



THE LOCAL WISDOM BASED ON RELIGIOUS VALUES A CASE OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN INDONESIA

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Abstract

Purpose of the study: The aim is to obtain the original religious data based on local wisdom according to the character and reality of the life of the indigenous people of Dukuh Village. Data collected includes the data on social situations, religious patterns, and nature conservation.

Methodology: The approach used is a qualitative approach with interpretive and ecological methods. Data collection is done through participatory observation, in-depth interviews, library studies, as well as previous studies.

Main Findings: This study finds the reflection of local wisdom of indigenous people at Dukuh Village was built on the platform of "*Kasuaran Karuhun*", the Islamic religious values, which is collaborated with local cultural values (*adat*). Subjectively, the output of *karuhun* is recognised by them as the values of "Islamic custom", so that in managing their environment, their theological awareness should be described in the form of interrelation between God, humans, and nature.

Applications of this study: The relationship between God, humans, and nature refers to the purpose of human life to serve God's willingness at the same time to realise the function of human beings as caliphs on earth in order to build a just and equitable civilisation. Religious-based local wisdom can be an ideal answer to environmental issues by providing a conservation model that favours equality and social welfare and the harmony of an ecologically equitable environment.

Novelty/Originality of this study: Scientifically, this research can contribute to the development of various scientific disciplines, especially to *Fiqh al-Bi-ah* (Islamic jurisprudence on the environment).

Keywords: *Local Wisdom, Islamic Values, Indigenous Community, Local Genius, Local Culture, Globalisation.*

INTRODUCTION

Local wisdom, in general, emerges through internal process and passed for a long time as a result of the interaction between humans and their environment which will lead to the emergence of a value system that crystallised in the form of common law, belief, and local culture. Substantially, local wisdom is the norm practiced in a society which is faithfully believed and become a reference in their daily life (Vitasurya, 2016). Local wisdom, sometimes also called indigenous knowledge, refers to a well-established belief, thought, and way of life which is derived from the cultural values of a community (Ellen et al., 2005). In anthropological studies, local wisdom is known as a local genius, referring to the values customarily transmitted among generations in a community in a region. Local wisdom can also be a combination of cultural and religious values. The importance of local wisdom has been globally acknowledged in relation to the security enhancement of a nation (Saddhono & Pramestuti, 2018), natural hazard management (Setten & Lein, 2019), and ecological resources management (Liu & Chang, 2019). However, recently, there has been a general phenomenon where local wisdom is only embraced by the older generation, while the younger generation does not seem too familiar with it. Globalisation and modernisation bring about changes in the way the community sees cultural values. Western culture is getting increasingly dominant, and local wisdom is made to sound old-fashioned (Bhawuk, 2008; Sayem, 2018).

Indonesia is the top fourth nation in the world with severe environmental issues after Brazil. The source of the problems, among others, is the conversion of lands that leads to ecological imbalance (Bilal, 2017). In this respect, it is necessary to reactivate the concepts of local wisdom to enhance community resilience and adaptability to anticipate challenges in environmental damages (Schwann, 2018). Local wisdom is even suggested to be included in school curricula (Pornpimon et al., 2014).

This study examines how indigenous people realise Islamic values and assimilates them into cultural values in their local wisdom. We believe that religious-based local wisdom is a research-worthy topic in the midst of the advancement of science and technology that ironically leads to the damages in ecosystems and socio systems (Sumarmi, 2015). The indigenous people are selected as the research subject for judgmental consideration that Indonesia is a culturally rich country (Savira & Tasrin, 2018).

The community of Dukuh Village lives their life based on the principles of ancestral wisdom, which is a combination of Islamic values and cultural values. Their belief in ancestral wisdom raises social and ecological awareness. In