

“WAROENG SEMAWIS”: COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FOR CULTURAL AREA CONSERVATION IN CHINATOWN SEMARANG

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Abstract:

Semarang one northern Java coastal city has a large port as the gateway entrance of trading activity by its history. Great influence the field of trade affects the development of the city which also has a district characterized by ethnic landscape like Chinatown, Arab village, Indian village, Kauman village, but the ethnic majority today are ethnic Chinese. Beginning of the arrival of the Chinese in Semarang to trade, then they stay here. Almost every city in Indonesia has a Chinatown that serves as a center for economic and residential. As a component of urban unique, Chinatown has a unique potential in the aspect of urban, architectural, economic and socio-cultural activities are interrelated. Chinatowns as one part of the old village conservation Semarang had most of artifacts that reflect the history of past products include characteristics of economic activities, social and cultural communities still survive to this day. In the development of Chinatowns grow with unique characteristics as a regional trade (Chinese Business District). In the area of Chinatown's social and cultural life of ethnic Chinese are still there, so it held a routine activity every Friday, Saturday and Sunday to preserve it. An arena of retail trade activities related products typical or identity Chinatown. These activities are in a public space that is the road that was partially closed to vehicles. The activity is called "Waroeng Semawis" (Semarang to Tourism), while the word 'Semawis' comes from the Javanese language to soften the word 'Semarang'. Activities "Waroeng Semawis" has been going on since 2005 until now is still lively. "Waroeng Semawis" has given characteristic of Semarang as one of the objects of cultural and culinary

destination.

Keywords: *“Waroeng Semawis, Community Activities, Conservation, Chinatown*

1. Introduction

Almost every city in Indonesia has a Chinatown that serves as a center for economic and residential architecture with buildings forming a typical city hall. As a component of urban unique in terms of ethnicity, function, architecture and history, Chinatown save a lot of unique potentials and problems both in terms of urban, architectural, social and cultural inter-related. However, Chinatown also store important cultural assets that can "remind" us as a nation that culture and ethnicity is not a rigid box.

Semarang is a city on the north coast of Java that has experienced growth like other cities. Cosmopolis coastal city history and as a trading city where people of different ethnic pluralism. Semarang city has a large port which is the gateway entrance of the trading activity that affects the development of the city of Semarang. The arrival of the Chinese in Semarang beginning to trade then reside here. The influence of the Chinese people in the trade to make the Dutch government control of the economy by limiting the ethnicity. Finally they are localized in order to be supervised all activities and ethnic groups still exist in large numbers in Semarang are ethnic Chinese.

“Waroeng Semawis” been going on since 2005, which until now is still quite festive. “Waroeng Semawis” has given a hallmark of the city of Semarang and became the object of a tourism destination. If the activity Waroeng Semawis and passion for the environment is increasing the area of building conservation can be implemented in accordance with a love of culture. Conservation and revitalization can be realized if a policy is supported by its communities.

2. Cultural Area Conservation and Economic Activities in Chinatown Semarang

Modern town planning in Indonesia and particularly in Java, starting from the beginning of the 20th century following the pattern of European cities. One trial of Semarang city planning with urban extension to the south in the hilly areas are spacious and there is a Chinese cemetery. 1900-1970 Semarang city planning history is closely related to social history developed in the same period. Plan every decision is based on the social conditions in the city center which is always a Dutch settlement, and urban village where people of Chinese and Javanese live. Therefore, urban planning visits by the social structure of the city which is a living space of people from different classes are controlled.

Determination of Chinatown in pre-colonial times, from evidence and historical records indicate the presence of the Chinese community in Indonesia. Remnants of pre-colonial urban settlements reflect multicultural harmony in Indonesia. During the colonial era, Chinatown is the political part of ethnic segregation (Netherlands divide people in the Indies into three strata: Europe, Eastern Foreign and Natives) which has been running since 1672 with the introduction officieren system

(system officer / captain). Then followed the imposition of wijkensstelsel system (barring settlements, 1841-1915), passenstelsel (commuter pass system, 1863), a variety of treatment and social law, to rule in a personal appearance (clothes and haircuts). Chinatown in inland cities of Java is also growing rapidly in the period of Dutch colonial expansion of the 19th century. Along with the various modernization, the colonial government opened these cities in a series of expanding distribution channels of agricultural products, gain a comfortable living environment, and developed a system of military control.

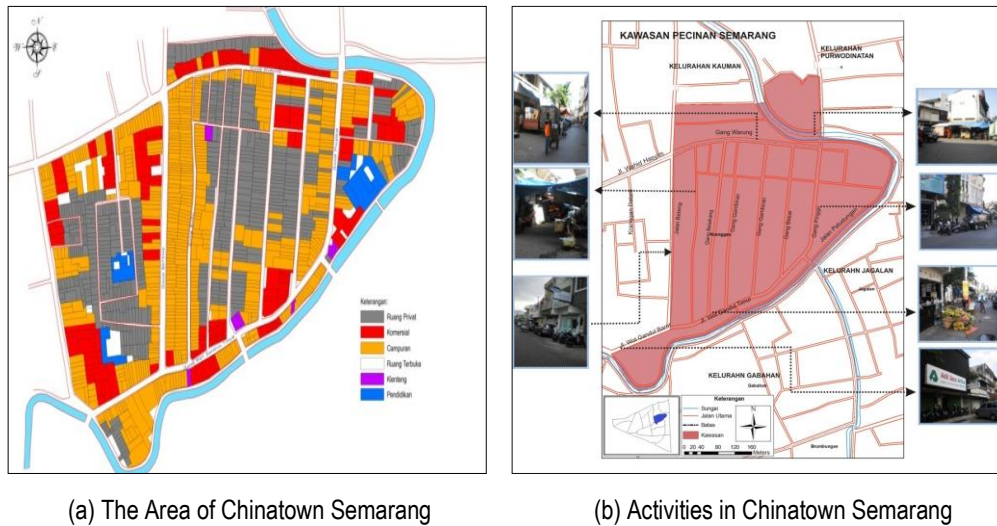


Figure 1. The Area of Chinatown Semarang and Activities, Source: Analysis, 2015

In the layout of the city, Chinatown is often a "Development Center," because the area is a bustling trading area. Areas that have a high density with the architecture of commercial buildings as a hallmark of Chinatown. Some cities were occupied by Chinese settlers in Southeast Asia later developed into entrepot (the port city as a center for the exchange of goods). So the settlement of ethnic Chinese in Java had been there before the Dutch took control of the northern coast of Java in 1743. Chinatown has meaning in the economic life of the city as a whole. As an urban component which is unique in terms of ethnicity and functions as well as the historical background of course, in addition to its physical differences, Chinatown turned out to save a lot of uniqueness, potential and problems, both in the aspects of urban, architectural, social and cultural are all mutually intertwined.

Chinatowns as one part of the old village conservation Semarang, has most of the artifacts reflecting the city's history of the past products including activity characteristic of economic, social and cultural community that still survive to this day. Over time, the area of Chinatown still grows with unique characteristics as Chinese Business District. Chinatown is a

residential area, a specific trading area, has many temples, has a traditional market and social backgrounds have the Chinese culture.

Strength district with social and cultural activities are very clear, because the district in the form of row house that is not easy to change occupants or land use. Therefore, the Chinese village is largely intact with the majority of ethnic Chinese inhabitants. As a result of the development of economic activities, the buildings were changed apparently, advertisements and modern forms of dyeing department, an assortment of forms of advertising, the building looks modern tailoring products are sold, the building looks a lot has changed into an ad for modern products. However, the spatial structure remains, because it is tied with kapling which is a series of buildings. In addition to the interior space is still intact and the roof construction also appear largely unchanged, the changes appear only attachment modern materials to create a modern look that is appropriate advertisements marketed product.

Although as a trade area, Chinatown is still a residential area with a population of about 11 022 people. Building down to the shop floor and the upper floors for residential (shop house). Now largely unchanged, a larger trade area, but the house is still used for the rear of the residence. Residential areas is what maintains the district into Chinatown, because of the social life of the Chinese culture is still felt, to preserve the routine activity held every Friday, Saturday and Sunday. An arena of retail trade activities include culinary and typical products of the ethnic Chinese. The activity was located on the road that was partially closed to vehicles. This activity is the gathering of citizens and residents of the city of Semarang while trade in products characteristic of Chinatown. This activity is called Waroeng Semawis (Waroeng Semarang for Tourism), but the word Semawis is derived from the Javanese language to soften said Semarang.

Semarang's Chinatown continues to expand today, becoming one of the most important residential and trade center in the city of Semarang. The development of this trading activity as salesmanship overseas Chinese who interact with the local community. Until now, Chinatown is still relatively intact, inhabited and active as the center of economic activity. Currently Chinatown as a center for economic determining Semarang economic, but social and cultural life is still ongoing, and activities Waroeng Semawis be one indicator.

Doxiadis Theory (1968) on human settlement which discuss the theory Container and Content. Society as contents with a wide range of social, economic, cultural. And requires the container, which houses, buildings, open spaces, roads, pedestrian. Container as a container, such as a room that is awakened shell (buildings) and the network (network or public space), the man (man and society) for its activities. Contents of the container and the products with Chinese ethnic culture is very strong in the city of Semarang. Container of artifacts building art architecture and urban space is the work culture. Activities cultural arts, religious, social, economic, the contents contained in the urban space. Therefore Waroeng Semawis is one of the social and cultural activities that take place in the economy, rewarding and productive consistent and empower local communities.

3. Community Activities in Chinatown Semarang

Ethnic Chinese in Chinatown has some activity, the activity of religious, cultural or culinary or trade and services. There are so many activities that took place in Chinatown, such as the Chinese market Semawis, the Moon Festival, Babad

Semarang Performance Art, Waroeng Semawis, various religious celebration and several other activities. Chinatown has a whole range of activities that include: social activity, economic, cultural and religious.

3.1 Social Activities

Chinatown area directly adjacent to other ethnic groups, so that they interact with other groups. Their family ties are very close, because almost every time they meet. Communities in the area of Chinatown also often hold meetings as one form of social interaction. They have a special building for meetings. Through these meetings they can be mutual interaction and exchange of ideas. Already there are ethnic Chinese community organizations in Chinatown Semarang, the secretariat of the association Tjie Lam Tjay formed from the Foundation Tjie Lam Tjay, Kong Tik Soe and Kawu Khong Hwee.



Figure 2. Social Activity, Source: Observation, 2014

3.2 Cultural Activities

Chinatown society still upholds the existing customs. For example carnival Great Sam Poo and Small Sam Poo are regularly held every year. In addition there are many more forms of art and festivals also more powerful with Chinese customs such as plays Min Cicih, Puppet Potehi and others.



(a) Puppet Potehi

(b) Great Sam Poo Carnival

Figure 3. Cultural Activity, Source: Observation, 2015

3.3 Economic Activities

Economic activity in Chinatown is the trade and services. The sector is growing rapidly in Chinatown and a source of income for people in Chinatown. Here is the distribution of the types of trading activities in the area of Chinatown:

- a. The Gang Baru market is a traditional market that has been known throughout history, this market is located in the alley way New and operates from 5 am to 11 noon. This market using the road as the location of activities, activity in this market is the buying and selling of daily necessities.
- b. Shop house along the street in the Chinatown neighborhood inhabited by the ethnic Chinese. Office for this region sell various types of goods, ranging from fabric, building tools to the everyday needs
- c. Street vendors in Chinatown that sell many kinds of food, there are operating during the day and also operating the evenings. Street vendors in Gang Warung with the name “Waroeng Semawis” are street vendors who are already organized and operate on weekends are: Friday, Saturday and Sunday start at 6 pm until 10 pm.



(a) Gang Baru Market

(b) Shop House

(c) Waroeng Semawis

Figure 4. The Types of Trading Activities, Source: Observation, 2014, 2015

3.4 Religion /Religious Activities

Religious atmosphere that supported the presence of 10 temple in Chinatown, Tay Kak Sie Temple, which has been aged 256 years and located in Gang Lombok, Sio Hok Bio Temple, and others. Activity religious celebration into a center of cultural activity Chinatown with his background as a region supported by many cultures and religions temple as a place of worship. Also many religious activities that take place through an annual celebration related to religion.



Figure 5. Religious Activities, Source: Observation, 2015, 2016

3.5 Waroeng Semawis

Waroeng Semawis managed by the Kopi Semawis and it is different from other markets in Chinatown. Waroeng Semawis characterized held in public spaces along the Gang Warung, only open from Friday to Sunday, from 6 pm until 10 pm. Waroeng Semawis held as one of the efforts to revitalize the Chinatown area, so that the area of Chinatown, better known by the outside community. Waroeng Semawis consisting of various booths of food, goods and services. Each booth has been set, each plot booth also has a different rental prices. The middle put the booth with the rental price is expensive, because it is a central location visited by many visitors.

Goods sold include various souvenirs and clothes, various types of food and drinks, there are karaoke Semawis, also everything typical Chinatown which is the culinary center of Semarang. Starting from trading activities, social activities, cultural activities and culinary tour there in the shop this night, as a single entity to revitalize Chinatown. Settings booth and a dining table looks neat because it provided tents along the roads and in the middle row of tables and chairs that can be used by visitors to eat and relax. Sometimes the number of chairs and tables to the end of the number is limited, so visitors have to queue and stand even sit in front of the shop to enjoy the food, but this does not make visitors cured. There is also a row of chairs visitors who are not covered tents, so when the rain will be a problem for outdoor activities.



Figure 6. Waroeng Semawis in Gang Warung, Chinatown Semarang, Source: Observation, 2014, 2015

Waroeng Semawis also need lights along the alley stalls on the sidelines of the event. The lights ornamental Chinatown region also serves to beautify the image of the region and create a special attraction for visitors yan come to that location. Lighting conditions, particularly in the area of Chinatown street lamps already meet the needs of lighting on the road. Street lighting in the Chinatown area consists of lamps that are large. In addition to the lights that are on the street, lighting also comes from people's homes in the region. The distance between the lights is set up and the amount was sufficient.

4 “Waroeng Semawis” Community Activities for Cultural Area Conservation

Chinatown area as part of the historical development of the city of Semarang also save heritage that should be preserved. There are two form of relics in the region, namely the physical and cultural heritage. The form of physical relics that still exist today is building nine temple. Preservation of the temples is done through the preservation and adaptation. Preservation is an effort to preserve a place like the original state without any change, including efforts to prevent the destruction.



Figure 7. Activities of Waroeng Semawis in Gang Warung, Source: Observation, 2014, 2015

Other physical building, which houses shops that prioritize regional activity character should be preserved through the preservation and adaptation. Adaptations made an effort to transform the building to be used for the function is more appropriate. Matching function means uses that do not require drastic changes, or which cause minimal impact. In the design area, the two buildings at once a reflection of cultural artifacts of the past may be considered to be a point of orientation other buildings. Cultural relics were preserved up to now is the activity of Imlek and Cap Go Meh to welcome the Chinese New Year, religious celebrations, Waroeng Semawis is regularly held in Chinatown. Chinatown area of public space is very limited, so that the implementation of the activity or event using public open space in the form of existing roads.

4.1 Physical Conservation

Displays the architectural potential return Chinatown neighborhood with typical Chinatown temple building and residential buildings are architectural mix of Chinese, Javanese and Dutch. Nine temples building as a landmark area that is offset by the recovery effort, care and management of the physical condition of buildings in a professional manner so as to support the region's identity as a conservation area in Semarang. Utilization Tay Kak Sie Temple (Gang Lombok) which is the biggest temple and the center of ritual activity in the region as an important orientation that makes it a cultural wealth of the region. Construction of new facilities should refer to and in harmony with the preservation of existing buildings. Repairing the physical condition of the building with the style of Chinatown, a minimum while still displaying the authenticity of the roof structure and façade of the building.

Waroeng Semawis on Gang Warung as a center of culinary tourism in Semarang's Chinatown is a community activity

that should be preserved and developed. Using a temporary tent at the time, held every weekend, but the location of each stall is set up, because who sell at Waroeng Semawis are members already registered on the management of Kopi Semawis. Preservation of buildings along the Gang Warung should be done to support the activities of the culinary tourism, so the atmosphere can still be felt Chinatown visitors while visiting the site. Kopi Semawis also do repair facilities and infrastructure as the revitalization of Chinatown. These activities are carried out almost every year, but the timing could not be determined. Road maintenance is one of the regular activities are scheduled each year. Kopi Semawis itself is also trying to work with city government to carry out revitalization activities, although there is a little problem, because of the slow response.



Figure 8. The Physical Condition of Waroeng Semawis in Gang Warung, Source: Observation, 2014, 2015

4.2 Cultural Conservation

The road as a public open space for an annual religious celebration to welcome the Chinese New Year (Imlek) and a series of other activities that take place within a period of one year, as well as Barongsai Dance performances and other performances with Pasar Imlek Semawis as one of the tourist potential of the area. Utilization of open space (plaza) to accommodate religious celebrations, especially in the temple complex of Gang Lombok. Structuring open spaces in the courtyard of the temple to accommodate cultural tourism activities.

Cultural activities of ethnic Chinese societies lots performed today, such as art and cultural shows like the classic opera, Barongsai dance, wushu, potehi puppet (puppet show typical Chinese), the art of calligraphy, feng shui consultation, and traditional Chinese medicine. Waroeng Semawis existing conservation efforts Mandarin music and songs in karaoke entertainment and always played at the event. Karaoke songs attracted many older people of ethnic Chinese as entertainment and gathering place. In this place they meet and socialize with friends while enjoying entertainment together. This routine activity conducted is one of cultural conservation efforts that strengthen the sense of brotherhood and provide entertainment to be maintained sustainability. Also provide an atmosphere that is always missed in Waroeng Semawis with the Mandarin music.

4.3 Conservation Activities

Trading activities and services that develop in the area of Chinatown is retained as the economic potential of the city. Image area with activities that take place within it, such as the Gang Pinggir as gold trade area, Gang Warung and Jl. Beteng as wholesale trade area, and the Gang Baru as a traditional market that sells quality food ingredients and also as one of the landmarks of Chinatown.

Waroeng Semawis as a culinary center that has been popular in Semarang and regularly held every weekend must be preserved. Development activities in the surrounding area also directed and limited to activities that support and do not deviate from its primary function as a trade area by preserving the cultural activities as cultural tourism potential in Chinatown.



(a) Location of Traders at Waroeng Semawis

(b) Parking at Waroeng Semawis

Figure 9. Location of Traders and Parking at Waroeng Semawis, Source: Observation, 2015

4.4 Architecture Building Conservation

More emphasis on the functional aspect by optimizing the shopping building for trade and residential functions. The shape of the building refers to the existing conditions that exist with architecture Chinese, Javanese and Dutch. As far as possible to the shape of the roof architecture is maintained and further development still refer to these conditions, so that the identity of Chinatown and aesthetic value can be achieved by aligning the needs and sustainability.

Building forms shops along the main street area, namely: Gg.Warung, Gg.Pinggir, Jl.Beteng, Jl. Wotgandul East, retained according to existing conditions that exist with regular maintenance and preservation of the environment that support the activities of the region as an area of trade. The building of settlements in the area is maintained by the shape of the roof of the original building is a mix of Chinese architecture, Java and Dutch which is characteristic of the region, including building form and massing, and the road network pattern as orientation. Shops building form along the edge of Gang Besen and facing Gang Pinggir of modern architecture seen in contrast to the environment, should be limited to future development in the area of Chinatown, because it will damage the characteristics and image area has been formed, including the use of materials that reflect light because of the form of blocks of glass

Building facade directed to the construction and subsequent developments. Temple building as a landmark to the landing area maintained the shape and massing of the building, building preservation, the environment and supporting activities, as well as regional signase. The use of color while maintaining the existing conditions because it has a symbolic meaning.

4.5 The Participation of The Communities in Kopi Semawis Events

Community involvement or participation in activities Kopi Semawis is good enough, although not fully. Based on the facts and the views of some people about the activities of Kopi Semawis it is necessary to do repairs or improvements to the implementation of the Kopi Semawis. Settling can be done by improving the management of Kopi Semawis itself in the process of implementing them. With good management activities and pay attention to the public interest, then the implementation of the Kopi Semawis will be better again. In addition, the impact of their activity are also reduced, as the lack of protest against the activities organized. As for the improvement of facilities and infrastructure as a community revitalization efforts and the government should more actively participate in the development and maintenance phase. Kopi Semawis management have a desire that city government more involved in the revitalization activities with the repair and maintenance of sanitation and infrastructure area. Society also has a desire to make them more involved in activity programs in the area of Chinatown.

visitor

trader

communitie

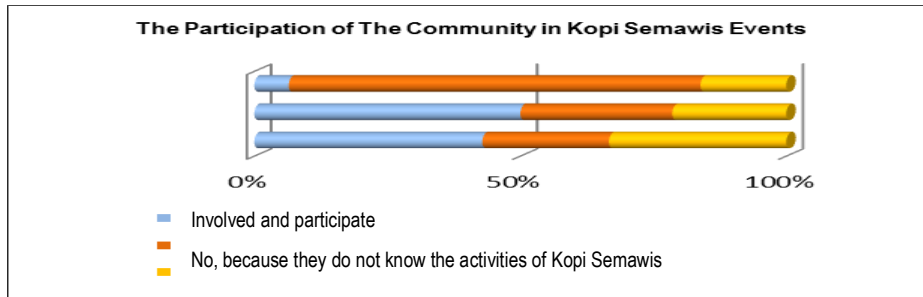


Figure 10. Percentage of Community Involvement in Kopi Semawis Activities

5. Conclusion

Chinatown is an area rich in culture, history and traditions. It needs to be maintained and preserved to be sustainable. These conservation efforts should involve various stakeholders so as not to hurt each other and know the needs of each stakeholder to preserve and develop this area. Related to the preservation of culture, tradition and history of the development area of Chinatown, the people who care about the condition of Chinatown formed an organization called Kopi Semawis. Kopi Semawis preservation through Chinatown to do, namely by organizing several activities to turn this region. In connection with the implementation of the activities are mostly conducted in public spaces (streets), then the public should be able to understand and to accept and participate to the activity. Kopi Semawis has several activities, such as the Pasar Imlek Semawis, Waroeng Semawis and other social activities. From some of these activities, there are two activities that are located in public spaces (streets), namely the Pasar Imlek Semawis and Waroeng Semawis. It can be seen clearly that the implementation of public space has a considerable impact for community activities, as well as for the area of Chinatown.

Waroeng Semawis is a real step to preserve Indonesian culinary heritage that should be developed as one of Semarang's Chinatown neighborhood preservation efforts. Semarang community also appreciates the activity, proven since opened, Waroeng Semawis always visited by people. Revitalization of the area into one of the mainstays for Semarang tourism objects. Typical architecture buildings will be preserved and restored. As far as possible the color of the original life as a commercial center in the region will be revived. Waroeng Semawis not so big, only occupies Gang Warung roads are not wide, but rather a force to be preserved. Semarang's Chinatown has a characteristic because the size is not too extensive, but all of them appear solid. One example, in the region there are nine temples (bio) adjacent distance. Density display the distinctive elements that ethnic potentially be developed as the strength of Chinatown Semarang.

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