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THE CERAMIC HANDICRAFT ARTS OF KASONGAN, YOGYAKARTA, IN GLOBALIZATION ERA

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Abstract : Kasongan village represents one of the biggest producers of ceramic handicrafts in Yogyakarta. Its presence becomes the measuring rod of the development of ceramic handicrafts villages in Indonesia, especially in Java. It used to be a small and dusty village in a slum area of the district. Most of its villagers worked as household earthenware appliances makers (pekundhi, Javanese) such as mortars for braying condiments (cobek), charcoal braziers (anglo), firewood braziers (keren), earthen containers (kuwali), and so on. They worked with their natural and simple artistic sensitivity and craftsmanship as reflected in the earthen handicraft product they produced using animal motifs such as piggy bank to save coins. It was the involvement of artist, arts observers, merchants, tourists, and government that helped the village develop into an internationally well-known ceramic handicraft arts tourism area. In a global business, the ceramic handicrafts artistic products of the village have been exported to various countries. This paper reports a descriptive study on the developmental paradigm of Kasongan ceramic handicraft arts up to the present.

Key words : earthenwares, ceramic and global era.