Abstract:

This article investigates young men's experiences in a recently introduced mode of transport, called ojeg (motorcycle taxi), in an urban island town. The paper explores questions of how the social and spatial dynamics of ojeg drivers, who are linked to different types of ojeg stations (*pangkalan*), are shaped by, but also influence, local affairs and the business of an alternative transport system. Social and spatial dynamics are key factors that influence the daily life of the ojeg drivers. The ojeg world has actively mediated the meaning of public spaces for these young men who experience some degree of freedom, and are able to build a sense of solidarity, but at the same time become political instruments.

Keywords: Ojeg; pangkalan; Motorcycle Taxis; Urban Space; Youth Identity and Mobility; North Maluku; Indonesia; Mobility; Territory