Local Wisdom in the Guwosari for Its Preservation in the Development of Campus II UIN Sunan Kalijaga

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Abstract

The university's development should not overlook the valuable indigenous knowledge inherited within the local community. Local wisdom comprises the customs and practices that have evolved among particular individuals, rooted in their deep understanding of the local environment accumulated over generations of inhabiting the area. Therefore, when expanding UIN Sunan Kalijaga in the Pajangan region, it is crucial to consider these aspects. This study aims to identify and document the local wisdom present in the Guwosari area, emphasizing its importance for preservation during the development process of Campus II UIN Sunan Kalijaga. A qualitative research method was employed due to the natural setting in which the study was conducted. Interviews were applied to the Neighborhood Association Chairperson, and community leaders. The observation was applied to the site where UIN Sunan Kalijaga's Campus II will be built. The results were compared between interviews, observations, and document analysis to test the accuracy. The findings reveal several enduring legacies of local wisdom, such as the Selarong caves, untouched forests, and the landscapes and waters passed down through the ages. These legacies must be safeguarded and conserved, with development initiatives giving due attention to their protection.

Keywords: Local Wisdom, Campus Development, Preservation

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1. Introduction

The issue of education poses a significant challenge in Indonesia (Yasin, 2021). Although there have been overall improvements in the education system, it is still far from the desired ideal condition (Rosser, 2018). Although the education strategy has successfully increased the literacy rate in Indonesia, there is still a tendency to prioritize quantity over quality (Ilma, 2015). Further efforts are needed to enhance the quality and
effectiveness of education in Indonesia (Yolandha & Dewi, 2021). Over a considerable period, the government's policies have lacked emphasis on the aspect of educational excellence (Insani, 2019). Also, education in Indonesia has the potential to be disconnected from rich values and cultural traditions (Rahmi, Novenuno Bayu Prastowo, Biwono, & Puspitasari, 2021). It might be due to the influence of globalization and modernization, which have led to the dominance of foreign educational paradigms that often do not align with the local context (Manurung, Ilmania Salsabila, Wirawan, Anggraini, & Pandin, 2022). As a result, many cultural aspects that should be integral to education, such as traditional values, customs, and local languages, have been neglected and marginalized (Zamhari, 2023).

When it comes to university education and development, it is crucial to consider both the overall identity of the Indonesian nation and the specific regional identities (Normayanti & Zamhari, 2022). Local wisdom within communities should not be overlooked in university development (Fajarini, 2014). Local wisdom encompasses the customs and practices that arise from a deep understanding of the local environment, which has developed over generations (Hidayati, 2017). It helps universities recognize and appreciate the diverse cultural heritage within their communities (Cooper & Orrell, 2016). Universities play a vital role in their local communities. By actively engaging with local wisdoms and traditions, universities enable establishing solid partnerships and collaborations with the environment (Achille & Fiorillo, 2022). It contributes to preserving cultural heritage, fostering inclusivity and diversity, enhancing research and innovation, strengthening community engagement, and promoting ethical and responsible practices (Chen, Nasongkhla, & Donaldson, 2015; Gómez, Pujols, Alvarado, & Vargas, 2018).

Rahyono explains that local wisdom emerges from human intelligence in specific domains, gained through daily experiences (Gunawan, Digojo, & Subarkah, 2015). This wisdom is unique to particular regions and may not be shared elsewhere. It is cultivated through a lifelong learning journey and can be observed in human behavior towards the environment, including interactions with animals, plants, objects, and surroundings (Smith, Mason, & Bowden, 2020). Preserving local wisdom is thus of utmost importance in advancing the field of education (Rukiyati & Purwastuti, 2016). With its diverse races, ethnicities, and cultures, Indonesia possesses a wealth of local wisdom that deserves to be conserved (Tohri, Rasyad, Sururuddin, & Istitqal, 2022). Local wisdom plays a crucial role in shaping the character education of the nation (Fajarini, 2014). Furthermore, it acts as a cultural filter, safeguarding the nation's identity during the process of internationalization (Suparmi, Setyawati, & Sumunar, 2013).

Local wisdom is also essential in the development of a university. It provides both integration of traditional knowledge and cultural preservation. Local wisdom encompasses a specific community or culture's accumulated knowledge, practices, and beliefs (Pamenang, 2021). Incorporating local wisdom into university development allows for integrating traditional knowledge systems into academic programs and research (Albuquerque et al., 2021). Local wisdom often encompasses cultural practices, rituals, and artistic expressions integral to the community's identity and heritage (Alfian & Margono, 2023). By incorporating and promoting these cultural elements in university development, institutions preserve and revitalize local cultures (Demssie, JA Biemans, Wesselink, & Mulder, 2020). By considering the surrounding local wisdoms, universities can create a meaningful and sustainable presence within the community (Cooper & Orrell, 2016). It fosters the integration of traditional knowledge, promotes sustainability,
respects indigenous cultures, empowers the community, and contributes to preserving local heritage (Carvalho, 2021; Smith et al., 2020).

Therefore, the development of the UIN Sunan Kalijaga campus in the Pajangan area should consider these aspects (Buana et al., 2023). The Pajangan area, chosen for the campus construction, holds significant potential for local wisdom. It is home to historical relics such as Selarong Cave, which served as Prince Diponegoro's hiding place (Purnomo, Handoyo, & Kadir, 2023; Wulandari, Fauziah, & Ikhsan, 2023). These religious tourism sites must be preserved, ensuring the protection of both their physical locations and cultural significance. Additionally, the Guwosari area in Pajangan still holds many relics and local wisdom. Therefore, it is crucial to conduct an analysis of local wisdom to ensure that the development of the UIN Sunan Kalijaga campus does not compromise the potential of existing local wisdom. Instead, the development should strive to maintain and enhance the local potential within the Pajangan area.

2. Method

This study employed a qualitative research method due to the nature of the research being conducted in a natural setting (Sugiyono, 2010). The utilization of this method allows for a more in-depth understanding and meaningful interpretation of the research findings, going beyond mere generalizations. By adopting a qualitative approach, the study aims to provide a detailed, systematic, factual, and accurate description of the subject variable, which in this case is the local wisdom within the development area of Campus II UIN Sunan Kalijaga in Guwosari, Pajangan, Bantul, Special Region of Yogyakarta.

Qualitative research methods are well-suited for exploring and comprehending the complex and contextual aspects of a phenomenon or subject. They involve collecting and analyzing non-numerical data, such as interviews, observations, and document analysis, allowing researchers to delve into the intricacies and nuances of the research area and test the accuracy of the obtained data. Interviews were applied to the Neighborhood Association Chairperson, and community leaders. The observation was applied to the site where UIN Sunan Kalijaga's Campus II will be built. The results are then processed and analyzed using documents such as relevant articles on local wisdom.

In the context of this study, employing a qualitative approach enables researchers to examine the local wisdom present in the development area of Campus II UIN Sunan Kalijaga in a comprehensive and in-depth manner. The chosen research site, Guwosari in Pajangan, Bantul, Special Region of Yogyakarta, holds significance as it is the designated location for the development of Campus II of UIN Sunan Kalijaga. Conducting the research in this area allows for a focused investigation into the local wisdom within the community and its potential impact on the development of the university campus. By immersing themselves in the local setting, the researchers aim to understand the cultural, social, and historical aspects that shape the local wisdom in this context.

3. Result and Discussion

The development of science and technology has influenced various fields in Indonesia, including the field of Islamic higher education. Indonesia is the largest Muslim country in the world, with a population of more than 236 million people (Review, 2023). The establishment of Campus II for UIN Sunan Kalijaga, which includes opening faculties such as Medicine and Health Sciences, Psychology, Engineering, Marine Science and Fisheries, will positively impact the development of an educated population
It will ultimately produce individuals who can contribute to society and become experts in specific fields such as medicine, psychology, engineering, and others, thereby accelerating Indonesia's development in the future (Pee & Vululleh, 2020).

UIN Sunan Kalijaga carries a mission of integrating knowledge, religion, technology, and the arts to build the nation's civilization. Therefore, the role of UIN in the future becomes highly strategic. UIN's contribution to the nation's development is evident in providing skilled human resources with knowledge and a solid spiritual mindset. It will be a valuable asset for national integration in the future (Mhatre & Mehta, 2023). The opening of these new faculties is a demand from Indonesian society, particularly for alumni of Madrasah Aliyah or equivalent high schools who wish to study in Islamic higher education institutions (Moeis, 2022). In the past, these faculties in various universities, especially in Yogyakarta, have always had increasing demand each year, resulting in insufficient capacity to accommodate prospective students.

From an academic standpoint, the establishment of these new faculties aligns with UIN Sunan Kalijaga's integrated knowledge paradigm. This paradigm aims to ensure that students across all faculties and departments are equipped with integrated knowledge in religion, general subjects, science, technology, and the arts, moving away from a dichotomous approach. UIN Sunan Kalijaga aspires to become a World Class University, particularly in the study of Islam and social sciences, by 2024 and 2028.

The development of UIN Sunan Kalijaga and the establishment of Campus II necessitates the construction of a new campus. The designated location in the Pajangan area is rich in cultural heritage and local wisdom meticulously preserved by the local community (Buana et al., 2023). Local wisdom emerges from the collective habits and experiences of a community, resulting in distinctive characteristics specific to each region (Nadlir, 2016). It encompasses various aspects of human behavior towards the environment, encompassing interactions with animals, plants, and objects (Gunawan et al., 2015). Preserving and integrating local wisdom is of paramount importance in the development of the educational landscape (Rukiyati & Purwastuti, 2016).

The Guwosari area in Pajangan, where Campus II of UIN Sunan Kalijaga is situated, spans an extensive area of 72,243 square meters divided into 18 zones. Previously inhabited by the local community, this land was utilized for diverse activities such as farming and the sustainable utilization of naturally growing plants (Buana et al., 2023). To ensure a harmonious coexistence between the campus and its surroundings, UIN Sunan Kalijaga must thoughtfully consider the Regional Spatial Planning prepared by the Bantul district government. Incorporating the educational and cultural heritage aspects while harnessing the environmental potential of the area will yield a comprehensive and sustainable campus development strategy (Blancas et al., 2023).
Figure 1. Map of the Campus II Development Area of UIN Sunan Kalijaga in Pajangan, Bantul, which is dominated by greenery compared to houses or buildings
Figure 2. Regional spatial plan for Bantul Regency and Pajangan District

In general, local wisdom in the area of campus II UIN Sunan Kalijaga in Guwosari Pajangan Village, Bantul, can be mapped in the following spatial description,

1. General description of the space and existence of Selarong Cave

The development of Campus II at UIN Sunan Kalijaga is planned to take place in a location that intersects with the significant historical site of Selarong Cave. Selarong Cave holds immense cultural heritage value and must be carefully preserved. This cave serves as a witness to the heroic resistance led by Prince Diponegoro against the Dutch colonialists during the Java War that took place from 1825 to 1830 (Purnomo et al., 2023; Rusyadi, Deni, & Nuriada, 2022; Wibowo, Sudiarso, & Prihantoro, 2023). As the hiding place for Prince Diponegoro and his troops, the preservation of Selarong Cave is of utmost importance in the development of Campus II at UIN Sunan Kalijaga for preserving the environment and heritage (Pervolarakis et al., 2022).

While the designated area for Campus II does not directly include Selarong Cave, the surrounding development must still prioritize the preservation of this historical site (Labadi, Giliberto, Rosetti, Shetabi, & Yildirim, 2021). Carelessness in the development process could potentially damage this invaluable historical heritage, not just for Indonesia but also for the world (Çahantimur & Öztürk, 2021). It is crucial to note that several water streams intersect with the site where Selarong Cave is located, further emphasizing the need for careful consideration and protection of this significant cultural landmark (Zingraff-Hamed et al., 2021).
2. **Natural Forest**

Natural forests are a common feature that can be seen on campus II UIN Sunan Kalijaga (Figure 4). Also, the rice fields and moor areas in that area can be directly observed. The location of campus II UIN Sunan Kalijaga was previously used as a plantation location by residents (Mulyono, Munibah, & Lahan, 2016). Heterogeneous forests dominate on the southwest side of campus II.

The existence of teak forests that dominate the area is both an advantage and a disadvantage that must be addressed. Teak forests will be economically profitable (Irundu, Arafat, & Rahmania, 2018). At the same time, the landscape and its natural contours provide more advantages. However, the large size of teak tree leaves and their branches cover the ground, slowing the weathering process (Kačíková, Kubovský, Ulbriková, & Kačík, 2020). Apart from making it difficult for other plants to develop, this condition is also prone to triggering fires in the area (Ardita & Sadewo, 2022). Therefore, good changes are needed to increase biodiversity in the environment.

Road embryos are also available and can be used as a pathway for developing roads that will be available (Figure 5). The public road embryos are refers to locations that were previously used as roads and have been proven safe by the residents who have utilized them. These road embryos hold significance as they represent a legacy of local wisdom (Ignatieva, Stewart, & Meurk, 2011). The fact that residents have used and continue to use these roads indicates their reliability and safety. Therefore, these road embryos can be leveraged and incorporated into the development plans, benefiting from the knowledge and experience of the local community (Outay, Mengash, & Adnan, 2020).
3. Natural landscapes and waters

The campus II area boasts an irreplaceable natural landscape that holds immense beauty. It is crucial to recognize and preserve this unique characteristic as it presents significant potential (Fu, 2023). Additionally, special attention should be given to the availability of water sources within the development process. The local residents have taken great care to maintain these conditions, as water accessibility is challenging in the Pajangan area. Therefore, it becomes imperative to consider water availability as a critical factor during the development process of UIN Sunan Kalijaga. By ensuring adequate water resources, the university can contribute to the sustainability and well-being of both the campus and the surrounding community (Cheng, Gao, Shao, & Iqbal, 2020).

Several water streams are also close to Selarong Cave (Figure 6). Of course, this development will impact the environmental conditions of Selarong Cave. Carefulness in preparing campus development must pay attention to this potential. Existing water bodies have the potential to manage water in development areas (Li, Zhao, Allen, & Gao, 2023). This water management includes the construction of reservoirs integrated with the existing water body network and the construction of retention wells to reduce run-off in the UIN campus II area. The condition of the UIN campus II land on higher ground causes run-off to flow to the surrounding lower areas (Kaur & Gupta, 2022). Hopefully, the retention wells developed within the campus area can reduce run-off to the surrounding area. Handling run-off in this area is also supported by the construction of reservoirs, which, apart from providing environmental water reserves, can accommodate quite a lot of rainwater (Wang & Wang, 2023).
In Surah Al A'raf verse 56 it is stated,  
وَلَا تَفْسِدُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ بَعْدَ اِصْلََحِهَا وَادْعُوْهُ خَوْفًا وَّطَمَعًاۗ اِنَّ رَحَْْتَ اللّٰهِ قَرِيْبٌ مِٰنَ الْمُحْسِنِيَْ  

“And do not cause harm on the earth after it was (created) well. Pray to Him with fear and hope. Indeed, Allah's mercy is very close to those who do good.”

This verse should be the basis for developing campus II at UIN Sunan Kalijaga to ensure that the construction of campus II can provide environmental benefits and does not damage what already exists. Development should be based not only on human needs (anthropocentrism) but also on ecological needs (naturalism). In the past, humans used what was available in the environment to live, such as in caves or taking shelter under trees (Tokay, 2023). However, technological developments have made humans engineer environmental conditions, such as houses and buildings, to suit human living needs. It has both good and bad impacts. Development that does not pay attention to the surrounding environment will make housing too human-centered and therefore ignore the environment (Fortuna, Wróblewski, & Gorbaniuk, 2023). The development of Campus II should pay attention to and maintain the existing wealth. The local wisdom heritage that is already available is the answer to this. A potential solution to this issue could be to transform campus II of UIN Sunan Kalijaga into a forest campus that conserves the existing environment, striking a balance between different perspectives.

4. Conclusion

The area of Campus II at UIN Sunan Kalijaga, situated in Guwosari, Pajangan, Bantul, DI Yogyakarta, encompasses a rich tapestry of local wisdom heritage. This heritage is evident through the area's unique characteristics, its proximity to Selarong Cave, the presence of natural forests, breathtaking landscapes, and water bodies. For generations, the local residents have relied on and cherished this invaluable heritage as a means of sustenance and survival. Further research is needed to obtain more comprehensive data and provide a more detailed design regarding the buildings to be constructed.

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6. Reference


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