CONCEPT OF LOCAL CULTURE BASED RIVERBANK SETTLEMENT ARRANGEMENT IN BANJARMASIN

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ABSTRACT

Geographically Banjarmasin has marshy land that is play by many rivers. From the city’s history, the river is the center of growth, circulation and the source of living as well as life orientation and identity for the Banjar people. Community interaction and dependence on the river are known as the river culture. Along with the city and population growth, the cultural life of the people living along the river banks has begun to shift and to lose its original identity. The environment around the settlements have undergone quality decrease and worse of all environmental degradation due to community orientation shifting from river to land base life, although river/water still plays an important role on the people’s life. This research aims to formulate concept of settlement arrangements along river banks in Banjarmasin, that refers to the local culture.

This study is an inductive and descriptive qualitative research. The data was obtained by interview and questionnaire and direct observation as well as studying from the previous documents. Qualitative descriptive analysis was used to obtain the factors that led to the river settlers relation with water/river, the shifting patterns of the people’s life as a result of living orientation changes as well as changes in the criteria of riverbanks settlement arrangement. Meanwhile, triangulation analysis was used to formulate the concept of riverbanks settlement arrangement. Three aspect were discussed: examples of riverbank settlement in other cities, criteria of riverbank arrangements in Banjarmasin and expert opinions.

Characteristic of river culture with its floating market as the icon of Banjarmasin proves that local identities including river banks settlement as the location of study at Sungai Jingah area should be maintained. The result of this research, which is in the form of riverbank settlements which cover river transportation arrangements, economic activities in the river, settlement space arrangement, sanitation and ecosystem preservation, can be used to present riverbank settlement characteristics including the people or human interaction with river.

Key words: river culture, arrangement, riverbank settlements.