

Community Awareness of Surrounding Historical Buildings Looking for Regional Tourism Development Opportunities In Tanjung Beringin Sub-district, Serdang Bedagai Regencies

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Abstract— The study examined the depiction of public concern for historic buildings. As it is known that historic buildings, not only store the life values of events that once existed and occurred, but also can be developed into a historical and cultural tourism potential. Caring is a supportive endeavour that can sustain as well as drive the cultural preservation in areas that include protection, development and utilization, in which case it can be used as historical and cultural tourism. In turn, it will bring income to the local community. But the assumption does not match the facts on the ground. Historic buildings, especially the former royal palace has been lost, just the ruins and photos. Yet there are other opportunities such as: Berhalaisland, mosque, close-knit tradition halls, Bedagai river, local specialties, Merdeka beaches, etc.

Keywords—historic building, community awareness, historical and cultural tourism

I. INTRODUCTION

This research was conducted in Tanjung Beringin subdistrict, Serdang Bedagai Regencies for 8 months. The research is funded by the allocation of research fund (BPPTN and TALENTA) USU budget year 2017. With the output of research results in the form of social engineering as a draft policy proposal in the development strategy for local government.

In order to realize that expectation, it is begun by examining the concern of the surrounding community against historical buildings by conducting research. The research was conducted by qualitative method with interview and observation techniques, and supported by FGD (Focus Group Discussion) method to get accurate information used as policy analysis in drafting development strategy in local tourism sector. However, how that support is interpreted in the form of caring, is a matter to be seen. As it is already known, the historic buildings have a function that is very normative for every members of the community who lives around the building.

II. TANJUNG BERINGIN SUB-DISTRICT

This research was conducted in 5 (five) villages in the administrative territory of Tanjung Beringin subdistrict, namely; Tebing Tinggi Village, Pekan Tanjung Beringin Village, Mangga Dua Village, Nagur Village and Sukajadi Village. The average distance of the five sites of this study from Subdistrict Office of Tanjung Beringin is 1-6 Km with travel time about 15 minutes ride using public transport.

The location of these five locations is bordered on the north by the Malacca Strait, on the south by Sei Rampah, on the east by the Malacca Strait and the Subdistrict of Bandar Khalifah and on the west by the Teluk Mengkudu. Inter-village boundaries are easily recognizable because of plaques and artificial signs from boards and stones and in the form of gates. Meanwhile, intervillage boundaries are generally characterized by natural boundaries such as plantations, rice fields, swamps, rivers and also village roads that divide population settlements.

Given the location, it can be explained generally that these five research sites are part of the agricultural and fishery areas, since the Serdang Bedagai area which borders the area to the South and the West is a former oil palm and tobacco plantation. Therefore, in some areas of this village many oil palm plantations are still found owned by the population.

The climate in Tanjung Beringin subdistrict includes the five villages where the research location resides is tropical with maximum temperature around 32 degrees, the heaviest rainfall occurs from July to November every year, while the drought occurs in February to April and in June

The topography of the region consists of lowland and partly swamp. Northside is a low-terrain coastal area including some Tebing Tinggi villages, Pekan Tanjung Beringin and Nagur villages; the South is a lowland area, the East is a swamp area, mangrove forest and sloping coast, while the West is generally lowland.

Soil fertility is supported by the existence of two streams that cross the western part of the village around Nagur, which are Sungai Kualuh and Beriang. In the past, this river flow was

very important as a transportation route for fishermen to the sea, and also become traffic for residents to look for nipah leaf as a craft of making nipah roof and leaf cigarette. Due to the condition of soil fertility, it is not surprising that vegetation cover is still quite tight so it becomes a good place for the life of various kinds of animals, both wild and domesticated such as chickens, ducks, buffalo and ox.

The natural environment in most area is still relatively green and lush, with many trees growing in the yard of houses and in the empty lands that border the environment. In addition to plants dominated by fruit trees, in some places there are also found paddy fields and moor cultivated by citizens, banana plant areas, palm, areca, and also bushes that are not cultivated.

III. BEDAGAI ROYAL PALACE

The Bedagai kingdom had two royal palaces which stood majestically in the subdistrict of TanjungBeringin. The first palace of Bedagai kingdom led by Tengku Ismail (SoeloengLaoet) is located in the village of TanjungBeringin near the Buntanbridge (titiBuntan), the second palace is located in the village of VIII TanjungBeringinPekan Village, TanjungBeringin District. It is difficult to find historical sources that can affirm when exactly the first palace was built.

The first Bedagai palace is currently unrecognizable. The location is currently situated in a narrow alley and in the middle of the settlement residents. The current conditions are now very poor because the buildings have been destroyed by residents. Some residents met said they did not know what buildings were located near their residence, thus many of them destroyed the building itself to build a house on the structure.

The rest of one of the palace that can still be seen is the former palace gate which has now been transformed into a garbage by the residents. Some residents previously tried to tear down the building, but because of the robustness of the structure it was difficult to destroy, so that the former gate was formed into a trash can.

According to one of the community leaders named Mr. Tengku Konteng, the palace of Bedagai Kingdom was destroyed at this time because of direct orders from the direct descendants of the royal heirs to destroy it. The destruction of the palace was done because the uninhabited palace was often used as a villager for criminals such as drug activities and other negative activities. So the royal descendants decided to wreck the palace, until only the ruins of the gates alone remain.

The beginning of Bedagai palace being left behind was related the Social Revolution that took place at the dawn of independence. The uprising initiated by the people was led by several Islamic religious figures around the kingdom of Bedagai to create a revolution and dethrone the Sultan. After the Revolution took place, many of the descendants of the Bedagai Kingdom ran to Medan City and other parts of the Sumatran Coast, so the Bedagai Palace was once empty uninhabited.

In the early days of the Independence, Bedagai Palace also used to become the headquarters of the KKO or also called Satuan Angkatan Laut at that period. After no longer used by

KKO for a long time so many Bedagai people functioned Bedagai Palace as a dating place and venue for other negative things. So, the family of the descendants of the King decided to destroy the Palace and what eventually lives on is the rubble of rocks that indicate that Bedagai Palace once existed at a time.

IV. MESJID JAMI' (GRAND MOSQUE)

One of the other remnants of the Bedagai Kingdom is the Jami' Mosque or the Ismailyah Mosque. This mosque was built in 1880 by Tengku Ismail Sulung Laut, son of Sultan Osmani who owns Al Osmani mosque in Medan City. Tengku Ismail Sulung Laut also has the title "Nara Kelana" because his hobby travelling to various parts of the world to seek knowledge.

The building has undergone a revamp, one of them in 1982 when the Bedagai palace establishment was completed right next to it. The renovation was done because the Sultan's palace was higher than the height of the mosque beside it, so at that time the sultan ordered his people to elevate the Jami mosque. So at that time it was overhauled and the mosque was raised up as high as one level. A striking change took place in the shape of the pillars of the Jami 'Ismailyah Mosque where it appeared to be a kind of bridging to the main pole.

Up until now the authenticity of the Jamie 'Ismaili Mosque building is still maintained and the restoration that has been done also does not change the original look of the building as a whole. According to the research informant, Mr. Tengku Konteng, the construction of this mosque uses materials imported directly from Pulau Pinang and employs skilled workers from China, and the stones are imported directly from Buniang area.

The decorations inside the mosque still look the same, as well as the carvings of Qur'anic verses are still original without any change or refurbish. In addition to the original podium, there are also lights and the back of the Jamie 'Ismaili mosque building is still original, but the front of the mosque has been renovated, leaving the rear of mosque still intact. The authenticity of the Mesjid's Architecture from the Bedagai Kingdom made Jamie Ismaili the oldest mosque in Bedagai Subdistrict.

V. INTRODUCTION

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formatter will need to create these components, incorporating the applicable criteria that follow.

VI. CLOSE-KNIT TRADITION HALL (KERAPATAN HALL)

Kerapatan Hall is one of the historic buildings of the Kingdom Bedagai still standing firm and in a fine condition. It is unknown when the building was erected, but the Kerapatan Hall was already established before Indonesia's Independence Day. Formerly this building was used by King Bedagai to discuss the problems faced by the Kingdom of Bedagai along with its chiefs and advisers.

After the King Bedagai stepped over from his position, this building's function was switched to the naval headquarters. Changes in the operational of the building has also been alternated as time goes by. After becoming a naval base, the building was once the district office Tanjung Beringin Subdistrict, then changed again to the District Office, then changed again this time into a temporary Puskesmas, because Puskesmas in subdistrict is currently being renovated.

In the afternoon, the building is used as a place for children to practice traditional Malay dance. However, at night there is no activity and the building looks quiet. However, in certain events this Kerapatan hall is utilized to host various events such as Independence Day events, Malay Custom Ceremonies, and meetings conducted by the Tanjung Beringin Subdistrict.

VII. MARITIME TOURISM POTENTIAL

In addition to historical tours, there are several other potential tourism opportunities in Tanjung Beringin District. Some of them are as follow :

A. Merdeka Beach Tour

One of the tourism potential in Tanjung Beringin Subdistrict is beach tourism located in Bagan Kuala Village. In Bagan Kuala Village there is a beach called Merdeka beach, which is still a part of the cluster of Cermin beach on the coast of North Sumatra.

The beach actually has a pretty good potential, but due to the road access to the Village Bagan Kuala which is quite far and not as smooth as the road in other villages, the Merdeka beach tourist attraction is still lack of visitors.

B. Culinary Tourism Potential (Seafood)

Other tourism potential that also exists in Tanjung Beringin subdistrict is culinary tourism. It is known that one of the villages in Tanjung Beringin sub-district, Pekan Village is a village where fishermen land down their catch from the sea. Even one of the TPI (Fish Landing Place) located in Tanjung Beringin sub-district, is also present in the Pekan Village.

Every morning the activities of loading and unloading of sea products will be done in the TPI, which will then be resold by residents along the market in the Pekan village. If we visit the Village of Pekan, we will find many sellers of shellfish, shrimp and fresh fish along the road in Pekan Village. In fact, there are also some tourists who deliberately to go to TPI to buy fresh fish directly from the fishermen.

Besides Pekan Village, Tebing Tinggi villagers also have their own culinary tourism potential that can be built. Tebing Tinggi Village has long been famous as a salt-producing village, and other dried fish. Tebing Tinggi Village has a close relationship with Pekan Village, which is a supplier of fresh fish ingredients that will be used as salted fish ingredients. Of course, with the opening of culinary tourist attraction in the village of Pekan, it will also ignite the growth of culinary tourism in Tebing Tinggi Village as a producer of salted fish.

Obviously, the potential of fishery tourism resources like this can be one of main tourist attractions for people who want to visit Tanjung Beringin District. However, currently residents still have not managed the potential to the fullest yet.

C. River Tourism Potential

When the research team spoke with leaders in the Tanjung Beringin subdistrict, and also with the Tanjung Beringin District government apparatus, there was a new depiction of the people's desire to revive the river tourism in Tanjung Beringin sub-district. The river flow is part of the sea in the Subdistrict of Tanjung Beringin. As for the type of tourism that want to be developed, it is a tour to explore the flow along the river by using a canoe.

The sequence of the river tour is started from the Village of Pekan where a kind of dock may be made near the Buantan bridge, then followed by trekking Bedagai River across Nagur Village, and then goes up in Tebing Tinggi Village which is a dried fish producing village (salted fish) and ends at Bagan Kuala Village, which also has a beach tourist attraction that can be visited by tourists. The journey through the river is estimated to take ± 1 hour.

VIII. SUPPORT FROM COMMUNITY

The new paradigm of tourism is it belongs to the people, by the people and for the people, villagers being the smallest unit of the region and the people of the nation / country that shows the diversity of Indonesia. Diversity of society is proven as a force for the upright / existence of the nation and state of the Republic of Indonesia.

Tourisms are travel / traveling activities for fun, using free time to restore physical and spiritual strength, refreshing and enriching activities, broaden and develop one's insight. As the driving force of the tourist village is the people, the people are the main determinant. People are independent and autonomous without investors. The people must dare to advance and eliminate the shackles of inferiority (low self-esteem), laziness, primitive and mental slavery (servant).

Essentially, people have noble cultural values / traditions and priceless possessions: mutual help, friendly, beautiful natural environment, traditional arts / culture etc. All these are tourism capitals and assets. The positive response from some figures shows that the community also supports if tourism in Tanjung Beringin subdistrict is established. However, the public also acknowledges that there are still some obstacles, especially those in the community that hinders the development of tourism.

The year of 2018 is recognized by the community to be a momentum to improve. However, if preparations before the year 2018 are not done, then the momentum may not be used for the change. So, at this time it is necessary to do joint counseling by the community so that 2018 momentum can be utilized by the whole community simultaneously.

Propositions also came from the village officials, one of them is Akbar Siregar who serves as Secretary of Pekan Tanjung Beringin Village. He believes that if tourist objects in Tanjung Beringin subdistrict are about to be built, then first the potentials contained in each village in Tanjung Beringin Subdistrict has to be inventorized. Because, when it has been acknowledged clearly, it will be easier to do the development of the tourism.

Nowadays and in the future, the need for travel will continue to increase along with the increase in the world population, as well as the development of the world's population that increasingly needs refreshing due to the increasingly busy work.

According to Fandeli (1995: 50-51) the factors that drive human to travel are: 1) the desire to escape the stresses of everyday life in the city, the desire to change the atmosphere and make use of leisure time; 2) progress of development in the field of communication and transportation; 3) the desire to see and gain new experiences about society and elsewhere; 4) an increase in income that can allow a person to travel freely, far from his or her residence. Residents in Tanjung Beringin District should be able to take advantage of these tourism opportunities.

IX. NEXT STAGE FOR TOURISM DEVELOPMENT OF TANJUNG BERINGIN SUBDISTRICT

Sustainable development has become a global agenda in every development process. Therefore, all stakeholders including the government in various development sectors in Tanjung Beringin Sub-district must apply the principles of sustainable development in every policies and tourism development plans that are going to be implemented.

The implementation of the sustainable development concept in the tourism sector is known as the concept of sustainable tourism development (Sustainable tourism development), which in a nutshell implies the development of tourism that is responsive to tourist interest and direct involvement of the local community while maintains its long-term orientation-based protection and management. Efforts to develop and manage resources conducted in TanjungBeringin Sub-district should be directed to meet the economic, social and aesthetic aspects, while maintain the integrity and or ecological sustainability, biodiversity, culture and living systems.

The concept of sustainable tourism development basically emphasizes four (4) principles, as follows:

- Economically Feasible
- Environmentally Feasible
- Socially Acceptable

- Technologically Appropriate

Economically Feasible Principle, emphasizes that the tourism development process in TanjungBeringinsubdistrict must be economically feasible, efficiently implemented to provide meaningful economic benefits for both regional development and the improvement of local people's welfare.

Environmentally Feasible Principle, emphasizes that the process of tourism development must be responsive and paying attention to efforts ofpreserving the environment (nature and culture), and must minimize the negative impact that can reduce the quality of the environment and disrupt the ecological balance. In the case of TanjungBeringinsubdistrict, the marine ecosystem, river and mangrove plants that grow around TanjungBeringin District have to be preserved and protected.

Socially Acepable Principle, emphasizes that the development process must be socially acceptable, in which the development efforts undertaken pay attention to the values, norms that exist in the community environment, and that the impact of development should not undermine the order. As said by the father of TengkuKonteng in the FGD dated September 9, 2017 that the development of tourism in TanjungBeringin Subdistrict should not allow Cafesaccomodating negative contens to be built or constructed. It is because the Islamic Malay order will be perturbed by the presence of such culture.

Technologically AppropriatePrinciple,emphasizes that technically executed tourism development processes can be applied efficiently utilizing local resources and can be easily adopted by local communities for long-term management processes.

In simple terms, sustainable tourism development in TanjungBeringin subdistrictcan be integrated into three (3) main objectives, which are :

- 1) The quality of environmental resources (nature and culture in TanjungBeringin sub-district that has coastal areascharacteristic), where tourism development must maintain the integrity of existing natural and cultural resources, and pay attention to the supporting capacity of the region whetherit is still able to accept / tolerate the development of tourism
- 2) The quality of local people's life (social economy), where the development of tourism should be able to provide a positive impact (benefit) for the socio-economic aspect of local communities, such as growing employment opportunities, or even make it as an economically independent society.
- 3) The quality of travel experience (tourists), where the development of tourism should be sensitive to the level of customer satisfaction, thus making his/her tour as a valuable experience. In this case, the quality of tourism products and their interpretations have a very important role for the quality of one's travel experience.

X. SUMMARY

1) The potential of tourism in Tanjung Beringin District is very promising if the community and the government want to manage it professionally and collectively. The people's desire

to build tourism in Tanjung Beringin sub-district is quite large, it is seen in every talk with some community leaders that researchers have done. However, the development of tourism requires time that includes the readiness of human resources and also the means and infrastructure.

2) Tanjung Beringin District has several tourist objects that can be appointed as a main tourist attraction in Tanjung Beringin Subdistrict. However, some of the historic buildings today are in ruins and are in very poor condition. One of them is the Bedagai Royal Palace. The kingdom of Bedagai used to have two royal palaces that stands majestically in Tanjung Beringin Subdistrict. The first palace of Bedagai kingdom, led by Tengku Ismail (Soeloeng Laoet) is located in Pekan Tanjung Beringin Village near Buntan bridge (titi Buntan), the second palace is located in the Hamlet VIII Pekan Tanjung Beringin Village, Tanjung Beringin Subdistrict. However, it has also been flattened to crumbles on the ground because it has been torn down by the descendants. The destruction of the palace is done because the former castle left empty used to be exploited as a venue for doing negative activity by the elements of society.

3) However, among the historic buildings that have collapsed there are still other buildings that still have the authenticity, the buildings are Jami 'Ismaili Mosque and also Kerapatan Hall (Close-knit Tradition Hall) which are both located in the Pekan Village. For these two buildings, the community plays an active role in the maintenance of the building so that the shape is still solid until now.

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