The Role of The Library as a Public Space in Facilitating The Social Activities of Coastal Communities

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Abstract. Libraries are part of people's lives that reflect changes that occur in society. The concept of a library that is open to the public and all walks of life is similar to the concept of Jurgen Harbermas public space. The purpose of this study was to describe the role of libraries that had been carried out by library managers in taking a role in social activities in coastal communities. This research has used a social approach through the reality that exists in society. Qualitative research design of community activities in utilizing libraries. The study was conducted in the coastal area of Semarang city. Data are collected through observation and in-depth interviews with several parties involved. To examine the validity of the data, this study applies a triangulation technique of sources focusing on key informants living in the community and policy makers about libraries. The results of this study library not only as a place to collect, manage, and serve sources of information, but the library has become a place for people to gather. The library becomes a public space that is in demand by all levels of society, especially for children. This community of people gathered has a positive meaning, because currently the community lacks open space and can accommodate a large number of people. Program socialization activities from the village government, as well as community social activities in the form of regular meetings of PKK mothers, health posts, religious posts can use the library. Library is an added value because it is not a mere space, but on the sidelines of activities they can read books that can be useful.

1. Introduction

Libraries are part of people's lives that reflect changes that occur in society. The concept of a library that is open to the public and all walks of life is similar to the concept of Jurgen Harbermas public space. The concept of public space proposed by Habermas is a space for critical discussion and is open to all. In this public space, private citizens gather to form a public, which then the public space will work as a supervisor of state power. The public space here consists of information organs and political debates, such as newspapers and journals, and political discussion institutions, such as parliaments, political clubs, public assemblies, meeting halls, and other public spaces where sociopolitical discussions take place. The principles of public space promoted by Habermas put forward the existence of freedom of speech and assembly, freedom of the press, and the right to freely participate in debates and decision making [2]. Through dialogue, in particular, critical discussion and debate,
public space produces opinions and attitudes and is the foundation for emancipatory social thinking. The ideal thing is as a mediator between the community and the state, the source of public opinion needed to assert and guide state affairs. The public library is favored as a neutral space against the pressure of government power and capitalism. The library within the information society is also expected to be able to bridge the information gap which is also suspected to be the result of the domination of certain parties (elites) who want to master information which is the driving force of the information society's actuality. The "agent of change" function of public libraries is expected to be a milestone that eliminates information domination. In the hands of the library, information dissemination is expected to be more evenly distributed and can be enjoyed by all circles. Public libraries are expected to be a public space that is identical with neutrality, where everyone is free to access information, learn, and also discuss anything. In reality, the public library itself is an institution formed by the government, so that in its implementation it certainly cannot be separated from the government's vision and mission. Even in practice, censorship imposed by the government also applies in the library. Management and information flow are also inseparable from the government. In addition to the government's strong influence in the administration of public libraries, the domination of capitalists in public libraries was inevitable.

Information society is a society that arises as a result of the information age. A marker of the end of the manufacturing industry era, and the shifting of the structure and pattern of society, which originally depended on the manufacturing industry, is now turning towards becoming a society that relies on information as the main driving force of society in self-actualization [3]. The information society is characterized by the presence of information behavior which is the overall human behavior associated with information sources and channels, information discovery behavior which is an effort to find information with a specific purpose as a result of the need to meet certain goals, information seeking behavior addressed by someone when interacting with information systems, and information use behavior, namely the behavior a person does when combining the information he finds with the basic knowledge he has previously possessed.

Information is the main key to the information society. In Habermas's thinking about public space, information is also the main source of the emergence of the concept of public space. Access to information is in the spotlight of the public sphere theory itself, where Habermas proposes the idea of a space that can be used by all (public) to discuss issues of public interest (sharing information) with freedom of access to public information itself.

2. Research Methods
In this study using qualitative research methods that carry out explorative descriptive analysis of phenomena that exist in society. The limitations of open spaces and spaces for coastal communities are problems that exist in the community. The study through a case study approach in the city of Semarang, part of the community living in coastal areas. This research is a research that has been designed through the humanities social sciences with the scientific paradigm of cultural studies [4,5]. Determination of location based on observations of researchers on coastal areas in the city of Semarang to the border with the Demak area (See Figure 1). Data is taken from literature review and archive related to social activities in coastal areas, and from key informants as many as 8 (eight) people consisting of literacy activists, implementers of library managers, community leaders, and policy makers. The data is processed through review and triangulation of the validity of information through documents and key informants [6].
The purpose of this study was to describe the role of libraries that had been carried out by library managers in taking a role in social activities in coastal communities. This research uses a social approach through the reality that exists in society. Research design through the combination of quantitative data from documents and is explained qualitatively from all library service activities. In this study analyzing the development strategy of library services performed by library managers in coastal areas in facilitating social activities.

3. Result and Discussion

3.1. Community social activities

At present the existence of the library has become part of community life in carrying out social activities in the community. Often library buildings are used as meeting rooms for program socialization and non-formal education places. Several times free health services were carried out for the underprivileged in the library. The existence of the Bahari Village area planning on the coast of the city of Semarang, makes a lot of government activity programs to be socialized. Some residents in Tambaklorok have established a Sadar Wisata community. Future planning for the surrounding community in coordinating needs in place or place, one of which is through a library that allows it to bridge the means of community activities. Routine activities that have been running related to daily use in the library are places that are a favorite place for children in the afternoons for various activities such as art training, scheduled programs for additional learning for elementary school children, and where children play while learning through books.

From looking at the law in Indonesia number 43 of 2007 concerning the Library, the existence of the library has become something that must be in the midst of society. Communities with several elements of society need to seek the growth of a culture of love reading through the development and utilization of libraries as a source of information and lifelong learning resources [7]. The library is an attractive place for people to do social activities, because it is not only an empty place but in the library there are learning facilities in the form of books, magazines, internet access, and convenience. Referring to the policy of the central government, that the local government (city/district government and village government) facilitates and encourages the acculturation of reading by providing quality, cheap and affordable reading material and providing easily accessible library facilities and infrastructure. With this, social activities in the community are fun for every citizen.

Library services are not limited to providing circulation services in the form of book lending, the provision of magazines or newspapers only. But the library must be the center of community activities. Through learning facilities such as training books, training services in shaping the creative
economy, and the use of the internet in marketing its products, the role of libraries in empowering the community through strengthening social capital can work well [8-10].

3.2. Strengthening literacy through the library
The library is a non-profit institution that provides information services for free. All citizens have the right to obtain this service without any differences in social strata and types of education. The government does not only do physical development, but also human capital development from the community. The development of the socio-cultural sector can be done through increasing public literacy closely related to the development of the economic sector. Therefore, the Ministry of National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS- Badan Perencanaan Pembangunan Nasional) assesses the importance of raising awareness together that literacy is one of the fundamental issues that influence efforts to improve the quality of life and improve people's welfare. The Canadian Scientific Study entitled Literacy, Numeracy and Labor Market Outcomes in Canada [11] shows a correlation that is directly proportional, between literacy scores and the average income of workers in Canada. This study document shows that literacy scores are directly proportional to average income per year. People with a literacy score of one (highest) have an average annual income of 35,000 USD. To create a high-literacy society and increase the role of literacy in socio-economic development, the role of library institutions is needed. The library is considered a vital institution because of its wide reach, from remote villages to the national level. Seeing the role of this very strategic library, BAPPENAS encourages libraries to be the pioneers of the literacy movement to improve people's welfare.

In 2015 Bappenas launched a policy of transforming library services based on social inclusion. This policy is strengthened through the 2019 Government Work Plan (RKP- Rencana Kerja Pemerintah), by making literacy for welfare as one of the priority activities to support national priorities for human development. To realize a society that is lit. and enhances the role of literacy for welfare, the library carries out a service transformation based on social inclusion. The point is to improve the quality of life and welfare of library users. According to the head of the National Library, Muhammad Syarif Bando [12] the library is a strategic asset to encourage the empowerment of the surrounding community. Its wide reach and without exception can use the public library so that all members of the community can use the library to develop themselves.

3.3. Library as an agent of change
The library as a social medium created by the community [13], the library develops according to the development of the community itself. The existence of a library is a part of human civilization and culture to lead to change in life. One of the goals of an independent Indonesia is to educate the lives of the nation. Learning facilities that can be used in educating the nation's life are libraries. The library as an institution in charge of storing, processing, packaging, and distributing information is currently required to be able to adapt to meet the needs of users in a relevant, accurate and appropriate manner. Librarians as information workers act as reform agents bringing innovation in providing information services to the community. Librarians are required to be able to anticipate the advances in technology in disseminating information that brings change to people who use the library so that it will be seen starting from mental and moral, ways of thinking, speaking later in action or real action. In the end, society is more dynamic, critical, analytically active and innovative in living life.

The availability of various library materials and information services allows everyone to choose what suits their interests and interests. The community usually each adds their knowledge through their chosen library, so that eventually evenly increases the level of intelligence of the community. Improving the quality of the life of a society is determined by the increasing level of intelligence of its citizens, so the presence of libraries in a community environment undoubtedly also influences the condition of underdeveloped society. The presence of libraries in coastal communities is an absolute demand for every community that wants to make its citizens not only rich in information and well educated but increasingly sophisticated in their insights.
4. Conclusion

In the current development of life, coastal communities in general have been open and concerned about the existence of libraries. The influence of information technology that has been widespread requires that library managers can provide creativity for new service services to the community. To respond to the information needs and challenges of library development, the coastal library should be fostered and developed by the government so that it is able to carry out its duties and functions properly. The existence of libraries in the coast is expected to reflect progress and reflect cultural life in the community. This was addressed by the use of the library as a public space in carrying out their social activities. The coastal library carries a mission to instill a complete and complete understanding and understanding of the importance of mastering information, science and technology, the tasks and functions of the village library as a source of knowledge in lifelong learning. Library services in providing a means of developing abilities, skills and insights to solve problems faced by the community make challenges that must be solved and can provide solutions for the surrounding community. So that the existence of the library can strengthen relations between communities.

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