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Procedia - Social and Behavioral Sciences 227 (2016) 642 - 649

CITIES 2015 International Conference, Intelligent Planning Towards Smart Cities, CITIES 2015, 3-4 November 2015, Surabaya, Indonesia

# Urban heritage towards creative-based tourism in the urban settlement of Kauman - Surakarta

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#### Abstract

Urban heritage is one of the manifestations in architectural value; serving a tight sustainability in the past, present, and future era. Nowadays, the existence of urban heritage tourism with having unique value and local wisdom potential has not been handled optimally. Moreover, the main functions have changed permanently for creative urbanism. The aim of this research focuses on the spatial of urban heritage and the creative economic that involve an active local community toward creative-based tourism. It is based on explorative descriptive method combined with the mapping spatial of a unique and local wisdom, including potential physical characteristic. The research location is the Kauman urban settlement; having a valuable unique and original local wisdom potential, and also its activities which still exist. The result of the research, in spatial macro, shows that the existence layout of the Kauman urban settlement has not been handled optimally. Moreover, it tends to lose its characteristics because it is not protected. In addition, the spatial micro shows that many historical buildings have changed its form, façade, interior, and function. The tendency can be seen from the buildings which are commercialized as batik showrooms, home-stays, shops, and restaurants.

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| Keywords: |  |
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#### 1. Introduction.

The Kauman *kampung* (community of houses) area is a historical district as a township of traditional *santri* (student of *pesantren*; Islamic boarding school) and *ulama* (Islamic scholar) in the city centre, which is closely linked with the history of the Surakarta Kasunanan Palace and *Masjid* Agung (the Grand Mosque). The spatial region of the Kauman *kampung* historic area is the settlement distribution of courtier *ulamas*, with *Masjid* Agung as the centre of orientation and activities of the community, which form the space categorization from the toponyms of *ulamas*' names, and the socio-cultural identity meaning of existing activities (Darban, A., 1984; Adnan, B., 1996).

Kauman has local wisdom distinctive potential value that is unique, with some ancient buildings artifacts, among which are some of the *ulamas*' house, *langgar* (smaller mosque), and other historical ancient buildings, showing the distinctiveness of high and sacred culture, so its existence can still be seen and traced, and packaged as a cultural heritage tourism (W. Setyaningsih, 2009).

Thus Kauman as a historical district needs attention to be recommended, and reveal its heritage potential contained therein, such as the identification of historic buildings including the society cultural values, which still exist and develops, so its distinctiveness and uniqueness needs to be maintained, by motivating the awareness and concern of the community active participation toward CBT (creative-based tourism). CBT in principle is the community active role involvement through the community creative potential awareness, both in the planning, implementation, and management (Nuryanti, W., 2008; Hermanto, H., 2010).

Over time, the dynamics of community life and the changes continue to run, but while still maintaining the sustainability and characteristics of the local wisdom potential in managing the historical district. To uncover the local wisdom distinctive potential of the existing indigenous/cultural heritage, so it can be further developed in a sustainable manner, it is necessary in to mix with new innovations to support its sustainability (Papageorgio. A. 1971; Timothy. M. 2002), which among them is towards CBT. It requires strong thoughts and sensitivity, as well as the need to dialogue with various stakeholders. Among them are from the government, private sector, and communities who are able to understand in a friendly and sustainable way the cultural values, which can fulfill its function as a cultural center at the same time is able to improve the lives of its people. Therefore, a research with a environment oriented paradigm, raising the unique and local wisdom potential, as the appreciation of concern in realizing the tourist *kampung* development model (with the involvement of the creativity and productive elements of the community), is an integrated research studies that needs to be done soon. Until now there has been no research on the integration of cultural tourism area with CBT in Kauman. Thus, a research is needed that focuses on the development of the historical district towards CBT (Urban Heritage towards Creative-Based Tourism in the Urban Settlement of Kauman – Surakarta).

#### 2. Methods

The research uses qualitative research by using descriptive-analysis. The data collection was done using observation method: site observation, documentation by using photo and picture sketch, in-depth interview focused on exploring the information from the key persons. The primer data consists of the information about the informant, place, and event (by site inspection). The research location is in Kauman Surakarta as a historical area which has uniqueness of local wisdom character with the history of the Surakarta Palace.

The method of analysing data uses interactive method. The result of the observation consists of empiric observation with the result of interviews which are identified and considered based on the fixed aspects. It is also considered to the problem context. The result of the research is a substantive theory that needs to be concluded and to be recommended.

#### 3. Result and Discussions

#### 3.1. General description of the Kauman settlement as an urban heritage area

The Kauman existence merges with *Masjid* Agung (as the centre for showing the greatness of Islam) since the era of king PakuBowono (PB) X (1893). The Kauman *kampung* historical district stems from the existence of

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