

Understanding Principal Values of Minangkabau's Outmigration in Indonesia.

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- **Abstract:** Outmigration is a unique characteristic of the Minangkabau people who can be found in almost all regions of Indonesia. Historically, the Minangkabau migrants have coexisted peacefully with local communities in which they settle, and there is no record of conflict between the Minangkabau migrants and local inhabitants. This study attempted to determine the values espoused by this nomadic community. The study was grounded in literature study approach of philosophical hermeneutics and utilized methodical elements, such as description, induction deduction, synthesis analysis, and heuristics. The study also applied observation, and interviews with the Minangkabau migrants. The findings revealed that the culture of this ethnic group explicitly encourages young people to venture abroad. The ethical values that form the basis of the outmigration's of the Minangkabau community are affirmed by the adat (local) proverbs that prescribe strong work ethics, mutual respect, and an understanding of the local culture to which they outmigrate.
- **Keywords:** local communities, Minangkabau community, philosophical hermeneutics