1858 led to the market being managed in a more orderly manner. The market, which had previously developed in a traditional manner, subsequently became part of the urban trade system under the colonial government's administration. These findings indicate that colonial policies had a major influence on the changes in the function and management of Pasar Bawah in the development of the city of Bukittinggi (Putri 2021).

The continued development of Bukittinggi led to the formation of a more complex market system. Commercial activity was no longer concentrated in a single location but expanded to several areas in accordance with the needs of the community and the city's growth. In this development, Pasar Atas, Pasar Bawah, and Pasar Simpang Aur became an integrated trading system that supported one another. The division of functions among these market areas demonstrates that the city's development influenced changes in the structure of trade while simultaneously strengthening the role of Pasar Bawah as one of the centers of the community's economic activity (Pemerintah Bukittinggi 2015).

The research findings also indicate that the development of Pasar Bawah is influenced not only by commercial activities but also by its location within the historic district of Bukittinggi. Its proximity to Jam Gadang, Fort de Kock, Bung Hatta Palace, Lobang Jepang, and other heritage sites connects Pasar Bawah to a wide range of activities involving both the local community and tourists. These conditions have allowed Pasar Bawah to evolve not only as a commercial hub but also as an integral part of the city's historical fabric that endures to this day. This demonstrates that Pasar Bawah's identity is shaped by a blend of economic activity, historical significance, and the social life of the community (Azmi 2016)

From a social history perspective, the function of Pasar Bawah has gradually changed in tandem with the development of the city of Bukittinggi. In its early days, the market served as a place where people met their daily needs. During the colonial period, the market evolved into part of a more organized trade system. Meanwhile, today Pasar Bawah is not only a venue for community economic activities but also a space for social interaction linked to tourism. These changes indicate that the development of Pasar Bawah has been influenced by economic dynamics, social changes, community mobility, and urban development. Based on the research findings, it is evident that Pasar Bawah has undergone a functional transformation from a traditional village market into an integral part of the urban trade system, possessing historical, social, and economic value. These changes indicate that Pasar Bawah is not merely a venue for buying and selling transactions but also a space that documents the evolution of community life, trade mobility, tourism activities, and the formation of Bukittinggi's identity. The historical development of Pasar Bawah serves as the foundation for understanding its evolving functions as a commercial space, a space for social interaction, and a space that supports the growth of tourism in the city of Bukittinggi.

The Lower Market as a Commercial Space Within the Socio-Historical Structure of the City of Bukittinggi

The research findings indicate that Pasar Bawah continues to play a vital role as one of the commercial hubs in the city of Bukittinggi. Its location in the city center connects the market directly to various strategic areas, such as Jam Gadang, Pasar Ateh, the shopping district, pedestrian walkways, and public transportation hubs. This position makes Pasar Bawah not only a venue for economic activity but also an integral part of the urban activity network that connects commerce, community mobility, and tourism. Pasar Bawah's accessibility from various directions further supports the continuity of commercial activities. Locals use this market to meet their daily needs, while tourists often include it as a destination when visiting Bukittinggi. These conditions indicate that Pasar Bawah's development is influenced not only by buying and selling activities but also by urban spatial planning and high levels of community mobility. From a social history perspective, Pasar Bawah's function as a marketplace is not determined solely by the commodities traded there. Easy access, proximity to other commercial areas, and its central location within the

city's activity hub are factors that reinforce Pasar Bawah's role as the community's economic center. Traditional markets can continue to thrive because they are supported by the diversity of spatial functions, ease of access, and the interrelated distribution of urban activities (Aliyah et al. 2017)

Research findings also show that Pasar Bawah is an integral part of the historical development of downtown Bukittinggi. From the city's early growth to the present day, this area has continued to evolve in tandem with changes in the urban structure without losing its primary function as a community trading hub. The emergence of modern shopping centers has not diminished Pasar Bawah's role as a space for the local economy. This market remains a bustling place because of its strong ties to traditional trade networks, community mobility, and tourism activities taking place in downtown Bukittinggi. Pasar Bawah is not only a venue for buying and selling but also a social space that illustrates the relationship between commercial activities, urban development, and community life. Its existence demonstrates that traditional markets still play a vital role in sustaining local economic activity while supporting the development of Bukittinggi's tourism sector.

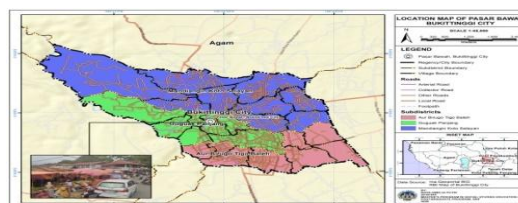


Figure 1. Map of the Location of Pasar Bawah in Bukittinggi

Source: Research documentation, 2026.

Historically, the existence of Pasar Bawah is inseparable from Bukittinggi's development as a trading city. Pasar Atas, Pasar Bawah, and Pasar Simpang Aur are the three main markets that play a vital role in shaping the city's economic activities. The Profile Document of Pasar Atas, Pasar Bawah, and Pasar Simpang Aur in Bukittinggi explains that these three markets hold significant value in the development of Bukittinggi as a cultural and trading city (Bukittinggi City Government, 2015). This indicates that Pasar Bawah functions not only as a place of transaction but also as a space that preserves the traces of the city's social and economic development.

From a historical perspective, the position of Pasar Bawah as part of the city's main market system shows that traditional markets can function as public spaces (Surendro and Kanumoyoso 2024) show that traditional markets in Indonesian urban history were not only economic facilities, but also public spaces that shaped social encounters and urban order. This perspective strengthens the interpretation of Pasar Bawah as a historical space that records the relationship between trade, public activity, and the development of Bukittinggi's urban structure.

Field findings show that commercial activities at Pasar Bawah involve various social groups. These groups include permanent vendors, small-scale vendors, seasonal vendors, local shoppers,

tourists, informal workers, porters, and members of the surrounding community. The diversity of these actors shows that Pasar Bawah serves as a grassroots economic space that supports the livelihoods of many community groups. Open data from Satu Data Sumbar also records Pasar Bawah in relation to market fees, indicating that this market can be viewed as part of the city's economic governance (Satu Data Sumatera Barat 2023).

Pasar Bawah also reflects the character of a traditional market as a social space. Buying and selling activities do not only occur through the exchange of goods and money. They also involve conversation, bargaining, customer relationships, and trust between vendors and buyers. In the Minangkabau context, markets have strong social and cultural meaning (Damsar and Indrayani 2016) explain that markets in Minangkabau society are related to socio-cultural construction, mobility, migration, and entrepreneurial practices. Thus, Pasar Bawah can be understood as a space where economy, culture, and social relations meet.

Studies on traditional markets also show that markets are not merely commercial buildings. (Aliyah et al. 2017) explain that traditional markets function as spaces for trade, socio-cultural interaction, and urban community activities. (Ekomadyo 2019) also emphasizes that public markets should be understood as economic and socio-cultural places, not only as physical structures. (Ekomadyo and Triwardhani 2024) further explain that public markets contain strong social content because market space is produced and consumed through everyday activities, informal practices, and social interaction. This view is relevant to Pasar Bawah because the market's meaning is formed not only through its physical location, but also through the daily presence of vendors, buyers, tourists, informal workers, and local residents.

Thus, Pasar Bawah can be understood as a space of grassroots trade within the socio-historical structure of Bukittinggi. This market is not merely a place for buying and selling. It also functions as a workplace, a meeting place, and a survival space for small traders and informal workers. From a social history perspective, commercial activities at Pasar Bawah record the relationship between the people's economy, merchant mobility, social interaction, and the development of Bukittinggi's city center.

Pasar Bawah as an Urban Tourism Space

Field research findings indicate that Pasar Bawah is closely linked to tourism activities in the city of Bukittinggi. Its proximity to Jam Gadang, Pasar Ateh, the shopping district, and pedestrian walkways places this market within the flow of tourist traffic. This situation demonstrates that Pasar Bawah functions not only as a market for daily necessities but also as a space that directly benefits from tourism activities in the city center.

The Jam Gadang area serves as one of the main hubs for tourist and local movement. (Safitri, Agustin, and Hariyarini 2023) explain that the Jam Gadang area is the central hub of Bukittinggi City's activities, characterized by the dominance of commercial activities. This finding supports

the research results that Pasar Bawah is situated within an active urban space interconnected with the mobility of both tourists and local residents.

Based on interviews with vendors, the bustle at Pasar Bawah is not consistent every day. Market activity increases on weekends, holidays, and during the tourist season. When tourists are numerous, the number of buyers increases and vendors' income rises accordingly. Conversely, when the number of tourists decreases, the market tends to be quieter. This indicates that the economic activity of Pasar Bawah follows the rhythm of tourism in the city of Bukittinggi.

The development of tourism is also linked to changes in the urban landscape. (Mirsa, Muhammad, et al. 2022) explain that the transformation of Bukittinggi's urban landscape was influenced by the development of tourism from 1984 to 2021. In this context, Pasar Bawah can be understood as part of the urban space that has evolved alongside tourism development, particularly due to its proximity to Jam Gadang, Pasar Ateh, and the city's commercial district.

Pasar Bawah also demonstrates that tourist experiences do not occur solely at formal tourist attractions. Tourists visiting the center of Bukittinggi can move from Jam Gadang to Pasar Ateh, the shopping district, and Pasar Bawah. In this movement, the market becomes part of the tourists' social experience. They do not merely purchase goods but also observe community activities, interact with vendors, and experience the local atmosphere.

(Fusté-Forné 2023) explains that urban markets can form part of the tourism experience because visitors are not only looking for products, but also for local atmosphere, cultural identity, and social interaction. (Vijulie et al. 2025) argue that markets can support sustainable urban tourism by encouraging local consumption, cultural experience, and direct connections between tourists and local communities. These perspectives are relevant to Pasar Bawah, which functions as both a trading space and a social space within Bukittinggi's tourism activities.



Figure 2. Trading Activity at the Bukittinggi Lower Market
Source: Field observation documentation, 2026.

However, the connection between markets and tourism also requires balance. (Crespi-Vallbona, Dominguez Pérez, and Miró 2019) explain that urban food markets attract both local consumers and tourists, but their uses must remain compatible so that tourism does not weaken the local function of the market. This perspective is important for Pasar Bawah because the market must continue to serve local residents while also responding to tourist mobility in the city center.

Thus, Pasar Bawah can be understood as an urban tourism space with a social function. This market is not only a place for shopping, but also a meeting space for tourists, vendors, local shoppers, informal workers, and the surrounding community. From a social history perspective, this condition shows that the function of Pasar Bawah has developed from a space of daily trade into an important part of the tourist experience and the social identity of the city of Bukittinggi

Community Interaction and Sustainability Challenges in the Lower Market

Field research findings indicate that social interaction is an integral part of life at Pasar Bawah Bukittinggi. Transactions at this market occur not only through the exchange of goods and money, but also through conversation, bargaining, customer relationships, trust, and vendors' strategies for retaining customers. These patterns of interaction demonstrate that traditional markets hold strong social value in community life.

In daily activities, vendors maintain customers through friendliness, product quality, fair prices, and good communication. Buyers also tend to return to vendors they already know because they feel comfortable and trust them. This relationship shows that the sustainability of trade in Pasar Bawah is not determined only by economic capital, but also by social capital. Trust, familiarity, and repeated interaction become important elements in maintaining market life.

In Minangkabau society, markets hold social and cultural significance. (Damsar and Indrayani 2016) explain that markets in Minangkabau society are linked to socio-cultural construction, mobility, migration, and entrepreneurial practices. This perspective is relevant to Pasar Bawah because the market brings together local vendors, migrant vendors, regular customers, tourists, informal workers, and the surrounding community. The presence of actors from different social and regional backgrounds makes the market a space of social encounter. The interview results show that relationships between vendors and buyers are often built on trust. Vendors retain customers through friendliness, product quality, fair prices, and good communication. Buyers also tend to return to vendors they already know because they feel comfortable and trust them. Such relationships indicate that the sustainability of trade at Pasar Bawah is determined not only by economic capital but also by social capital. However, Pasar Bawah also faces several sustainability challenges. Field findings show that vendors' income depends on the number of visitors, especially tourists. Market crowds are unstable, competition among vendors is increasing, informal economic activities remain visible, and market facilities are not yet fully adequate. These problems affect the comfort of vendors, buyers, tourists, and other market users.

Table 1. Key Socioeconomic Findings of the Bukittinggi Lower Market

NO	Field Findings	Social Impact
1	Merchants' income depends on the number of tourists	Revenue increases when there are many tourists and decreases when the market is slow
2	Market activity is volatile	Business is brisk on weekends, holidays, or during the tourist season
3	The vendors come from various regions	The market has become more diverse, but competition has also intensified
4	Informal economic activity is still evident	The market provides economic opportunities for small scale communities, but regulation has become more challenging
5	Market facilities are not yet fully adequate	The comfort of vendors and shoppers has decreased, particularly in terms of cleanliness, accessibility, and the organization of the space

Source: Results of field observations and interviews, 2026.

The findings in the table show that Pasar Bawah has social value for the surrounding urban space. (Guzmán-Pérez et al. 2021) explain that urban food markets can generate social value because they support interaction, local economic activity, and the sustainability of public spaces. This perspective is relevant to Pasar Bawah because the market continues to function as a space for small traders, local shoppers, tourists, and informal workers. The table also shows that the challenges of Pasar Bawah are not limited to buying and selling activities. These challenges are related to public comfort, spatial order, business continuity, and social relations among market actors. Informal economic activities show that the market remains a survival space for small communities. At the same time, these activities require better governance so that the market can remain orderly, accessible, and socially inclusive.

These sustainability challenges show that market management cannot focus only on physical improvement. It must also consider the social relations, livelihoods, and informal activities that keep the market alive. In this sense, Pasar Bawah needs to be understood as a living social space whose continuity depends on the balance between economic regulation, community participation, and the protection of small vendors. (Wibawa et al. 2024) explain that the preservation of traditional markets in Indonesia requires governance that pays attention to community participation, local culture, and the role of market actors. This view is important for understanding Pasar Bawah because market improvement should not only focus on physical infrastructure. It should also protect the livelihoods of small vendors, maintain social relationships, and preserve the character of the market as a community interaction space.

Thus, Pasar Bawah can be understood as a dynamic social space. It reflects the relationship between grassroots trade, tourist mobility, social interaction, and urban management challenges. From a social history perspective, Pasar Bawah is not merely a

marketplace. It is a space that records how the people of Bukittinggi work, interact, adapt, and sustain their socio-economic life amid the development of the city as a tourism center.

IV. CONCLUSION

Research findings indicate that Pasar Bawah plays a significant role in the social history of Bukittinggi. This market not only serves as a venue for commercial activities but also functions as a social space that reflects changes in community life over time. The development of Pasar Bawah has progressed in tandem with the growth of Bukittinggi from its origins as a traditional village market, through its expansion during the colonial era, to its current status as part of the city's commercial and tourism district. Its location near Jam Gadang, Pasar Ateh, the shopping district, and pedestrian paths gives Pasar Bawah a strong connection to the mobility of both residents and tourists. The interactions that take place between vendors, shoppers, tourists, street vendors, and the surrounding community demonstrate that Pasar Bawah remains a space where economic activity and the social life of the community converge. This study contributes by viewing Pasar Bawah as a space of social history that is examined not only in terms of its economic function but also in terms of the relationships between trade, urban development, social mobility, and tourism activities. This approach provides a more comprehensive picture of the changing functions of Pasar Bawah within the structure of the city of Bukittinggi. Nevertheless, this study has limitations because the historical sources used have not fully utilized colonial archives, old maps, historical photographs, or documents that depict the development of Pasar Bawah over a longer time span. Furthermore, this study remains focused on Pasar Bawah and thus has not yet compared its social and historical characteristics with those of Pasar Ateh or Pasar Simpang Aur. Future research could expand the study through a more detailed historical periodization, covering the pre-colonial, colonial, and post-independence periods, up to the development of modern tourism. A comparative study of several major markets in the city of Bukittinggi could also be conducted to examine differences in function, trade patterns, governance, and their contributions to the formation of the city's historical identity.

REFERENCES

- Aliyah, Istijabatul, Bambang Setioko, and Wisnu Pradoto. 2017. "Spatial Variety and Distribution of Traditional Markets in Surakarta as Potential Factors in Improving Spatial-Based Management." *Journal of Geomatics and Planning* 4(1):63–74.
- Aliyah, Istijabatul, Galing Yudana, and Rara Sugiarti. 2020. "Model of Traditional Market as Cultural Product Outlet and Tourism Destination in Current Era." *Journal of Architecture and Urbanism* 44(1):88–96.
- Aspers, Patrik, and Ugo Corte. 2019. "What Is Qualitative in Qualitative Research." *Qualitative Sociology* 42(2):139–60.
- Azmi, Aulia. 2016. "Kawasan Pusaka Bukittinggi Sebagai Identitas Kota."

- Crespi-Vallbona, Montserrat, Marta Domínguez Pérez, and Oscar Mascarilla Miró. 2019. "Urban Food Markets and Their Sustainability: The Compatibility of Traditional and Tourist Uses." *Current Issues in Tourism* 22(14):1723–43.
- Damsar, Indrayani, and Indrayani Indrayani. 2016. "Konstruksi Sosial Budaya Minangkabau Atas Pasar." *Jurnal Antropologi* 18(1):29–38.
- Ekomadyo, Agus S. 2019. "Evaluating Revitalized Public Markets as Economic and Socio-Cultural Places in Indonesia." *Pertanika Journal of Social Sciences & Humanities* 27(2):963–76.
- Ekomadyo, Agus, and Ike J. Triwardhani. 2024. "Social Production and Consumption of Space: Study of Public-Market in Bandung, Indonesia." *Journal of Architecture and Urbanism* 48(1):11–24.
- Fusté-Forné, Francesc. 2023. "The Tourist Experience at Urban Food Markets: A Qualitative Study in Palermo (Sicily)." *International Journal of Tourism Cities* 9(2):447–61.
- Feni, U., Febrianto, A., & Fitrisia, A. (2025). Heritage tourism and local economic transformation in Bukittinggi: Navigating formal and informal livelihoods. *Indonesian Journal of Social Science Education (IJSSE)*
- Guzmán-Pérez, Beatriz, María Victoria Pérez-Monteverde, Javier Mendoza-Jiménez, and Cándido Román-Cervantes. 2021. "Social Value and Urban Sustainability in Food Markets." *Frontiers in Psychology* 12:689390.
- Kahanna, M., Rahmi, H., & Mardhatillah, M. (2024). The existence of traditional markets post-regional autonomy in Bukittinggi, West Sumatra. *Journal of Scientific Research, Education, and Technology*.
- Madeira, Arlindo, Rosa Rodrigues, Teresa Palrão, and Alexandra Sofia Mendes. 2023. "Tourists' Fascination with Urban Food Markets: The Successful Case of Time out Market Lisbon." *Foods* 12(9):1795.
- Mirsa, Rinaldi, Muhammad, Fidyati, and Gustika Rahayu. 2022. "Bukittinggi City Space Transformation Based on Tourism Development." *Journal of Innovation and Technology* 3(1):16–24. doi:10.31629/jit.v3i1.4362.
- Mirsa, Rinaldi, Gustika Rahayu, and others. 2022. "Bukittinggi City Space Transformation Based on Tourism Development." *Journal of Innovation and Technology* 3(1):16–24.
- Nowell, Lorelli S., Jill M. Norris, Deborah E. White, and Nancy J. Moules. 2017. "Thematic Analysis: Striving to Meet the Trustworthiness Criteria." *International Journal of Qualitative Methods* 16(1):1609406917733847.
- Pasar, D. A. N., Simpang Aur, D. A. N. Pasar, Simpang Aur, and Kota Bukittinggi. 2015. "Profil Pasar Atas, Pasar Bawah Dan Pasar Simpang Aur Kota Bukittinggi."
- Prakoso, Y. B., & Rolalisasi, A. (2024). Revitalisasi pasar tradisional di Indonesia: Studi kasus Pasar Ateh Bukittinggi dan Pasar Prawirotaman Yogyakarta. *Jurnal Lingkungan Karya Arsitektur*.
- Putri, Suci Kurnia. 2021. "Pakan : Pasar Tradisional Rakyat Bukittinggi Pada Abad Ke-19 Pendahuluan." 2(2):31–42.
- Safitri, F., I. W. Agustin, and S. Hariyarini. 2023. "Kinerja Jalur Pejalan Kaki Kawasan Jam Gadang Kota Bukittinggi." *Planning for Urban Region ...* 12(0341):151–62.
- Sejarah, Jurnal. 2021. "Sejarah Dan Budaya : " 369–76. doi:10.17977/um021v15i22021p369.

- Siregar, Muhammad Adriansyah, Muhammad Amin, Niswatul Azizah Nasution, Rahma Winanda, Syfa Nailul Husnah, Nur Hasanah, and Andriyadi Marta. 2023. "Historical and Ethnographic Approaches in Qualitative Research." 02(02):390–94.
- Surendro, Annisa Maghfira, and Bondan Kanumoyoso. 2024. "Traditional Market as a Public Space: Thomas Karsten's Design for Johar Market in Semarang (1906--1939)." Pp. 145–59 in *Collective Memory, Marginality, and Spatial Politics in Urban Indonesia*. Springer.
- Vijulie, Iuliana, Gabriel Vânu, Mihaela Preda, and Ana Maria Taloş. 2025. "The Role of Food Markets in Urban Sustainable Tourism: A Case Study from Bucharest (Romania)." *Sustainability* 17(13):6217.
- Warni, Annisa Nolvi, and Ahyuni Ahyuni. 2024. "Analisis Perkembangan Kota Bukittinggi Dan Sekitarnya Tahun 2005-2022 Menggunakan Metode Spatial Metric." *Yasin* 4(2):152–64. doi:10.58578/yasin.v4i2.2810.
- Wibawa, Samodra, Rindu Sanubari Mashita Firdaus, Puthut Indroyono, Laksmi Adriani Savitri, and others. 2024. "Preserving Traditional Market in Indonesia Based on the New Public Governance Perspective." *International Journal of Asian Business and Information Management (IJABIM)* 15(1):1–14.