

Development of cultural spatial concepts for the preservation of local culture and the environment in the ecotourism area of Tamansari Village

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ABSTRACT

Areas designated as strategic tourism areas are those where tourism serves as the primary industry or has the potential to do so, as well as has a significant impact on one or more factors, such as the development of the economy, society, and culture, as well as the preservation of natural resources, the ability of the environment to support human habitation, and defense and security, through putting into practice the idea of ecotourism development, which is responsible tourism to natural areas that promote environmental preservation and enhances the well-being of locals. With a focus on local wisdom and a microcosm of Sundanese culture connected to Tamansari Village, the concept plan for developing the village's tourism areas combines ecotourism and local wisdom.

ABSTRAK

Kawasan yang ditetapkan sebagai kawasan pariwisata strategis adalah kawasan yang pariwisatanya berfungsi sebagai industri utama atau mempunyai potensi untuk itu, serta mempunyai dampak penting terhadap satu atau lebih faktor, seperti perkembangan ekonomi, masyarakat, dan budaya, serta pelestarian sumber daya alam, kemampuan lingkungan hidup untuk mendukung tempat tinggal manusia, serta pertahanan dan keamanan, melalui penerapan gagasan pengembangan ekowisata, yaitu pariwisata yang bertanggung jawab terhadap kawasan alam yang memajukan pelestarian lingkungan dan meningkatkan kesejahteraan penduduk setempat. Dengan fokus pada kearifan lokal dan mikrokosmos budaya Sunda yang terhubung dengan Desa Tamansari, konsep rencana pengembangan kawasan wisata desa ini memadukan ekowisata dan kearifan lokal.

Keywords: *Ecotourism, environment preservation, local wisdom, West Java*

INTRODUCTION

Ecotourism means a model of nature tourism in natural areas with the aim of enjoying its natural beauty and supporting conservation efforts and increasing the economic income of the local community. (Hutanpedia, 2023). Some ecotourism activities can be carried out by visiting a village that has natural and cultural charms that are still preserved. According to Simanjuntak et al. (2021) and Panderi et al. (2022), a region's ecotourism industry can be built on its biophysical features as well as its people's everyday lives. Examples of this include nature tourism (Sofiyudin et al., 2021), research nature tourism, and culturally-based nature tourism (local wisdom). Tamansari Village, Tamansari Sub-district, is a village that is not only directly adjacent to the TNGHS area, but most of its area is within the TNGHS area (Indonesia Geospatial Information Agency (BIG) Earth Shape Map 2016). Of the total area of approximately 1,580.79 ha, almost 63.86% of Tamansari Village is within the TNGHS Forest Area. Calobak Village is located in RW 08 Hamlet 3 of Tamansari Village which is directly adjacent to the Gunung Halimun Salak

National Park Area. Some residents in RW 08 earn a living as pohpohan farmers and honje farmers who are planted in the TNGHS utilisation zone. The TNGHS area has very high biodiversity, this is very potential to become a tourism resource that is worth developing and becomes its own attraction into a natural tourism area. The potential for abundant natural tourism resources in the Dusun 3 area is a major consideration in determining the location of the Tamansari Village flagship tourism area development plan. In the area, the Tamansari Village government owns Village treasury land which is located right in the Calobak Village Area Rt 04 Rw 08 with an area of 2.4Ha Coordinates 6°39'56.68" South latitude and 106°44'32.95" East longitude. The area is bordered to the east by residential housing, to the north and west by cultivated land and to the south by Mount Salak.

The geographical position is right at the foot of Mount Salak and is only ±14km from Bogor city centre. Topographical conditions vary with some having slopes from gentle to steep. Traversed by lava flow paths that form rivers with water originating from Mount Salak springs. The uniqueness of the landscape and

topography is a characteristic that cannot be found in other areas. The back to nature tourism trend has changed the focus of world tourism towards nature tourism. This provides a great opportunity for areas that have high natural resources. However, the development of the area is expected to maintain environmental sustainability and local wisdom so that it can become its own characteristics in the development of the regional concept (Rusmana, 2018).

CULTURAL SPATIAL CONCEPT

The development concept that highlights the value of Sundanese culture is the main alternative in the development of the spatial concept where in Sundanese society it is known that the tritungtu or the concept of 3 worlds is often found in traditional Sundanese villages (Rusmana, 2018).



Figure 1. Philosophical concept in Sundanese traditional buildings (Rusmana, 2018).

From this philosophical concept (Figure 1), it is interpreted into; 1) The upper world is the leuweung (forest) cover, 2) The middle world is the life of the community, and 3) The lower world is the world of the end of life.

Concept of Space

The application of the cosmos of the Sundanese universe (Figure 2), becomes the philosophy of the spatial concept in the development of the area. This spatial concept consists of 3 zones, namely:

- a) The upper world which is a *leuweung tutupan* which has the concept of agroforestry must be maintained and preserved for balance in the relationship between humans and nature, both of which are God's creations, so that they must protect each other as a form of gratitude for their gifts. *Leuweung tutupan* or *leuweung geledegan* literally means old forest, which is a forest that is still dense with various types of large and small native plants, complete with all the animals that inhabit it. This type of forest should not be touched by humans at all. This type of forest according to custom should not be destroyed

because it is considered a protector of life or a source of life, essentially a source of water (*hulu cai*).

- b) The middle world is the zone of human life. In the social zone between humans and humans. In the zone seen from the concept of yard in every Sundanese traditional settlement.
- c) The underworld is a prohibition zone whose designation is a zone of relationship between humans and God, where humans will eventually return to the Creator.

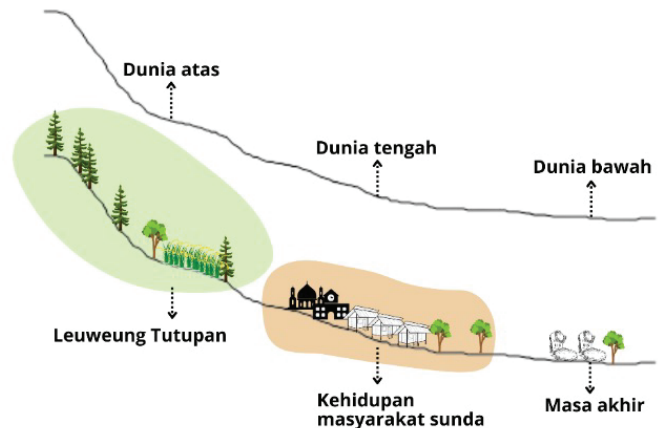


Figure 2. Landscaping concept based on zoning.

Yard Concept

The yard pattern is the basis for the development of the Sundanese yard concept. This concept provides a philosophy of life for Sundanese people who utilise the resources in the yard for their daily needs (Arifin, 2013). Figure 3 shows that the Sundanese community yard concept is one example of a sustainable green space on a small scale.

The space in the concept consists of:

- a. *Buruan* is the front yard which is a zone of processing and storage of foodstuffs. In addition, there is also a children's playroom and the types of plants used are ornamental and fruit plants that function as a welcome area.
- b. *Pipir* is a side yard that contains service spaces in the daily activities of the community, such as bathing, washing, wells. In this space there are also fish ponds, beds for production plants and medicinal plants. As well as firewood storage as one of the traditional lives of cooking with firewood.
- c. *Kebon* is a space whose overall function is a production zone. In this space there are vegetable production plants, industrial plants and livestock. In this zone the results are for daily needs and as a result of production that is sold to increase family income.

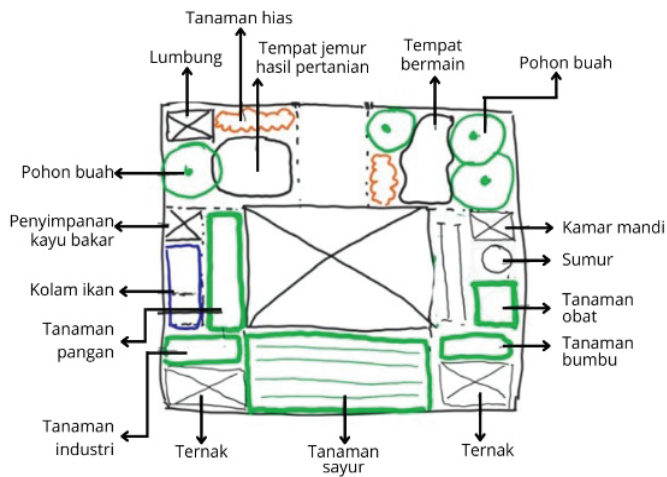


Figure 3. Illustration of the yard pattern.

Yard Concept

The concept of tourism in Taman Sari village is the concept of Sundanese culture by displaying the life of Sundanese people both in cosmological layout and spatial patterns of daily life (Figure 4 and 5). Yasmine & Subekti (2021) suggested that the planned tourist space displays several Sundanese cultural attractions consisting of:

1. Museum of Sundanese cultural life that displays the vernacular side of Sundanese society. Consists of traditional houses and their yards.
2. Sundanese traditional house which is the management zone of the area. This zone provides the appeal of traditional Sundanese architecture.
3. Amphitheatre becomes the centre of the tourist space. This zone will provide the attraction of Sundanese art, in the form of art performances. Dance, traditional music, puppet shows.
4. Another attraction is the overnight tour package consisting of a camping ground area. The tour packages offered are independent camping, glamping, and home stays in traditional houses.
5. There is a water source on the site, a resource that can be developed as one of the tourism potentials. Attractions provided in the form of a bathing area.
6. In addition, nature tourism is also offered in the form of trekking to the leuweung tutupan area. This nature tourism provides education on the ecosystem in the forest.

The planning concept is adjusted to the existing conditions of the site (Nugrahatama, et al., 2024), where the welcome area which is the entrance to the area is in the north and the site is increasingly complex towards the inside by being limited by the *leuweung* (forest) cover area to the north as a boundary between the tourist area and the National Park area.

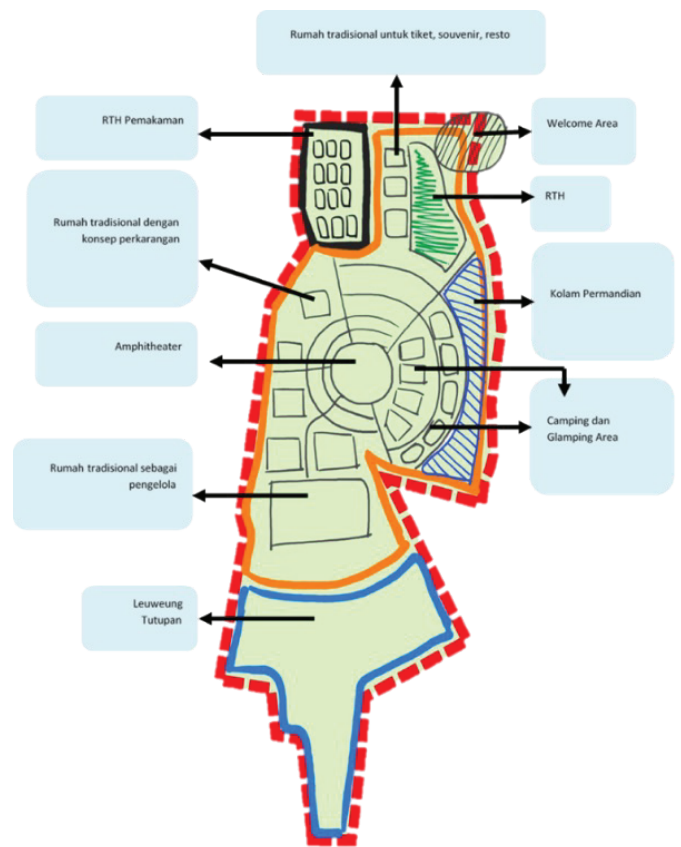


Figure 4. Ecotourism concept plan.

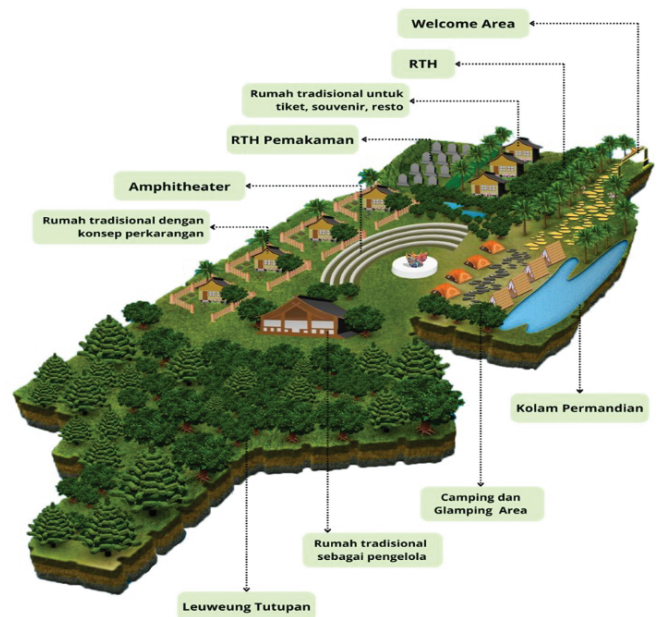


Figure 5. Ecotourism Concept Plan in Taman Sari Village.

Space Function:

- a) The upper zone functions as a conservation area, in accordance with the concept of leuweung tutupan which means that the conservation forest area sacred to the Sundanese tribe is basically a protected forest area that functions as a soil and water protection area, plasmanutfah and wildlife. In this area visitor activities are limited to nature tourism

activities such as trekking, bird watching, and some educational activities.

- b) The middle zone is representative of Sundanese settlements with the imah gede as the centre of the settlement and surrounded by several houses with Sundanese architecture. Like a traditional Sundanese village, it is equipped with several cultural elements such as petirtaan, balai riung, places of worship and a large open space where traditional ceremonies are held.
- c) The lower zone is the entrance to the area. In this zone there are tourist facilities that give a welcoming impression, such as restaurants and souvenir stalls. There are also other natural tourism facilities such as camping ground and glamping area. In addition to tourist facilities, there is also an end-time zone in the form of a cemetery for local residents and illustrates the underworld in Sundanese cosmology.

CONCLUSION

For a region to be developed to be both aesthetically pleasing and fundamentally sound for the three forming factors nature, people, and the Creator it must have a strong idea philosophy. We can examine the theory behind the concept in the local culture, as Sundanese cosmology is derived from the everyday lives of the people of Tamansari Village. The upper, middle, and lower zones are the three interconnected spaces that make up the concept of space. Preserving culture and using nature as a container for the area's development is the goal of the cultural idea approach.

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