


## Legal Aspects of Government on The Role of The Yosowilangun Village Government in Preserving Local Traditions and Culture

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### Abstract

**Introduction:** Based on the government's efforts to protect, develop, preserve, and utilize the cultural values and heritage of the nation's traditions. The government needs to carry out cultural revitalization to restore and revive marginalized cultural values that could become extinct. In addition to the village government, the community also needs to play a role in preserving traditions and culture to motivate the community to recognize and actively participate in maintaining local cultural heritage.

**Purposes of the Research:** To find out the role and efforts of the village government in developing traditions and culture, in this case the cultural heritage of Yosowilangun Village.

**Methods of the Research:** This study uses a qualitative methodology that includes document analysis, interviews with officers or staff at the Yosowilangun Village Office, and an observational data collection approach. The data analysis method used is interactive analysis, namely data collection and presentation and drawing conclusions.

**Results Main Findings of the Research:** Shows that the Yosowilangun Village Government actively fosters the development of traditions by preserving cultural heritage within the scope of the Yosowilangun Village Government, and strives to overcome existing obstacles in efforts to preserve cultural heritage. Therefore, from the perspective of constitutional law, the role of the Yosowilangun Village Government in maintaining and advancing traditions and culture in accordance with Gresik Regency Regional Regulation Number 8 of 2019, is considered very effective as a foundation for advancing the development of traditions and culture in the Village.

**Keywords:** Village Government; Cultural Heritage; Traditions And Culture.

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## INTRODUCTION

The development of traditions and culture of a region in Indonesia is accompanied by changes in accordance with the conditions of nature and its pluralistic society, so as to cause the development of culture with specific characteristics. According to E. Supriatna, Culture is the result of human intellect to achieve perfection in life which includes elements of religion, community organization, art, and language, among others.<sup>1</sup> According to Elly M. Setiadi, culture is the result of creation, taste, and karsa.<sup>2</sup> The process of acculturation or cultural mixing occurs due to the development of local traditions and culture of the community, so that Indonesian traditions and culture become more unique and diverse and continue to grow as ancestral heritage. According to Sumanto Al Qurtuby, from generation

<sup>1</sup> E. Supriatna, "Islam Dan Kebudayaan (Tinjauan Penetrasi Budaya Antara Ajaran Islam Dan Budaya Lokal/Daerah)," *Soshum Intensif*, 2019, 2(2).

<sup>2</sup> Elly M. Setiadi, *Ilmu Sosial dan Budaya Dasar*, Kencana, 2017

to generation from time to time traditions are told orally by the elders in a community group to the next generation, while culture is conveyed orally and in writing.<sup>3</sup>

Traditions and Culture in Gresik Regency are essential values of local culture in the region. Many traditions and culture of Gresik are closely related to the life of religious communities. To preserve and develop this tradition and culture, we need the contribution and role of the government and the entire community, so that the community does not forget the traditions inherited by their ancestors even though the times are modern, and together the government always preserves and takes care of the cultural heritage in their area so that it can be used as a heritage for the next generation. And as the smallest government institution that is closer to the community, the most likely to meet all the underlying needs, the village government is the most appropriate party to play an important role in preserving local traditions, culture and wisdom.

According to Law Number 6 of 2014 concerning Village Government, a village is a legal community unit with territorial boundaries that has the authority to regulate and pursue the interests of the community based on the origin and local customs that are recognized and respected in the system of government of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. It is also mentioned that villages have the right to manage their own internals, including the preservation of traditions. The government in order to maintain and advance its community for the preservation and development of local culture needs to take strategic steps and efforts. Thus, the role of the village government can function properly to create peace and tranquility while maintaining the sustainability and preservation of local wisdom, village traditions and culture.

The village government is responsible if the traditions and culture that become cultural heritage do not develop and grow sustainably in the community. For this reason, the village government must have good strategic measures so that traditions and culture can be maintained in the community, including by continuing to support and facilitate activities related to the traditions and culture of ancestral heritage.<sup>4</sup> The village government should motivate its community by providing maintenance fund allowances, training cultural heritage management officers, innovating in preserving traditions and culture by renewing routine activities that have become traditions and culture in the village. The village government should actively play a role in producing new ideas without having to change the values of both traditions and culture that have been inherited by their ancestors. When associated with the role of the government in efforts to preserve traditions and culture, in addition to being the rights and responsibilities of each person, it is also the responsibility or authority of the government, where all coordinated activities or efforts come from sovereignty which has the basic foundation of the state to achieve state goals.

Gresik is divided into 330 villages, 26 sub-districts, and 18 sub-districts administratively. As we all know, Gresik Regency has many cultural and religious heritages. The Gresik Regional Government has certainly coached the village government so that it can work with the local community to manage, maintain, and preserve its Cultural Traditions, so that the local community lives comfortably, harmoniously, and unitedly and can maintain the traditions and culture of their village for generations. According to Moch. Solekhan of the village government is a government institution that is closest to its position and legal

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<sup>3</sup> Sumanto Al Qurtuby, *Tradisi Dan Kebudayaan Nusantara*, Semarang, Lembaga Studi Sosial dan Agama Press, 2019

<sup>4</sup> Rut Sani Deta, "Peran Pemerintah Desa Dalam Melestarikan Budaya Lokal," 2019.

position with the community.<sup>5</sup> Yosowilangun Village is a village in Gresik Regency which is located in Manyar District. According to F. Mazid, D. Prasetyo and Farikha Local wisdom is a long experience that is a guide to a person's behavior that cannot be separated from the environment of its owner, dynamic, flexible, open and always adapts to the development of the times.<sup>6</sup> Local wisdom in Yosowilangun Village is in the form of a grand haul tradition which is the birthday of Yosowilangun Village as an effort to preserve the history of Yosowilangun Village. In addition to the village haul tradition, Yosowilangun Village also has a cultural heritage in the form of the tomb of Mbah Joko Untung.

## METHODS OF THE RESEARCH

The author uses a qualitative research method, which is a research method derived from data collected through interviews with village government employees, documents, journals, notes/memos, observation data and literature studies. The data analysis technique used is interactive analysis, namely: Data collection comes from interviews, observations, and documentaries. Data reduction is in the form of summarizing activities, referring to the subject matter, emphasizing important things and eliminating unnecessary things.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### A. The Role of the Village Government in Preserving the Traditions and Culture of Yosowilangun Village

Each region has traditions and historical values that develop in the local community whose existence or existence is not just known or just existing, but also recognized and implemented continuously and sustainably for a long time until now and even becoming a legacy of tradition for future generations. Cultural heritage is the product or result of physical culture from different traditions and spiritual achievements in the form of past values that become the main elements in the identity of a group or nation which are the results of physical culture (tangible) and cultural values (intangible) of the past. These local cultural values are in the form of traditions, folklore, oral history, creativity, and the uniqueness of the local community as the identity of the nation or group. Cultural heritage in the form of immovable objects such as sites, historical places, ancient buildings, and statues of heroes.

According to Regional Regulation Number 8 of 2019, Cultural Heritage is a tangible cultural heritage in the form of objects, buildings, structures, sites, and cultural heritage areas on land and water that need to be preserved because they have important value for history, science, education, religion and the history of human development. The objectives of cultural heritage preservation according to Regional Regulation Number 8 of 2019, include: To preserve the nation's cultural heritage and human heritage, protect cultural heritage, strengthen community participation in the preservation of cultural heritage, and promote the nation's cultural heritage to the international community.

The traditions, culture, and history of each village in the form of local wisdom that become a distinctive identity must always be maintained and maintained as a village identity to be inherited to posterity in the future. One of them is Yosowilangun Village in Manyar District. According to the Head of Yosowilangun Village, H. Abdul Rosyid,

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<sup>5</sup> Moch. Solekhan, *Penyelenggaraan Pemerintah Desa Berbasis Partisipasi Masyarakat*, Setara Press, 2014

<sup>6</sup> S. Mazid, D. Prasetyo, & Farikah, "Nilai-Nilai Kearifan Lokal Sebagai Pembentuk Karakter Masyarakat", 2020

Yosowilangun Village is currently experiencing rapid development, because it has changed with many industries around it, causing many immigrants. Preserving traditions and culture is a necessity so that current and future generations, especially those in Yosowilangun Village, recognize their identity even though they cannot avoid changes that have a positive impact on the economic growth of the community. To recognize their identity and origins and not forget the traditions of their ancestors, the Village Government uses the Yosowilangun Village Haul to preserve traditions. This haul tradition is also a commemoration and thanksgiving event for the village. The series of haul activities is usually carried out for 3 days, including by holding a pilgrimage to the tomb of the ancestors, namely the tomb of Mbah Joko Untung, the tomb of Mbah Tumenggung Brotonegoro and KRT Poesponegoro, as well as doing Qur'anic sermons, prayers, istighosah, manaqib and the reading of the prophet's maulid.<sup>7</sup>

The tradition of the Yosowilangun Village Haul is held by involving all community institutions in Yosowilangun Village and other circles. The Yosowilangun Village Government always provides opportunities for the local community to participate in planning, preparing and organizing haul events. Based on the results of interviews with the Yosowilangun Village Government apparatus, it was explained that the Yosowilangun Village Government accommodates the village community, community leaders, the Yosowilangun Village Youth Organization and all circles to work together in organizing the implementation of the Yosowilangun Village Annual Grand Haul event including all of the annual series of activities.<sup>8</sup> In addition to the tradition of the Annual Grand Haul, Yosowilangun Village also has a cultural heritage in the form of the tomb of historical figure Raden Brotoredjo who has the nickname Djoyobroto or Kyai Ngabehi Yosowilangun or Raden Joko Untung or Mbah Buyut Joko Untung, who lived from 1720 AD and died on November 20, 1785 AD. Mbah Joko Untung's tomb is located on Mount Malang, Yosowilangun Village, precisely on the border of GKB and GKA.

Raden Brotoredjo studied Islam and thoriqoh at the Giri Islamic Boarding School. He also studied state planning, soldiering and undagian or building planning during the time of Susuhunan Mas Singonegoro (King Giri Kedhaton X). Raden Brotoredjo contributed a lot in making the design of the city of Praja, both in Kasepuhan Sedayu and Kanoman Gresik. After participating in the Cerme war, Tumenggung Djoyonegoro appointed Raden Brotoredjo to be the undagi of Gresik Regency with the title Kyai Ngabehi Yosowilangun, in serving as undagi he made the layout of buildings in the Gresik area such as the Tandhes official building, Sedayu, Gresik port lodges, building crossing canals, access roads and bridges that were damaged, for that Kyai Ngabehi Yosowilangun or Mbah Joko Untung got the title of Father of Gresik Development. After his death he was buried near his residence, namely Ardi Malang and now changed to Yosowilangun and his position was replaced by his son, Kyai Ngabehi Astrodirjo who was the son-in-law of Kyai Ngabehi Brotonegoro.<sup>9</sup> Visiting the tomb of Mbah Joko Untung as a cultural heritage of Yosowilangun Village, is one of a series of annual routine agendas of the Village Grand Haul tradition. Even on the last Saturday of every month, the people of Yosowilangun Village held a joint prayer event,

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<sup>7</sup> Jatim Tribunnews, "Kenalkan Leluhur Yosowilangun Gresik Pada Generasi Muda Kota Santri Melalui Ziarah Makam," 2024, <https://jatim.tribunnews.com/2024/07/27/kenalkan-leluhur-yosowilangun-gresik-pada-generasi-muda-kota-santri-melalui-ziarah-makam>.

<sup>8</sup> Redaksi Lentera Today, "Jaga Tradisi Sejarah Desa Haul Ke 60 Desa Yosowilangun Di Gresik Ziarah Makam Leluhur," 2024, <https://lenteratoday.com/>.

<sup>9</sup> Yayasan Makam Mbah Joko Untung Desa Yosowilangun, "Biografi, Mbah Buyut Joko Untung" 2022.



istighosah and manaqib in the area of Mbah Joko Untung's grave which was attended by Kyai, ulama, invited guests, and the community around the housing.

Article 32 Paragraph (1) of Regional Regulation Number 8 of 2019 reads: "Every person or Regional Government may carry out the restoration of cultural heritage buildings and/or cultural heritage structures to restore their physical condition by repairing, strengthening, and/or preserving them through reconstruction, consolidation, rehabilitation, and restoration work". For this reason, the Yosowilangun Village Government, in order to preserve and maintain the historic tomb, delegated to local community organizations that are responsible for caring for the tomb of Mbah Joko Untung and making repairs around the tomb area. Currently, Mbah Joko Untung's grave is in good condition, the Yosowilangun Village Government has restored or renovated the tomb to be better than before, there is already a staircase to the tomb which is located higher than the ground around the tomb, and there is also a clear direction to go to the location of the tomb, so that pilgrims or guests who come have no trouble finding the location of Mbah Joko Untung's tomb.

The Yosowilangun Village Government in preserving and managing cultural heritage, has taken several steps, including facilitating the use of cultural heritage, formulating cultural heritage preservation policies, and supervising and evaluating the preservation of cultural heritage as well as organizing cultural heritage promotion so that it is more widely known, outside Yosowilangun Village and outside Gresik Regency. The Village Government supervises the preservation of cultural heritage and the community can also participate in supervising the preservation of cultural heritage where the community supervision is submitted in writing to the village apparatus, in accordance with Regional Regulation Number 8 of 2019 Article 54, which regulates administrative sanctions, revocation of permits and administrative fines for violators of these provisions.

## **B. Obstacles and Challenges of the Village Government in Preserving The Traditions and Culture of Yosowilangun Village**

The influence of modernization through technological developments such as television, computers, film and print media as well as social media can result in a decrease in people's interest in traditions and culture. New performances that are more modern and more interesting such as music concerts, cinema films, or fashion shows can become rivals and shift people's interest in attending and participating in the tradition of the annual grand haul of Yosowilangun Village. This, if not anticipated immediately, can result in shrinkage and even extinction. Therefore, in order for the preservation of traditions to be maintained and not extinct, the village government together with community leaders and religious leaders should always try to be active and maximally and routinely hold activities that are sustainable with the annual village haul event in order to maintain traditional values and local culture.

Community participation limited by space and time can also be an obstacle to the success of village governments in preserving traditions and culture. An arena or forum for the community individually or in groups to participate in the success of village government programs is a space for community participation.<sup>10</sup> Regarding the space for community participation, the village government should strive for facilities used to hold deliberations to discuss village tradition and culture preservation programs. In addition, the weakening of social capital is also an obstacle for the village government in preserving traditions and

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<sup>10</sup> Kahar Haerah, "Peran Pemerintah Desa Dalam Melestarikan Budaya Tari Seblang" 2017, jurnal.unmuhjembar.ac.id.

culture. Social capital should be a means of improving the management of natural and human resources in order to successfully preserve traditions and culture, for example social interaction in institutional networks such as recitations, social gatherings, and tahlilan which tend to decline.

According to the Head of Yosowilangun Village, H. Abdul Rosyid, obstacles or obstacles in preserving village traditions and culture are almost non-existent or very minimal. The series of Village Grand Haul activities is managed with good management, perhaps only in terms of sometimes erratic weather and sudden rain, where this grand haul activity is held outdoors along Brotonegoro street openly and is only protected by tents and based on tarpaulins and mats along the road. According to him, there are also no obstacles or obstacles in the social sector, because the people of Yosowilangun Village work well together with the village government assisted by the youth organization, and local community leaders, in the economic sector there are also no obstacles. The village has sufficient for this, assisted by voluntary participation and contributions from the community. The cost for the series of activities of the Yosowilangun Village Grand Haul comes from the Village Government, and the donations of the local community are well used to preserve the traditions and culture of Yosowilangun Village.

The increasing number of cultural influences from outside that can shift the values of tradition and local culture causes the preservation of traditions to become an increasingly big challenge in the era of information technology development. So it is necessary to increase public awareness of the importance of preserving traditions. For example, the village government can use digital media as a means of documentation and publication of traditions. Introducing traditions to the wider community through digital media is also a means of preserving them from extinction. The village government can also carry out activities or socialization online and offline to provide opportunities for the community to discuss and exchange ideas directly to find solutions to what steps can be taken to preserve the traditions and culture of Yosowilangun Village.

## CONCLUSION

The role of the Yosowilangun Village Government in preserving the traditions and culture of the village, namely the tradition of the grand haul which is routinely carried out every year as well as maintaining, caring, and maintaining cultural heritage in the form of the tomb of historical figures Raden Brotoredjo or Mbah Buyut Joko Untung is in accordance with Regional Regulation Number 8 of 2019 concerning Cultural Heritage. The Yosowilangun Village Government shows maximum performance so that the implementation of the village's annual grand haul tradition can run well every year. The Yosowilangun Village Government can mobilize the surrounding community to participate and contribute to the series of events of the Annual Grand Haul of Yosowilangun Village. The Yosowilangun Village Government provides space and opportunities for the community to work together to make the annual tradition a success. The Yosowilangun Village Government uses the Tomb of Mbah Buyut Joko Untung as a means of religious activities and tourism. The greater the influence of culture from outside that can shift the value of tradition and local culture, causing the preservation of traditions to become an even bigger challenge in the era of information technology development. So it is necessary to increase public awareness of the importance of preserving traditions. For example, the

village government can use digital media as a means of documentation and publication of traditions so that they are known to the wider community.

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