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Book Review

DATANGNYA PAGEBLUK: COVID-19, FLU BURUNG DAN WABAH KAPITALISME

(Arrival of Pagebluk: Covid-19, Avian Flu and the Plague of Capitalism)

Mike Davis; Yogyakarta; 2021; 978-623-96204-2-4; 199

The book was written to provide information about the plague that is now attacking the world. From a historical point of view author connects the afflictions of the past and the curses that strike the world today. From the Spanish flu, bird flu to Covid-19 can kill at least 40 million people until now is still growing. Through this historical approach, the information submitted can be used as the latest reference about Covid-19 or previous outbreaks, as an analysis so that they can survive in the pandemic.

The book is intended for anyone who is really interested in the latest issue that is shaking the world. Because this book not only contains the Covid-19 outbreak, but also contains histories of previous outbreaks and is related to today's situation. The author writes from the health or medical side, historically, anthropology to philosophy critically. So it is clear that the book will be very suitable for those who like to think critically, those who want to study the latest information about the outbreak, they are beginners of biotechnology research and everything that is related to the Covid-19 outbreak research and previously without an age benchmark this book will match those who are interested in this issue.

The book, at least it provides new information regarding research on the Covid-19 virus. Especially the conditions in America before and during Covid-19, in fact, almost all chapters must describe the requirements and policies of the American government both in the Covid-19 pandemic or previous pandemics. The author provides many information and data from research by experts on outbreaks and pandemics that may still be unknown in developing countries.

The author explains about the pandemics that have shocked the world until the pandemic that we are facing today. By reviewing, it is hoped that many people, especially the younger generation, will find out about the conditions we face today. By reviewing it, you can also describe the book's contents a little to be more interested in this book. Because the content conveyed is in accordance with the current state of the world, this review can be used as the latest analysis and study about outbreaks and pandemics in several decades.

The world currently still at war with the Covid-19 virus pandemic has made Mike Davis's book *Datangnya Pagebluk* really meet readers' needs. In conditions that require staying at home, reading can be an option to fill boredom. Especially the discussion contains information and pandemic data from scientists, especially in America. At these times, we have to know what people worldwide are facing, so we need information about the problems being fought. Therefore, the book really fulfills today's human needs.

The Covid-19 pandemic has made the world closed, in this period of course we have to know what is being faced. Mike Davis provides a short description of the war facing the world today. Mike Davis includes information and explanations about the state of the world by using research data as a reference. However, because this book is a translated book published for the first time in 2020, while research on the Covid-19 virus must have progressed as evidenced by the discovery of a vaccine. Even so, not everyone knows about studies about this virus. "It took 8 million years for the human genome to evolve by 1%. Many animal RNA viruses can grow over 1% in just a matter of days." Where this is one of the results of research from the journal *The England Journal of Medicine* in 2020.

From Mike Davis's point of view, the information conveyed will certainly have an impact on the reader. This book raises a global issue, so that readers will at least get a new idea of the Covid-19 virus and the current pandemic. Moreover, here Mike Davis uses relevant and up-to-

date data from well-known research and journals. So that readers will come back to think and speculate about the coronavirus outbreak.

Works written by Mike Davis, it is explained that the corona virus is a very fast-spreading virus, signaling a perfect epidemiological storm. It is a hazardous virus that has an unusual leap beyond species boundaries. From what the author has conveyed through the discussion, more or less will definitely have an influence where readers can be more careful and maintain cleanliness and comply with health protocols. Because the virus here cannot be seen but the spread is speedy and dangerous. In several other explanations, Mike presented information about China, a region with wet markets and sells wild meat. From this, readers will be able to learn from their mistakes, that strange foods are not always healthy, especially foods made from wild animal meat that humans do not commonly consume.

Mike Davis writes his views not just speculates and then writes them down. Because what Mike explains is really supported by evidence and clear data sources. Mike Davis includes the source's name in his book, be it a journal or an article. Mike's writing uses footnotes,, so obviously Mike Davis is not talking nonsense but is backed up by evidence from previous studies. One of them was when Mike explained that in the slums and suburbs of Africa it could reverse the pattern of coronavirus infection. Among domestic animals, researchers found two distinct routes, the oral facial which attacks the stomach and digestive tissues and the respiratory tract which attacks the lungs. This explanation is Mike Davis' explanation which is supported by clear evidence or sources, the explanation comes from the Journal of Medical Virology with the title Fecal Transmission in COVID-19: A Potential Shedding Route in 2020.

The book by Mike Davis is a book that is completely powered by data. Sourced from various literature, Mike has processed it into a very informative article. Therefore, this book can be said to be quite convincing for the reader. Mike makes readers think and think back to the plague that the world is facing. Mike packaged his explanation well so that readers will be sure of his writing that connects the coronavirus outbreak or Covid-19 with previous outbreaks, including connecting conditions and government policies, especially in America.

Mike Davis wrote this book with great confidence. The initial section displayed a table of contents and terms that will explain the book's explanation. In the first part, Mike wrote an introduction with 5 sub-chapters that described a little about Covid-19, the previous outbreak and conditions in America such as tranquil roads and everything was closed. Then, fill in 10 sections and a conclusion chapter. Here Mike Davis collects data to support his speculation. The plague we face today and the outbreaks occurred in the past seem to form a pattern. Here the writer makes the reader think critically to help solve this. What's wrong with the world system? So that this outbreak can occur and seems to form a pattern. Mike Davis re-analyzes the plague with scientific research then connects it with the political, economic or system applied in a capitalist government so that this pandemic can spread so quickly and widely.

In terms of writing a book is a pretty good book. the writing style is well packaged and seems structured. The author wrote it as a concept, where when discussing this, which sources are supporting then continued with other discussions that are still in touch. Mike Davis' statements are under fairly structured discussion and with supporting data. The things Mike is questioning can be more easily explored because of the structured writing.

In the case of studies, the writer's facts or ideas seem to be wide open. Where Mike Davis provides his point of view and is reinforced with data. From all this it is clear that Mike Davis is not ignoring facts, ideas or cases. So that readers will come to think hard to deepen their writing for consideration. His statement will make the reader reconsider.

The strength of this book is in its writing, where the author really explores the problem or issue raised. Because it is not only about the Covid-19 pandemic but also explanations and information from the pandemic which has also shocked the world. Every data used is even the latest data with the footnote system, so when reading a presented data, the reader can immediately know where the data was taken from, whose work, and what year. Because Mike's work is an analysis of medical or health matters, before starting to read, there are several sheets at the beginning that explain each abbreviation or designation for a disease such as SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome), which is severe acute respiratory syndrome.

The weakness of this work lies in the language, because this book is a translated book, it is a little difficult to explore this book. Especially the use of biological terms such as H1N1 which is the name for virus influenza A causes swine flu. Readers who are not familiar with these terms will find it difficult to think critically when reading. Mike Davis's work also barely presents data in the form of tables, in the sense that his work actually contains Mike Davis' writings and points of view which are supported by data from various references. So that readers who are accustomed and easier to understand an article by looking at the table will have a little difficulty.

The book of "Datangnya Pagebluk: Covid-19, Flu Burung dan Wabah Kapitalisme" is quite an informative book, including books that require critical thinking when readers. However, the use of viral terms should be reduced because when you are seriously reading and then there are terms that even though there is already a description on the start page you might forget and have to look first. Therefore, a focused reader can start to get a little confused, especially for people who are not familiar with the term.

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Davis, Mike. 2021. *Datangnya Pagebluk: Covid-19, Flu Burung dan Wabah Kapitalisme*. 1 ed. Yogyakarta: Independen.

AUTHOR:

Mike Davis is a historian, activist, writer and urban theorist. This California, American-born author has written many books, most of which tend to address social or political issues. In one of them, entitled Planet of Slums, Mike Davis raises the problem of poverty. The author was born in 1946 and studied at the Getty Research Institute but did not complete his PhD education with a major in history at the University of California. Davis also won the MacArthur Fellowship and the Lennan Literary Award. In addition to the book *Datangnya Pagebluk*, his works include *The Monster at Our Door* (2005), *Dead Cities* (2002), *Magical Urbanism* (2000), *The Monster Enters* (2020) and so on.