

Observation of Public Open Space Utilization for Community in Jakarta, Indonesia

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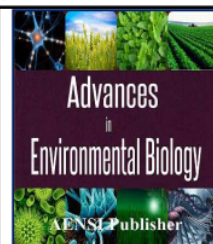


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Observation of Public Open Space Utilization for Community in Jakarta, Indonesia

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ABSTRACT

Jakarta as the capital of Indonesia with increasing population and building density has caused an increase in the complexity of problems. High urbanization level has resulted in a difficulty in finding public open space at city scale, residential scale, or city kampong. As a consequence, public utilizes the existing public open space for various functions reciprocally which resulted in territory take over. This phenomenon will disrupt other activities if it is not dealt with. The purpose of this research is to analyze factors that cause the changes in the function of public open space to temporary function or changes in the function anytime according to the needs of the residents. In addition, this research also tries to find the solution to overcome the problem so that the changes in the function of public open space will not disrupt other activities. The method used in this research is mixed method, with the aim of analyzing the phenomenon in the fields comprehensively. The mixed method used in this research is an analyzing quantitative data which was then confirmed with the qualitative data, i.e. with observation, in depth interview with the users of the public open space and with the related parties. This research concluded that as an integral union between city and city kampong in the formation of city structure, a management of public open space is needed in order to make the public space sustainable. To materialize a sustainable public open space, a public empowerment in utilizing public open space is needed so that the utilization of public open space can always accommodate the activities of the users comfortably for present time as well as for the future.

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INTRODUCTION

Population growth and development in Jakarta has resulted in the needs of space as infrastructure for the city. The increase of built area has an implication in the decline of the availability of open space. The limitation of public open space has an implication on the decline of the quantity and quality of city space. To fulfill the needs on public space, public utilizes the existing public open space for various functions temporarily which can disrupt the activities of the surrounding neighborhood. Public open space is an open space located in a publicly-owned land, in the forms of park, sporting field, or other public open space [7]. This area can be accessed and utilized by public without space, time, and cost limitation. In this discussion, the author discusses the utilization of public open space in Paseban Kampong as a neighborhood and Fatahillah Park as city scale. The Paseban Kampong as an area in Jakarta with high residential density has a very minimum amount of public open space. Therefore, public has to use road area as a place for activities. This resulted in the expansion of space utilization. In the case of Fatahillah Park, revitalization that was done has not been optimal and touched the aspect of its sustainability. A sustainable public open space is needed by the citizen of Jakarta at neighborhood as well as city scale. In addition, as a place for public activities, open space can contribute to environment sustainability, increase the aesthetic of the area and increase value by accommodating social and economic activities. The utilization of public open space in the neighborhood scale is represented by the Paseban Kampong, whereas the Fatahillah Park's representing an historical public open space at the city scale. Both were then compared one with another. This research is expected to be able to provide an input for the government of DKI Jakarta and city planners in determining the policy on public open space at neighborhood and city scale in order to create a life for the citizens of Jakarta that is qualified and sustainable.

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6.0 Literature Review:

2.1. Public open space:

Public open space is an open space that can be accessed freely and spontaneously by the public both visually and physically [3]. Hakim stated that public open space can be used by all people and it contains elements of human activities, such as playing, walking, and sports [4]. Carr gave several importances of public space, i.e.: a. To give meaning or significance to the local people individually or in groups (meaningful), b. To be responsive to all the wishes of users and accommodate existing activities in the public space (responsive), c. To accept the presence of various walks of life freely without any discrimination (democratic) [2]. Although these freedoms need to control the functions of space, traffic circulation and parking of motor vehicles, and placement of street vendors. Hierarchically, public open space is available ranging from neighbourhood scale (RT/RW), district and to city scale [7].

10. 2.2. Temporary public open space:

Public open space is an open space that can be accessed freely and spontaneously by the public either visually or physically [1]. There are three criteria for essential public space, i.e. Capable of giving meaning or significance to local people individually or in groups (meaningful), responsive to all the wishes of the users and can accommodate all activities in the public space (responsive), capable of accepting the presence of all kinds of people without any discrimination (democratic) all this freedom requires control on spatial functions, traffic circulation and parking of motor vehicles, the placement of street vendors and so on [2].

Temporary public open space is public open space whose function is temporary until the needs of the public space are met as a result of the development and growth of the city. Haydn in Temporary Urban Space stated that, with the development of the situation and living conditions in urban areas, human needs for space activities grow as well [5].

2.3. Sustainable Development:

As shown in Fig. 1. To retain existing resources, sustainable development must be achieved. Sustainable development should be taken into consideration in every construction activity which includes protecting the environment (Environmental Protection), to increase potential elements of the society in order to create a strong and independent society (Society Development) and to harmonize well-being through increase in income that will create a strong and independent community (Economic Development). Brunckhorst *et al.* (2006) showed that the spatial framework used to represent social, economic and physical values should include stakeholders' views in finding solution. He also argued that 'civic engagement' is essential for a resolution in the issue of sustainability.

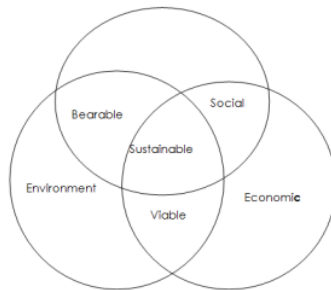


Fig. 1: Schema of Sustainable Development.

2.4. Community Empowerment:

The main approach in the concept of community empowerment is that community cannot be used as object of various development projects, but a subject of the development itself. Based on this concept, community empowerment should follow the following approaches [9]. From various literature reviews, a conclusion can be made that community empowerment is an effort to enable and make the community self-sufficient or in other words is how to help community to help themselves.

3.0 Methodology:

The type of research conducted by the author is field research, using mixed research. The purpose is to produce a more comprehensive fact in examining phenomenon in the field. The mixed method strategy used in this research is started with quantitative analysis stage, followed by qualitative analysis stage. The purpose of

this strategy is to identify components of concept (sub-concept) through quantitative data analysis and then qualitative data collection to broaden and confirm information in the field with the product of quantitative analysis.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1. Public Open Spaces in Kampung Paseban:

Based on observation, there's only one public open space in Kampung Paseban and it is in the form of badminton field, located opposite the Kindergarten and used not only for sport activities, but also for other activities such as selling and social interaction. As a consequence there is an expansion in the temporary use of public open space into several areas: a) the main road located on the river bank and on the side of railway track is used as areas for playing, selling and buying, social interaction, and car park, b) small road or alleys are used as area for children to play, selling and buying, socialization/social interaction, motor cycle parking area, household service activities, etc. Figure 2 shows the road space is used as social interaction area. Figure 3 visualizes the space on the edge of the main road is used as area for business

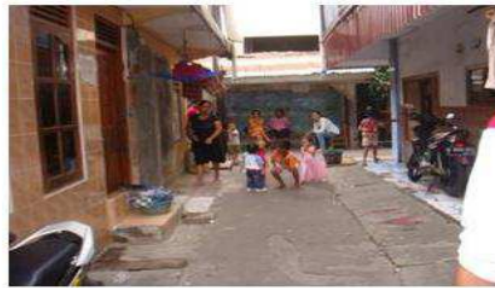


Fig. 2: Road/alley space is used as social interaction area.



Fig. 3: Space on the edge of the main road is used as area for business/commerce.

Based on an article on the Standart International Journal (the SIJ), ⁵ "The influence of Time and Behaviour in the presence of Temporary Public Open Space in City-Kampong with SEM analyze" [12], the variables of behavior and time simultaneously influence temporary public open space variable with R^2 value of 0.68. Furthermore, temporary space and community empowerment variables simultaneously influence sustainable space variable with R^2 value of 0.94. The community empowerment variable is a moderator variable that can accelerate the realization of sustainable public open space. In this regard, community participation is very much needed in optimizing the use of public open space in Kampung Paseban. The temporary function that was established in the public open space of Kampung Paseban is regarded as a place where human activities presence at different time and space. The spatial correlation and its temporary arrangement produce a public open space that unimaginable as something that is static [12]. Therefore, the dynamism that occurs has a big potency for the emergence of a conflict among the existing activities. Eventually violation occurs to the territory (invasion) that does not belong to them with a purpose to take away the control of the territory from the owner. The citizens tend to take over the space located right in front of their house which was initially intended as circulation route and replace it for the expansion of their house land by using it as a place for storing materials that are not accommodated inside their house (as a warehouse or even constructing chicken/bird cage).

As a consequence, the setting of time and area for the use by the community is needed to reduce conflict among the interest and to support the objective of its sustainability. The setting has to be able to support environment protection. This can be done through common activities conducted in the public open space with the purpose of supporting cleanliness, health and environmental comfort, such as voluntarily cleaning the ditches, planting trees, or rehabilitating road/road elements. The togetherness that is produced through those activities can automatically bring about solidarity and self-sufficiency attitude in the society (Society Development). The improvement of welfare through economic activities can be done through entrepreneurship (trading, selling services) by maintaining environmental preservation and public comfort as a whole.

4.2. Public open spaces in Taman Fatahillah:

An assessment model stated that partially, the quality of public open space is influenced by the level of socio-economic and sustainable space through government-support institution [11]. This is in line with the Project for Space that explained that the success of public open space is determined by the aspects of comfort and image; the presence of access and linkage; and the dynamism of its functions, i.e. social and economics. Social-economics factors in Fatahillah Park are factors that can influence its utilization [8].

Based on observation, Fatahillah Park physically has a huge potency and capital with its historical heritage elements. The open space that is surrounded by historical buildings has become an attraction for people to come to utilize it. Based on Montgomery theory, the presence of street market (street vendors) and social activities in open space will become a part that determines the vitality level of the space. [6]. Figure 4 shows the public open space around a building used as an area for social interaction while Figure 5 shows the existence of street market in a space between buildings can improve community economics



Fig. 4: Public open space around a building used as an area for social interaction.



Fig. 5: The existence of street market in a space between buildings can improve community economics.

Unlike the case of Kampong Paseban which is dominated by the expansion of public space and its temporary activities, each space user in Fatahillah Park is conducting activities within their own territories. The vendors have shown their "ownership" through their carts or their merchandises, Old City community with its own activities and visitors in certain benches. The vitality of public open space is visible; yet, each space user is individual in nature or clustered in utilizing the space. The setting that is supposed to be done by the management has not been operational (interview with Candrian Attahiyat). This research found out that simultaneously the quality of public open space and its sustainable space is influenced by community participation, the level of social-economics and government support. Together with these three variables, the quality of public open space significantly influences a sustainable open space.

Therefore, to support a sustainable public open space, all activities have to be managed properly by the authorities. The management should be oriented towards a) environmental protection and maintenance, both natural and artificial (Environment Protection), through the protection of the existing physical elements, such as building elements especially those with historical value as to not to be damaged, b) community solidarity and self-sufficiency, i.e. how the management that is supported by the community can establish space for activities that clearly owned by the community that can be done by community participation to protect local art and culture, to protect community togetherness and security, etc. (Society Development), c) increase the potency of all elements of the community in order to create a strong and self-sufficient community and harmonize material welfare, through local community empowerment as investor and economic actors. However, there is a need to increase the capacity in order to increase income by paying attention the impact of physical and social environment (Economic Development). Montgomery also added that the priority of economic and social activities for local community, the setting of street market and the pattern of social activities need to be done to make public open space to be more dynamic and owned by its community [6]. The management of public open space in Fatahillah Park needs to also take into consideration the aspect of institution through coordination among government institutions, cooperation with partners from the community, prioritizing Old City community and private sectors in order to establish a sustainable public open space.

Conclusion:

Kampung has a role in the development of a city, and likewise on the contrary, the development of a city also has an effect on the physical and non-physical conditions of the kampung. As a unity between a city and a city kampung in the development of city structure, preservation is needed, i.e. on the community aspect in its contribution to the formation of a sustainable public open space. The conclusion of this research is as follows:

1. In the case of Kampung Paseban, behavior and time variables simultaneously influence multi functions public open space variable. The multi functions public open space and community empowerment variables simultaneously influence sustainable public open space variable. Community empowerment variable is a moderator variable that can accelerate the establishment of sustainable public open space.
2. In the case of Fatahillah Park, the variables of public open space and its sustainable space are significantly influenced by the variables of community participation, socio-economic level and community support.

From observations on the two locations and an assessment on related journal, a conclusion can be drawn that to establish a sustainable public open space, community empowerment is needed i.e. a cooperation between government, private sector and community.

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