

# THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TOPONAME VEGETATION TO SUPPORT THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (STUDY AT GAJAH WONG RIVER IN YOGYAKARTA, INDONESIA)

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## ABSTRACT

Yogyakarta is known as tourist destination. Research in Indonesia found that Yogyakarta placed the fifth rank for “*The Best Services Cities*”, the ninth for “*The Most Favorite Destination Cities*”, the fifth for Malioboro street as “*The Most Favorite Destination Sites*”, and the third place for the best province in tourism development (Indonesia’s Ministry of tourism, 2013). Gajah Wong river which is located in Yogyakarta had been connected to the history of Yogyakarta Old Mataram Kingdom. The uniqueness of Gajah Wong river is the river water comes from many springs along the river that flows to the South Ocean. Nowadays the springs only 24 (research in the year 2010) left from 44 springs (before the year 1990). The appearance of those springs are caused of many big trees surround it. The name of the trees which dominate area used as the name of the spot area. But now we can not find the trees which is used as the name of the spot. Cutting trees along the riverside caused the disappearance of the springs and it brings impact to the soil slope stability along the riverside area. This research aims to create and retain greater heritage values along Gajah Wong riverside area by toponame vegetation to support sustainable development. This research is conducted as Field Research. The data are collected by direct observation, FGD, informal interview and documentations. The result of this research is that Gajah Wong riverside area can be created and retained greater heritage values by implementation of toponame vegetation.

**Keywords:** *Toponame Vegetation; Heritage values; Sustainable development*

## A. Introduction

Yogyakarta known as tourist destination. Research in Indonesia found that Yogyakarta placed the fifth rank for “*The Best Services Cities*”, the ninth for “*The Most Favorite Destination Cities*”, the fifth for Malioboro street as “*The Most Favorite Destination Sites*”, and the third place for the best province in tourism development (Indonesia’s Ministry of tourism, 2013). The government push the communities to strengthen their effort in order to

get the first place or the best in tourism and in the same time developing green city. Gajah Wong riverside is one of potential area which have been managing effectively since 2012. Gajahwong river is one of three rivers in Yogyakarta municipality which is need to be well manage as there are many sites heritage almost disappear mostly because of men activities. The uniqueness of Gajah Wong river is that the river water comes from springs along the river that flows to the South Ocean. The name “Gajah Wong” was given by the King of old Mataram Kingdom. As the location of the kingdom is nearest to the Gajah Wong river, some of springs used to be used as water garden by the King’s family. Nowadays the springs only 24 left from 44 springs. Some heritage situs almost gone. The identification of certain area with certain plantation are no longer appears.

The growth of population and the poverty’s problem had developed slum area along the Gajah Wong riverside. Local government and the Gajah Wong River Community Forum (FORSIDAS) eager to create and retain greater values of the functions of the river and heritage sites. Meanwhile, Yogyakarta Regency’s Long term Development Plan aims to develop Yogyakarta Green City beside the branding of Yogyakarta as Culture and heritages touristic area. According to those, implementation of toponame vegetation can be an effective solution.

## **B. Aims**

This research aims is to create and retain greater heritage values along Gajah Wong riverside area by toponame vegetation to support the Yogyakarta visions “*Hamemayu Hayuning Bawana*” and establish sustainable Development.

## **C. Methods**

This research conducted as Field Research. The definition of Field Research is any activities aimed at collecting primary (original or otherwise unavailable) data, using methods such as face to face interviewing, telephone and postal surveys and direct observation ([www.Businessdictionary.com/definition/field-research.html](http://www.Businessdictionary.com/definition/field-research.html)). The data collecting by direct observation, FGD, informal interview and documentations.

## D. Results

Yogyakarta branded as tourism city which is offer many touristic attraction, such as historical sites tourist area. Gajah Wong river which is located in Yogyakarta had been connected to the history of Yogyakarta Old Mataram Kingdom. The name “Gajah Wong” to the river was given by the King according to the true story when his elephant (Gajah) and a man (wong) whose take cares of this elephant swept away by the flooding of its river. The uniqueness of Gajah Wong river is the river water comes from many springs along the river that flows to the South Ocean. Nowadays the springs only 24 (research in the year 2010) left from 44 springs (before the year 1990). The appearance of those springs are caused of many big trees surround it. The name of the trees which are dominate area used as the name of the spot area, namely: Karang Duren (there were many durian trees); Karang Miri; Mrican; Ngingas; Gambiran; Lo Gathuk . Unfortunately nowadays in those spot area we can find just name left but those trees are gone. Cutting trees along the riverside caused the disappearance of some springs. Beside that, the absent of the trees bring impact to the soil slope stability along the riverside area.

The demand of good living leads to develop knowledge management to all development stake holders. Knowledge management is the ability to create and retain greater value from core business competencies (Tiwana, 1999). Knowledge management enables the creation, communication, and application of knowledge of all kinds to achieve business goals. Yogyakarta Long Term Development Plan and the Yogyakarta vision “*Mamayu Hayuning Bawana*” leads to developes Green City. Government Regulation: *Undang-Undang Nomor 13 Tahun 2012 tentang keistimewaan Yogyakarta – Rancangan Perdais tentang Tata Ruang Pemda Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta* regulate zones development activities. Gajah Wong riverside area has potency to contribute the Green Open Public Space. By implementing Knowledge Management, the quality and the quantity of natural water resources along Gajah Wong river will be increase and can be use in many more purpose such as drinking water resources, watering to many more rice fields and plantation, etc. The appearance of the trees which are matching to the name of the spot area. For example, when people visit karang duren, they can find Durian trees there. It will create and retain greater heritage values.

Knowledge Management should implemented in all development stake holders (Academician; Business Corporation; Communities and Government). Academician should supporting with their research and their social community service; Business Corporation

supporting with CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility); Government provide the regulation and funds; while the local communities playing their role as active participant in all aspect of development. As all the requirement are provides, the green city and the Yogyakarta visions “Hamemayu Hayuning Bawana” will established. Toponame vegetation based on knowledge management at Gajah Wong riverside area create and retain greater heritage values that supports sustainable development.

#### **E. Conclusions**

1. Gajah Wong river and surrounding area is available and feasible to be managed as a tourist destination
2. Gajah Wong river and surrounding area is a living legend that should be protected
3. Gajah Wong river and surrounding area development platform will inspiring another place/aspect in supporting sustainable development.
4. Gajah Wong river and surrounding area can be created and retained greater heritage values by toponame vegetation based on Knowledge Management
5. Toponame vegetation creates and retains greater heritage values if there is strong synergy between academician, busnismen corporation (investor), government and communities.

#### **F. Recommendation**

The sinergy of Government; Communities; Business Corporation (Investor); and Academician are strongly need to establish sustainable development, especially at Gajah Wong riverside area which is rich of heritage sites in order to the implementation of plantation in Gajah Wong river side by toponame vegetation to support the brand “Yogyakarta Istimewa”.

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