Exotic Heritage from Coastal East Java of Batik Bayuwangi

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Abstract - Banyuwangi batik is included in type of Pesisiran (coastal area) batik. This batik has not been thoroughly studied, although has tourism attractiveness and the manufacturer production population indicated a great potency. This research is aimed to describe the characteristic of Banyuwangi batik. The research is done by literature and field study. The result shows that the batik has philosophical meaning which represent about the life of the people and natural environment. The motif objects are things that can be found in Banyuwangi area such as butterfly, marine vegetation, coconut, etc. The motif pattern is in straight or diagonal alignment. Banyuwangi batik also have contrast color such a combination between red, yellow, etc.

Keywords: Batik, Banyuwangi, pesisiran, characteristic

1. Introduction
Batik is an Indonesian cultural richness which has become the daily life of society [1]. Batik as a one of nation’s artworks still existing, practice and develop [2]. Batik has become world fashion market attractiveness since UNESCO crown batik as “Humanitarian Heritage for Oral and Non Object Cultures” [1,3,4]. In addition to its function as fashion, batik also use as household accessories such as tablecloths, pillowcases, bed linen and house decoration [2].

Batik in Indonesia is very diverse in every region. Batik has a variety of types, patterns, motif and style in accordance with the areas origin [1]. Batik has a characteristic which influent by age, environment and geographical aspect [5]. Batik motif has culture values that represent social culture life of the community [4]. Batik motif is a representation of visual imaging [6]. Batik also has spiritual beauty that shown by decoration and pattern formation which full with philosophical meaning [7].

Research in batik has done for the aspect of history, motif, technical production, marketing and product development. The research also done for imaging media such as visual communication, interior product, architecture design and other field [8]. Batik motif research has done for Surakarta batik [9], Druju batik of Malang city [10], Pesisiran (shore area) batik [2] and Semarang batik [11].

The research also has been done for symbolic meaning of batik such as Kliwonan batik from Sragen city [12], Situbondo batik [1] and Kudus batik [5]. Development effort has done for Pasirsari batik of Pekalongan [13] and East Kalimantan batik [7]. The research also done for motif identification method [4], Gedog batik of Tuban city as tourism attractiveness [3] and Tuban batik illustration design book [4].
Banyuwangi as a town in east end of Java island also has batik culture. Banyuwangi batik is included in type of *Pesisiran* (shore area) batik [2,3] which has characteristic in material and motif [2]. *Pesisiran* batik is different from *Keraton* (palace) batik [1]. *Pesisiran* batik has potency to develop business opportunity and working field [15].

Research in East Java batik has been done for the area of Tuban, Sidoarjo, Madura and Surabaya [16]. Banyuwangi batik has not been thoroughly studied, although has tourism attractiveness [17]. Research has only been done for Gajah Oling motif [18], one of several types. This research is aimed to describe the characteristic of Banyuwangi batik.

2. Method

The research is done by literature and field study. Departemen Perindustrian, Perdagangan dan Pertambangan kabupaten Banyuwangi (Industry, Trading and Mining Departement of Banyuwangi City) indentified more than 82 small medium enterprises (SMEs). This population shows the potency of Banyuwangi batik.

![Figure 1. Map of batik manufacturer distribution in Banyuwangi](image1.jpg)

3. Result and Discussion

Banyuwangi batik motif is a reflection of natural wealth that causes different character from others [19]. There are more than 20 origin motifs which are Gajah Oling, Kangkung Setingkes, Gedekan, Sembrok Cacing, Kawung, Manukan, Galaran, Kluwungan, Semanggian, Moto Pitek, Jenon Kacangan, Blarakan, Sekar Jagad, Totoghan, Kopi Pecah, Sosi, Sisek, Sisek Gempal, Sisek Papak, Latar Puteh, Jenon, Alas Kobong, Maspon, dan Ungkel. Gajah Oling is the most famous motif.

![Figure 2. Some motif of Banyuwangi batik](image2.jpg)
One of the characteristic of Banyuwangi batik can be found in Gajah Oling motif. Gajah Oling is believed as the oldest and the original motif that symbolizes the form of power that grows in the identity of society. This motif is similar with question mark which philosophically represented the shape of elephant trunk (Gajah means elephant) and also the shape of a giant eel (Oling means giant eel or moa). Gajah means something big and Oling comes from word “eling” that means remember. Gajah Oling defined as spiritual aspect that people have to always remember to God.

Figure 3. Another motif of Gajah Oling

Gajah Oling figure character is also surrounded by several nature objects as shown in figure 3 that can be found in Banyuwangi which are butterfly, marine vegetation, coconut flower etc. The design of this motif is symmetrical pattern which balancing the space around the question mark shape. The pattern can be found in straight or diagonal alignment.

Banyuwangi batik also has color characteristic. The batik tends to have contrasting color. The color combination tends to describe the diversity of life and natural environment. The characteristic is very different comparing to other Pesisiran batik from coastal area of East Java. Situbondo batik, west area of Banyuwangi, has characteristic that describe the livelihood of most of the population which are fishermen and farmers [1]. Tuban batik, more further west area, has characteristic that influent by Javanese, Islamic and Chinese cultures [4].

4. Conclusion

Banyuwangi batik has philosophical meaning which represent about the life of the people and natural environment. The motif objects are things that can be found in Banyuwangi area. The motif pattern is in straight or diagonal alignment with has contrasting color.

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6. References

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