Managing Conflicts in Heritage Sites,
A Case Study of the Majapahit Sites in Trowulan – Indonesia

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Abstract

SHIFTING PARADIGM

Single Object → Area Based

MANAGEMENT OF CHANGE

The Past → The Present → The Future

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

Stakeholders' interest → Contestation aspects → Intangible meaning

HERITAGE SITES

URBANIZATION

NATURE DISASTER

HUMAN DISASTER

CHALLENGES

RESILIENT & SUSTAINABLE
KEYWORDS:
- Heritage Site
- Trowulan-East Java,
- Area based
- Contestation
- Conflict
Heritage Sites in Indonesia
Nature Disaster on Heritage Sites
Flood
Aceh Tsunami, 2004
Bengkulu Earthquake, 2007
Java Earthquake, 2006

Nias Tsunami, 2004; Earthquake, 2007

- 220,000 died
- 665,000 homeless
- 60% buildings were destroyed

- 15,000 houses completely destroyed
- More than 900 victims

- 3,800 houses heavily damaged
- 10,000 houses moderately damaged

- 13,000 houses heavily damaged
- 7,000 houses moderately damaged
- US$1,300 government fund per family

Basic Principles of Our Heritage Emergency Response Actions

- Quick response to do a rapid assessment of the damaged heritage
- Coordination with other stakeholders e.g. government agency, community groups, aid organizations, etc.
- Taking preliminary actions to save the damaged heritage
- Engaging local community of disaster area to maintain their heritage after disaster
The catastrophe that brings lesson learnt in many aspects – Mount Merapi Eruption Yogyakarta & Central Java Province

Gendol River full of volcanic material deposited by a pyroclastic flow or lahar (14/11/2010)

We have learned a lot of new things. And the Heritage Emergency Response post earthquake is different with eruption case, start to learn again.
THE MAJAPAHIT SITES IN TROWULAN
MAJAPAHIT EMPIRE
HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Trowulan has long been recognised as the site of the former royal capital of the Majapahit Empire which flourished between 1293 and the early sixteenth century (1510s).

The Serat Pararaton (Book of Kings) and Nagarakrtagama (The Precept of Past Statecraft) or more accurately Desawarnana (Depiction of the Districts) described how the Majapahit Empire was established by Raden Wijaya in 1293, and continued by King Jayanegara in 1309-1328, and Queen Tribhuwana Tunggadewi in 1328-1351.

The period of Majapahit’s greatest glory was between 1350 and 1389, a period when his influential prime minister, Patih Gajah Mada was in duty since 1334 until 1364. The important role played by the Majapahit Empire in the international trade and diplomatic networks from the 14th century is chronicled in the official Chinese sources.
One of the biggest kingdoms in Southeast Asia in the 14th-15th century was the Majapahit Empire.
Trowulan as Capital City of Majapahit Empire
National Heritage Site of Trowulan located in Kabupaten Mojokerto and Jombang, Province of East Java (Minister of Education and Culture Decree no 260/M/2013)
Map of Trowulan based on Nagarakrtagama (The Precept of Past Statecraft)
Trowulan is the only "city site" heritage site in Indonesia
(Department of Education, 1986).
The area of Trowulan covered by several layers of tufa sand (Sartono and Bandono, 1991: 127). This sand and gravel was carried to the site by periodic flooding caused by seismic activity in the nearby volcanoes or the overflowing of the adjacent Brantas River. This were also periodic volcanic eruptions, especially the nearby Mt Kelud near Kediri which erupted no less than eight times during the Majapahit period. The spread of ash and alluvial sediment from these eruptions occurred some nineteen times after the fall of the Majapahit empire in the 1510s.
REMAINS BELOW THE SURFACE

There are more than 65 archaeological sites in the surrounding area which covers an area of approximately 92 square kilometres.

Although much has been excavated either officially by professional archaeologists, or unofficially through the operations of the local brick-making industry, there are still extensive remains of the ancient royal capital which remain below the surface. But these are threatened by the ongoing environmental destruction as the impact of the expansion of human population continues apace in an unrestricted process of urbanization and population growth.
Artefacts found in the people’s back yard
Old well founds in the sugar cane plantation
RECORDS ON THE STONES
VISUAL OF THE PAST
FRAGMENTED FINDINGS
GOLD AND TERRACOTTA
The Trowulan site has been intensively researched and surveyed since the beginning of nineteenth century. The first to undertake such a survey was Captain-Engineer JWB Wardenaar (1785-1869) from 5-8 October 1815, who acted on the orders of the British Lieutenant-Governor, Thomas Stamford Raffles (in office 1811-1816). Most of the subsequent survey and archaeological work by the Dutch Colonial Archaeological Service (1913-1942) was aimed at studying and preserving extant archaeological remains. Unfortunately, very little of this research has chronicled changes in land use since the collapse of the Majapahit Empire in the 1510s. Economic, social, and environmental contestations have all created the particular mix of problems in present-day Trowulan. Moreover there have also been political contestations involving the army which have also influenced changes in land use in Trowulan since Indonesian independence in 1945. The ground in Trowulan has converted for sugar cane plantation as the impact of Industrial Revolution. Later, the army of Indonesia constructed several new functions such as Pendopo Agung as a large meeting hall in the core zone of Trowulan.
The principal on-site economic activity or home industry for the local Trowulan community is brick making. Today, this occurs on an industrial scale with some 4,000 separate brick-making projects being counted in the Trowulan area alone in 2009 (Tempo Interaktif news, 2009). The mixed top soil and upper layers of volcanic sediment and sand are used for brick-making materials. Unfortunately, the top soil usually consists of fragments of various Majapahit artefacts such as Ming-dynasty coins and porcelain, even when these local brick-making projects dig less than one meter they can already find gold, jewelry and other artefacts. This means that most of the below-ground Majapahit treasures have been lost or destroyed. Professor Mundardjito, Indonesia’ leading archaeologist of the Majapahit era has stated that due to the number of linggan (bricks home industry) in Trowulan most of the area where archaeological remains were once found has been excavated to a depth of four meters.
SOIL AND ITS RICH FRAGMENTED CERAMICS, TERRACOTTA.
Lots of things are being competing within each other to approach the city’s decision on its priority. This competition is argued as a social construction whereas cultural heritage, which passed from one generation to the next one, should against any changes. The definition of what is traditional in culture, the specification of links between present and past, is constantly being symbolically recreated and contested (Wood 1993:58).
Central Government Project on Majapahit Information Centre

Minister of Culture & Tourism
Development of the new structure destroyed the heritage objects that must be conserved.
The Steel Plant construction in the core area of archaeological remains close to the entrance of Gapura Wringin Lawang, a winged doorway in the classic Majapahit style traditionally associated with Patih Gajah Mada’s residence. This contestation involved an economic investor who had received a building permit from the local Regent (bupati) of Mojokerto in 2013. This is a good example of how local government can itself be a threat to the preservation of a key heritage site like Trowulan. The long public protest named “Save Trowulan” which was supported by the worldwide media, finally succeeded in cancelling the project in 2014.
STEEL FACTORY IN TROWULAN?
Construction of the proposed steel plant adjacent to the heritage site
COMMUNITY MOVEMENT & PROTEST STOPPED THE STEEL PLANT CONSTRUCTION
Call for the world’s attention:

BPPI & JPM initiated the nomination for Trowulan as World Endangered Heritage.

World Monuments Fund stated on 8th October 2013 Trowulan is on the 2014 WORLD MONUMENTS WATCH
Pabrik Baja di Trowulan Dibatalkan

Kelestarian Situs Harus Dijaga

SURABAYA, KOMPAS—Komunitas sejarawan dan budayawan menentang keputusan Bupati Mojokerto untuk membatalkan izin pembangunan pabrik baja di Desa Bejiung dan Wetan Umpak, Trowulan, yang dikeluaran Pemerintah Kabupaten Mojokerto.

Bupati Mojokerto Mustafa Ke-
mat Pasha setuju menolong in-
vestor pabrik baja munjung kambal lahan seluas dua hektar yang sudah dibeli di khusus desa ter-
sebut dan memindahkan lokasi pabrik ke kawasan industri lain.

Keberadaan mencogoh pen-
dirian pabrik baja di kawasan situs yang diduga pusat pemer-
tintahan Kerajaan Majapahit ter-
sebut dilakukan melalui protes para seniman dan budayawan Mojokerto, Fatim, hingga nasional terus-menerus selama beberapa bulan terakhir.

Pihak Badan Pelestarian Pur-
takaala Indonesia (BPPI) yang dipimpin antara lain oleh Hasim Sardjono kekemasan ber-

3

ama rombongan komunitas pe-
nerhati Trowulan kemarin ber-

1

sumbangan kepada pemer-

5

han pabrik baja di kawasan situs ini.

Meskipun begitu, kekhatutir-

7

an akan rusaknya desa di desa Trowulan tetap ada jika lidiad ini tidak jadi melalui inisiatif yang tegak dan se-

8

rustik situs tersebut. "Saya sudah meminta kepada Bupati bahwa segera ketika 2013 ini Ditjen Ke-

9

dayaan Komildbud sudah dan meresmikan selesainya ha-

10

surel yang akan menguasai sis situs Trowulan tidak saja melalai. Undang-Undang Cagar Budaya Nomor II Tahun 2010, tetap juga melalui pengawas-

11


12

Situs Trowulan, kata Ketua BPPI Luluk Susian, telah ma-

13

suak dalam daftar pengawas-

14

an monumen dunia. Ini di-

15

spurukan dalam sidang Internasional Conference of National Trusts Ke-15 di Uganda, Afrika, pada 2013. Pelestarian situs Trowulan di-

16

nilai telah sangat mengkhawatir-

17

irkan, setara dengan situs Kota Pompeii di Italia dan Nara di Jepang. Karena itu, situs Trow-

18

ulan harus dilindungi dan di-

19

jauh dari kegiatan apa pun yang mengganggu situs itu.

Wakil Ketua DPP BPPI Catrini P Kusumawardhana mengatakan, BP-

20

PI akan menjadi komunikator jaringan yang akan menetak pe-

21

merintah, swasta, dan masyarakat agar berperan aktif melin-

22

dung Trowulan, termasuk me-

23

larang industri di atasnya.

"Tidak ada kehujanan dalam surveynya akan memetakan area seluas ratusan kilometer persegi sekeling Trowulan agar di-

24

ertilkan dan dikembangkan se-

25

bagai kegiatan konservasi dan ad-

26

vokasi. Tidak saja pada bend-

27

ce yang budaya, warisan tak tam-

28

pak, juga terhadap kelangsungan ekonomi dan manfaat situs bagi masyarakat setempat," kata Hashim. (ETA/ODY)
The local government consisting of regency and village-level authorities initiated a project of for the construction of commercial tourism kiosks in August 2016. It is located on the ground of core area of Balong Bunder and Balong Dowo as water sources for the great Segaran tank. This project has just been halted after protests from heritage-watch organisations which argued that there should be extensive site surveys before any physical construction of the proposed kiosks began.
HERITAGE SITES
(an area which is having special heritage assets in both of natural and cultural heritage)
HERITAGE SITES
(a historical site which is developed in its dynamic of changes based on conservation aspects)

It's not just remembering a heritage but remaking heritage it into something new” (D. Lowenthal)
CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

Trowulan Masterplan was developed in 1986 and revised in 2013, but neither have been implemented. They divided Trowulan into eight cluster cells which were selected on the basis of the spread of its archaeological remains, although all these areas have suffered great destruction due to the economic activities described above.
The conservation of heritage sites is not merely how to preserve an archaeological object, but how such site design can include its human activities thus directly addressing the needs of the local environment being engaged. The strong linkage among social, politic and economy aspects is giving influence to the use of land in Trowulan since its past period.
People started to feel and think about space attached to their custom, their beliefs and how they relate it with home, neighborhood and wider compound of their place (Tuan 2008:179)
HERITAGE CONSERVATION

- Heritage Conservation is a management of change (Asworth, 1991) -

PEOPLE

URBAN SPACES

NATURE ENVIRONMENT

FORM OF CONSERVATION

PRESERVATION

CONSERVATION

RESTORATION

ADAPTIVE/REVITALIZATION

RENOVATION

REHABILITATION

DEMOLITION

RECONSTRUCTION

HERITAGE

- Natural heritage
- Tangible cultural heritage
- Intangible cultural heritage
- Cultural landscape heritage

LEGAL BACK UP

UU No.5/1992

UU No.11/2010

AREA BASED MANAGEMENT

CONTROL MECHANISM

(BPPI, 2012)
Hence, this condition needed a new concept of heritage conservation within an area based. This shifting paradigm from single object to area based management is appropriated for Trowulan. Both of nature and built environment of this heritage site are having connectedness with the people who live in this area with their culture integrity and tradition custom. Thus conflict management can be started through dialogue among stakeholders to raise their common need for their heritage. It is believed that manifestation of cultural identity through their daily activities will develop their appreciation of places and subordination with their environment. These are fundamental important to manage any decision for land use and its function. Nevertheless the existence of heritage objects that are remain underground or have been destroyed at all, has encourage further research on how this area management will tackle this issue.
THANK YOU