



Potential for Settlement and Trade at the Tanjung Ser Site Pemuteran Village, Gerokgak, Bali (Historical Geography Perspective)

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ABSTRACT

Keywords

Tanjung Ser Site; Settlement Trade Potential; Historical Geography

This study aims to: (1) analyze the potential for settlements at the Tanjung Ser Site, Pemuteran Village, Gerokgak, Bali; (2) Analyzing the potential of intersular trade in North Bali from the perspective of historical geography. This research is important to analyze various settlement and trade possibilities from the Tanjung Ser site related to the Gilimanuk, Pangkung Paruk, Banjar Asem, Ularan, Sembiran sites. The methodology of this research is qualitative. The technique of determining the informants used purposive sampling and was developed with snowball sampling. The validity with data triangulation, while the data analysis using the interactive model of Miles and Huberman data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and conclusions drawn in a circular manner. The results show that there are several artifacts that prove that the Tanjung Ser site is an ancient prehistoric settlement as evidenced by the presence of pottery fragments dominated by the type of container with sharp motifs and gouged scratches similar to those found in Gilimanuk and Sembiran. At this site also found shellfish including gastropods and Pelecypods. Meanwhile, trade was made possible from the process of distributing the same pottery items in coastal settlement locations as well as the discovery of bronze artifacts (mini nekaras, mirrors, tajak, earrings, bracelets) indicating contact with traders in the cemetery area and traders outside the area



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Introduction

Indonesia is located on a very strategic route and trade. This is because Indonesia is geographically located between the Indian Ocean and the China Sea. In such a position, Indonesia becomes a melting pot for trade from India to China or vice versa. So that many traders from various countries stop and make trade transactions. In addition, Indonesia is rich in goods or agricultural products which are quite important in international trade which is quite important (Harkantiningsih, 2016)

One of the famous merchandise is spices. In ancient times, spices were a symbol of exoticism, wealth, prestige, and full of sacredness. In various ancient records in Egypt, China, Mesopotamia, India, Greece, Rome, and the Arabian Peninsula, spices were initially only believed to be a panacea (healing drugs) rather than food flavors. This, for example, was revealed by the philosopher Theophrastus (around 372 ± 287 AD), that spices such as pepper were still widely used by healers rather than cooks (Sholeh, 2019). The forerunner of this spice route probably originated from the contact and interaction of short-distance exchanges between ports and cities which later developed. Over the centuries ships sailed farther and farther across the oceans; break through the fierce nature and threats of residents of foreign lands visited. The reason for this exploration may not be purely attached to the desire for adventure, but driven by the primary purpose of trading. The existence of intersular and intersular trade requires natural ports, especially in North Bali (Abdillah, 2020).

It is believed that in prehistoric times human migration took place and one of the routes was the northern coast of Bali. The coastal area of North Bali has been the concern of researchers for a long time. Starting from the inscription research in 1987 in Sembiran and Pacung by I Wayan Ardika. Further research was carried out by conducting excavations in Sembiran and Pacung which produced fragments of arikamedu pottery from India (Purwantiastning, 2018). The background of the research is the mention of activities related to markets and port activities, as well as related to the law of coral reefs in Julah, as mentioned in the Sembiran Inscription dated 922-1181 AD (Harkantiningih, 2016).

The area in North Bali that has potential for settlement and trade is Tanjung Ser. Suantika's research data found fragmen, clamshells, and stone tools (Suantika, 2018). Then in 2000 an artifact of the Goddess Arca, the Nandi Statue was also found at the Bukit Teledu Temple, Pemuteran. The findings along the densely packed Tanjung Ser coast should be suspected in this area that once had the potential for settlements in Tanjung Ser. This suspicion was coupled with the discovery of various archaeological remains at sites near Tanjung Ser, such as the findings at the Pabean Temple (Pulaki) where ancient human skeletons, bronze bracelets, and pottery fragments were found. At Belatungan Temple, it was found that lumps of tuff stone were found which were thought to be fragments of a miniature temple (Suantika, 2018). These things are interesting to conduct research related to Tanjung Ser from the perspective of historical geography.

Methodology

The method used in this research is qualitative research. Data collection techniques used interview, observation, and content analysis methods. The technique of determining the informants used purposive sampling. This was followed by snowball sampling following the informants' instructions from key informants. In collecting data, the author also made active observations and analyzed documents that recorded the Tanjung Ser site. The data that has been collected is then tested for the validity of the data with the data triangulation process, namely the triangulation of methods and sources. From the existing data, the process of data analysis and data presentation was carried out using Miles and Huberman's interactive model data analysis (Miles et al., 2014).

Results and Discussion

Tanjung Ser Saw from the Perspective of Historical Geography

The negative publication system (positive elements) or can also be called the hybrid system adopted in legislation and regulations in the field of land registration, is still a legal problem because it denies guarantees of legal certainty and legal protection. At the philosophical and legal theory level, it hurts the sense of justice, so the system. This indirectly creates structural victims (structural victimization), especially against land rights holders, actual landowners, and third parties, through legal processes in court. The 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, especially the fourth paragraph, explicitly states (Suteki, 2008):

Ports are waters protected from waves, which are equipped with marine terminal facilities including docks where ships can dock for loading and unloading goods, cranes for loading and unloading goods, marine warehouses and storage places where ships unload their cargo, and warehouses where goods can be stored for a long time while waiting for delivery to their destination or shipment. This terminal is usually equipped with a railroad, highway, or land shipping channel (Calo et al., 2015). A good place to dock is a headland or bay that juts inward close to the mouth of a large river. A good port for developing prospects is one that is located in a bay or on a headland, protected from the wind, and the water is calm. Having a market and natural resources that can provide various types of trading commodities (Martini & Dewa Made, 2020).

Port development decisions are usually based on economic, legal, technical, operational, social, and environmental considerations. To determine whether or not a location is suitable as a port, all of these aspects must be sought to be fulfilled optimally, but in reality, it is not possible to fulfill all of the above conditions, so a compromise is needed to get optimal results, one of which has to be ignored. Or at a location, there may be a very prominent advantage or vice versa (Arta, 2019). According to Triatmodjo it is not only the function that determines the location but there are several natural views that must also be considered (Astiti, 2018). The reviews in question are:

1. *Topography*

The land and underwater topography should allow for the construction of a port and the possibility for future development.

2. *Accessibility*

According to Robinson (2003) accessibility is the ease of reaching an area from other adjacent areas. Accessibility (ease of mileage) will affect the strategic of a location because it involves the ease of getting to that location from various locations in the vicinity or other areas. According to Chiara in Yuliantarti (2003), good accessibility is one of the strategic factors in determining a port location because it will facilitate loading and unloading.

3. *Soil Condition*

According to Waluyaningsih (2008), soil conditions need to be considered because they are closely related to the level of sensitivity to erosion. The land at the Tanjung Ser site is seen from its natural conditions, it is quite possible to be used as a port and settlement because

it has a fairly good soil condition that is not easily eroded. In addition, the land in Tanjung Ser also has a high level of fertility so that if it is used as a settlement it is also quite good.

4. Cruise Flow

Shipping lanes are used to direct ships in and out of ports. Determination of dimensions (width and depth). Geographically, the North Coast of Bali has headlands and bays, wide plains in the form of fertile lowlands, traversed by many rivers and has sufficient water sources, and is surrounded by hills. The northern coast of Bali is confirmed to be a shipping route/trajectory for human migration in Southeast Asia through Peninsular Malaysia, the East Coast of Sumatra, the North Coast of Java, the North Coast of Bali to the eastern part of Indonesia (Bagus, 2017). Excavation results show that the northern coast of Bali from Gilimanuk Site, Cekik Site (Jemberana Regency, Tanjung Ser Site, Pemuteran Site, Pulaki Site, Circleyar Site, Pangkung Paruk Site, Uma Anyar Site, Lovina Site, Sangsit Site, Ponjok Batu Site, Pacung Site, Sembiran Site, Julah Site, Bondalem Site, Tejakula Site (Suantika, 1996; 1998) These sites are very strong and accurate which shows the importance of the geographical position of North Bali in intersular and intersular trade (Arta, 2019).

The geographical condition of Tanjung Ser now is different from 1500 years ago, there was coastal abrasion resulting in silting of the coast and became one of the factors that this port was abandoned by its supporters. However, from a variety of archaeological remains in dense numbers, it can be assumed that Tanjung Ser was a busy port in prehistoric times (Dirgayusa, 2016). The archaeological findings are as follows.

1. Pottery

Fragments of objects made of baked clay (pottery) or also called pottery are always found in past human settlement sites both in Indonesia and in various parts of the world. The materials for making pottery are easy to find and the manufacturing technology is simple. Pottery is the tool of daily needs and ceremonial means by humans of the past, to meet the needs of his life.

Pottery is produced during the life of farming . Starting from making with simple techniques to making quite advanced. The technology or method of making pottery starts from simple technology, namely:

- a. Hand made, which results in very simple shapes with uneven surfaces, plain edges, and often enhanced with gluing
- b. With molding, but the results are not perfect and the shape is not varied
- c. Take-off technology, namely the technique of making pottery by providing a retaining base on the inside and on the surface being stared at/beaten, so that the desired object is formed.
- d. Rotary wheel technology, with this technology the process of making pottery becomes faster, varied, beautiful, and the amount of production is greater (Soebroto, 2019).

The model of pottery in Tanjung Ser can be seen in the Figure 1 below.



(a) Terajala Style



(b) Scratch style

Figure 1. The model of pottery in Tanjung Ser

2. Ecofact

The ecofacts found at the Tanjung Ser site were in the form of shells, namely the types of snails (gastropoda) and shellfish (Pelecypoda) which can be seen in the Figure 2 below:



(a) Snails (gastropods)



(b) Pelecypoda

Figure 2. the types of snails (gastropoda) and shellfish (Pelecypoda)

In 2018 Sample box V solid findings (Figure 3) was dominated by earthenware and ecofact artifacts in the form of shells. Contextual analysis, namely pottery fragments with other findings in the form of shell ecofact and box stratigraphy. The pottery fragments found in box V, from the first spit to the bottom, have a density peak in spit 7 follow Figure 4, then slope to the end of the spit.

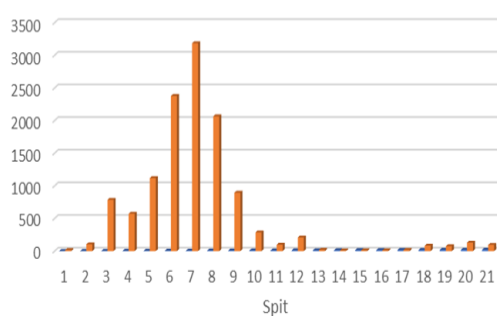


Figure 2. Number of Pottery Fragments found per Spit in Box V

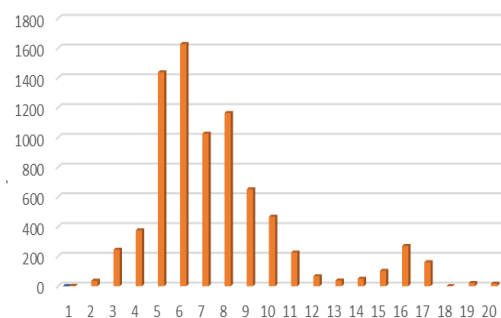


Figure 3. Number of Pottery Fragments per Spit in Box VII Tanjung Ser

The layer where the pottery fragments are found is in the layer which is gray in color, namely the third layer (C). The shell or mollusk ecofacts also had the same pattern or aligned with the vertical distribution of the pottery fragment findings, with the peak density at spit 8.

Natural factors support Tanjung Ser as a natural port, because in the past around the port there were water sources considering that in the south of Tanjung Ser there were hills that used to have dense forests, fertile areas, and many game animals. This statement is reinforced by Pageh that the Buleleng area, both west, and east, has the potential for dryland agriculture (plantation and wetlands (rice fields) (Pageh, 2014). In line with this agriculture, many cattle, buffalo, pigs, and chickens are farmed. a stretch of beach, potential in coconut plantations (Harkantiningasih, 2016).

The retreat of the Tanjung Ser site

Daljoeni explains that humans in creating everything throughout their history are influenced by their natural environment and geographical conditions have a relationship with each stage of civilization development. From this statement, it can be analyzed that civilization in Tanjung Ser experienced a decline due to geographical environmental factors (Daljoeni, 1982).

The retreat of Tanjung Ser as a natural port and settlement could be due to the silting of the coast (Rizki Ramadani et al., 2017). This is concluded from what happened to the Port of Palembang in the Sri Wijaya Kingdom, the Port of Nature in Julah, the Port of Kuta in the north of Pura Gambur Anglayang, the Port of Buleleng, the Port of Temukus in North Bali (Hidayah et al., 2017; Sholeh, 2019).

The presence of sedimentation/silting can interfere with the operation of the port. The silting is caused by soil washing in the hills to the south of Tanjung Ser. The top soil in hilly areas (Pulaki hill and Kursi hill) containing humus is washed away by rain. causing the hilly areas and the foothills to the coast around Tanjung Ser to become infertile (Martini & Dewa Made, 2020). The political policy factor of the ancient Balinese kingdom influenced the decline of the Tanjung Ser site. This is evidenced in various inscriptions that never mention the names of the ports in West Buleleng (Tanjung Ser) and the surrounding area. This fact occurred because the kings of the Singamandawa and Warmadewa dynasties only prioritized ports that had direct trade relations with the center of the kingdom (Manguin, 1993).

Borrowing the concept put forward by John Friedman which divides the region by analyzing aspects of spatial planning, location and policy issues, and regional development planning in a more general scope (Destriana, 2014). The division in question is the center and the periphery. The center of the kingdom in the Kintamani area, Be predecessor is the central area, while West Bali can be categorized as a fairy-peri area (periphery so less attention is paid to its development) (Marzuki, 2016).

Historical evidence recorded in the inscription shows that areas/ports that have a direct relationship with the central area of the kingdom have received attention, such as Julah and Manasa in North Bali. Inscriptions that record trading activities indicate that there was

already a structure in trade at the port. As stated in the Bebetin A1 inscription (896 AD) it is stated "... *anada banyaga turun ditu...panien di hyangapi...*" This means that if there are merchants (across the island) who have just arrived there (Julah port city) so that the person concerned is registered and subject to the obligation (tax) for the sacred building Hyang Api. Furthermore, it was stated "...*ada mati ya tua banyaga, parduan drbyanya prakara...*" meaning that if a merchant (across the island) dies there, the inheritance is divided in two. In addition, in the Pengotan A1 inscription (924 AD) there is also a mention of "*Juru Wanyaga*" or *Juru Banyaga* (Goris, 1954). which means a government official who especially took care of foreign merchants who were in Bali at that time. Then in the inscription Sembiran B (955 AD) mentions *banigram* (*skt banigram*) which means tin merchant or merchant.

The Sembiran A IV (1065 AD) inscription states "...*mangkana yan hana banyaga sakeng sabrang jong, bahitra, camunduk I manasa hatpani katkananya, wnanga ikanang karaman patrakasihana, wlyana hatep mulyan ma I anglipahana sargha mahajana...*" meaning if there are merchants from across the sea coming docked by boat and boat at the port, so that the surrounding villagers show mercy to him, the cost of docking is a maximum of 1 cooking, and the price is excessive for prominent/respected people, is not subject to supervision contributions (*pacasaku*) and there is no coercion (Calo et al., 2015; Goris, 1954).

Conclusion

The results showed that several artifacts proved that the Tanjung Ser site was an ancient prehistoric settlement as evidenced by the presence of pottery shards dominated by the type of container with sharp motifs and scratching claws similar to those found in Gilimanuk and Sembiran. gastropods and Pelecypods. Meanwhile, trade was made possible from the process of distributing the same pottery items at the coastal settlements in Gilimanuk and the Pangkung Paruk site with the discovery of local pottery in various forms, such as small pots decorated with terajala, incense sticks decorated with several holes on the legs, cups, and pots. other pottery shards show one of the pieces of equipment for the ceremonial procession at the burial.

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