Betawi Collection for Indigenous Knowledge Preservation in the DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library

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ABSTRACT

Indigenous knowledge had been experienced and treated as a national treasure, especially in the public library to manage knowledge preservation. Taking the case in the DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library that has to handle indigenous knowledge of Betawi (Jakarta local ethnic group), qualitative approaches been used for doing observation and interviewing the librarian coordinator, three library staff, and two visitor. The paper investigates preservation and representation for preserving indigenous knowledge in the library. The finding thus suggests that there are three steps of nine knowledge preservation applied in the library.

Keywords: Public Library; Indigenous Knowledge Preservation; The DKI Jakarta Public Library; Betawi

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a big country with 34 provinces, 1,340 ethnic groups, and 2,500 languages (BPS RI 2010). Amongst 1,340 ethnic groups, some ethnic groups are living in Indonesia that still preserve the culture on their daily life, for example, Aceh, Asmat, Batak, Bali, Bajau, Berau, Betawi, Bugis, Dayak, Java, Sunda, et cetera (BPS RI, 2010). Each ethnic group has their own culture and their heritage which has a value for a nation. Therefore, all assets should be preserved including their ethnic groups' culture by preserving indigenous knowledge. In this study, we focus on one ethnic group called, Betawi.

Betawi is a native local ethnic group in the capital city of Jakarta (DKI Jakarta), and have lived from generation to generation in Batavia (latest name before DKI Jakarta). Because the culture mingled from Chinese, Arabian, Indian and the local itself, the name of Betawi has not yet appeared until an organisation called "Pemoeda Kaoem Betawi" showed up in 1923. Furthermore, Betawi people have a culture their language, art, religious tradition, behaviour, and even indigenous knowledge that make them have different characters with another ethnic group in Indonesia.

Indigenous knowledge (IK) has a connection about culture in a region which evolved together with whole part of history and had interactions and transactions with the world

outside its geographical area (Forutnani, et al., 2018). Further, IK has helped local communities to meet their needs during several centuries because of its holistic and comprehensive characteristics (Forutnani, et al., 2018). Sharing IK within and across communities can help enhance cross-cultural understanding and promote the cultural dimension of development. Therefore, it is very important to preserve the indigenous knowledge for the future.

On the other hand, knowledge preservation is the processes for explicit and tacit knowledge to capture, understand, archive, retrieve and protect and to maintain accessibility and readability of it as technology evolves for as long as the knowledge remains useful (Agency, 2011). In this study, we investigate a public library role in the process of preserving indigenous knowledge. According to the UNESCO Public Library Manifesto, "The Public Library is the local centre of information, making all kinds of knowledge and information readily available to its users" (1995). Therefore, in this study, we focus to investigate the DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library in preserving the indigenous knowledge of Betawi.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The Public Library

As the local gateway to knowledge, the UNESCO Public Library Manifest stated that the public library provides a basic condition for lifelong learning, independent decision making, and cultural development of the individual and social groups (1995). Collections and services have to include all types of appropriate media and modern technologies as well as traditional materials which has a high quality and relevance to local needs and conditions. The material must reflect current trends and the evolution of society, as well as the memory of human endeavour and imagination. There are 12 missions of the public library state, but three points that should be underline that relate to information and culture. First, promoting awareness of cultural heritage, appreciation of the arts, scientific achievements and innovations. Second, providing access to cultural expressions of all performing arts. The last is fostering inter-cultural dialogue and favouring cultural diversity (UNESCO 1995). It is very important for a region to have a public library. Kaur and Walia (2015) stated that public libraries play a vital role in the process of imparting education to the society. They can act as the first means by which a person gets access to books outside the home. Therefore, public libraries also help the education system of the region in imparting knowledge along with inculcating reading habits among all citizen.

Indigenous Knowledge

Indigenous knowledge (IK) is unique to a particular culture and society. It is the basis for local decision-making in agriculture, health, natural resource management and other activities. IK is embedded in community practices, institutions, relationships and rituals that is not easily codifiable, such as tacit knowledge. IK provides the basis for problem-

solving strategies for local communities, especially the poor. It represents an essential component of global knowledge on development issues. IK is an underutilised resource in the development process. By investigating what local communities know and have, it can improve understanding of local conditions and provide a rich context for activities designed to help the communities. Understanding IK also can increase responsiveness to clients by adapting international practices to the local setting and improving the impact and sustainability of development assistance. Moreover, sharing IK within and across communities can help enhance cross-cultural understanding and promote the cultural dimension of development (Action 1998). As Barua stated that indigenous knowledge is neither static nor frozen preferably because it is socially dynamic and culturally appropriate as it is practised in the local environment. It has evolved from years of collective learning experience through the process of trial and error. This knowledge, thus, is developed through a practice of experiential learning by the people within the geographic area or culture (Kapoor and Shizha 2010).

Knowledge Preservation

Knowledge Preservation (KP) is a process of maintaining an organisational system of knowledge and capabilities that preserves and stores perceptions, actions and experiences over time and secures the possibility of a recall for the future. The preservation of knowledge is an important phase within the knowledge management (KM) cycle, from creation to implementation. As a component of KM, KP plays an important role in supporting the entire management system, which ensures the effectiveness of industrial business processes. (Agency 2011).
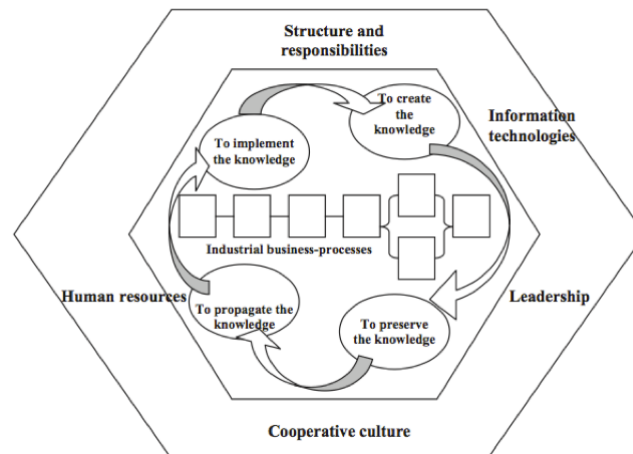

Figure 1: Model of knowledge management (Fraunhoffer, 2011, p.5)

The following basic processes are the focus of KM activities and must be considered from a KP perspective in the organisational context (Agency 2011):

1. Identification
   The process of distinguishing which knowledge should be or has been captured,

processed, maintained and preserved. It considers how such knowledge will be identified, and how changes over time will be identified. Bibliometric tools (such as citation analysis) are often useful for such analysis.

2. Capture

The process that brings data, information, or knowledge into the organisational knowledge base. Knowledge capture may be either internal or external knowledge in any form (for example, tacit know-how or explicit technical information). Capture processes should consider the life cycle and may need to address factors such as media, format, speed, costs, volume and intellectual property issues. Capture may also need to include alternatives for source capture and guidelines for hard copy publication (to enable subsequent imaging), preservation of historical documents, as well as standards and quality control procedures.

3. Generation or creation

The process of deriving new knowledge. This may take place through processes of analysis, interpretation or incremental learning, or be based on entirely new ideas or innovations.

4. Processing and transformation

Any sorting, filtering, structuring, organising, simplifying, compiling, interpreting, correlating, or manipulation that alters data, information, or knowledge into a form that adds value, utility, or additional meaning.

5. Storage or retention

Any process which allows data, information, or knowledge to be kept in the organisational knowledge base. This may be in any form (for example, tacit or explicit). Alternatives in media technology should consider longevity, robustness, cost, conversion, volume, standards, existing formats, historical data and other factors. This process is often related to the capture function in the KP life cycle.

6. Search and retrieval

Any process that facilitates the location of and access to data, information, or knowledge in the organisational knowledge base. This is primarily seen as a process pertaining to explicit knowledge but may be interpreted to apply to the search and retrieval of tacit knowledge as well. Explicit knowledge may pertain, for example, to the retrieval of relevant 'documents' (including text, data, drawing, videos, 3-D models, et cetera.) regardless of their location, format and language. Important factors to consider here include ensuring the ability to use advanced retrieval software, interoperability across heterogeneous databases and systems, multilingualism, et cetera.

7. Representation

Any process that improves understanding, comprehension or conceptual presentation of data, information, or knowledge through audio and visual means.

8. Transfer and exchange

Any process that facilitates the sharing of data, information, or knowledge. This may apply to knowledge in any form (for example, tacit or explicit). Explicit knowledge may involve, for example, data exchanged between databases. Tacit knowledge is any knowledge sharing between individuals or groups of people, whether direct or indirect.

9. Maintenance and updating

   Any process that helps to sustain the organisational knowledge base. As knowledge is contextual, its correctness or completeness may change over time. There are also many factors that may deteriorate or diminish the quantity, value, or quality of data, information, and knowledge over time. This process may be human-centric in the case of tacit knowledge or include methods and tools for tracking and managing the currency of data, documents, drawings, software codes, procedures, et cetera, or updating and recording changes as appropriate in the instance of explicit knowledge.

After we know how knowledge preserve, several method and tools can be used. For this research, we choose two option for methods:

1. Data collection and management

   Database applications with intelligent user guidance for data entry, retrieval and evaluation

2. Process and procedure documentation

   The explicit documentation of knowledge for methods or processes that attempts to capture lessons learned from past experiences and tacit know-how (for example for design documentation, guidelines, and procedures).

Continuing from a method, we use historical data systems – libraries of historical book or document for knowledge preservation tools.

Indigenous Knowledge Preservation

Preserving knowledge is important especially in traditional or indigenous knowledge for the future (Stevens, 2008; Maluleka, and Ngulube, 2017). One potential benefit to making traditional knowledge accessible is that this may make it more appealing to youth or others who may see traditional knowledge as 'old-fashioned'. Another benefit is that putting traditional knowledge in an accessible format for restricted use by governments, non-governmental organisations and other organisations increases the likelihood that indigenous needs, rights and perspectives will be considered in policy development and resource management and that indigenous knowledge will be integrated into development projects (Stevens 2008). Indigenous knowledge preservation involves protecting or keeping safe knowledge that is local to particular communities by individuals or organisations for future use. (Maluleka, and Ngulube, 2017)

RESEARCH DESIGN

The objective of this research is to know the way the DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library preserve the indigenous knowledge of Betawi, a local ethnic group from DKI Jakarta. The following research questions guide the study (1) How the library preserves the indigenous knowledge of Betawi? and (2) what is the representation that the library does for preserving the knowledge?

Qualitative approaches used for data collection, such as through observation and interview. The object for observation is the DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library Kuningan, focusing on the Betawi corner. Six people were interviewed for getting the information in depth; the librarian coordinator, three library staff, and for additional data, we interviewed two visitors. We interviewed the librarian coordinator for two hours with structured questions; interviewed three library staff for about 30 minutes per staff with open inquiries; and interviewed two visitors for about 15 minutes with also open questions. As an outcome, we interpret data using basic processes of KM activities, and we correlate with a KP perspective in the organisational context (Agency 2011).

RESULTS

The DKI Jakarta have public libraries divided into several groups, such as two provincial public libraries located in Cikini and Kuningan, six public libraries that located every municipality of Jakarta and managed by division under central provincial libraries, 11 public libraries located in middle-low apartment, four public library located in the prison, one public library located in traditional market, 213 citizen reading park, and 70 public area for children (Jakarta, 2018). All public libraries were made to serve all the visitor especially Jakarta citizen and for all the people who interest going to library. These public library exists in the middle of Jakarta citizen is for increasing willingness for reading and spreading the positive way to spare time by reading books.

It is exciting to dig knowledge in the DKI Jakarta public library, especially in Kuningan Library, the first DKI Jakarta Public Library. It is located in 7th and 8th floor of Nyi Ageng Serang building at HR Rasuna Said street, South Jakarta. This library has a strategic location to visit and has bookshelves filled with full of books from different subject. This library also has a special collection with specific books subject on Betawi Collection Corner in 8th floor. The room has a design like a traditional Betawi house with the terrace called *Betawi Bapang* carved with *Gigi Balang*. This corner shows us the replica of traditional Betawi house. Starting from in front of the house; there is a terrace with a lamp, table and chair in Betawi style. All the thing about Betawi is on the inside, for example, the photograph about Jakarta in the past and the governor from time to time, books, traditional games and also *Ondel-ondel* (Jakarta's traditional big puppets).
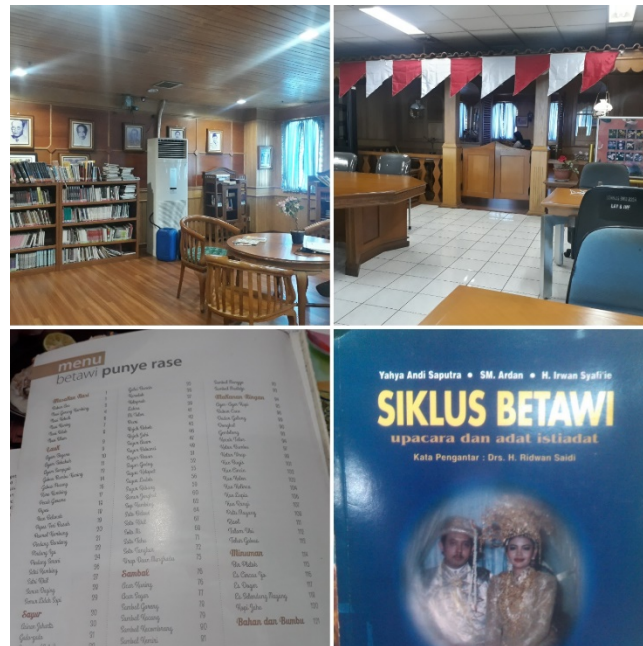
Figure 2: The ambience and collection in DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library Kuningan

In line with the DKI Jakarta regulation about preserving Betawi culture (DKI Jakarta 2015), this Public Library showing their support by making the corner. "*The purpose of this spot is to introduce Jakarta with Betawi culture to the citizen in form of book collection and also to preserve the information from special collection about local content,*" said Ira, a librarian for the special collection of the DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library Kuningan. Built in 2001, the Betawi Corner collection consists of history of Jakarta from colonial era, old manuscript of Jakarta, economic development of Jakarta, culture of Betawi such as language, rhyme, ceremonial, ritual, traditional games, traditional herbs, culinary, marriage life and arts, government regulation, biography of the governor from time to time, and novels about Jakarta.

Storage and retention

The DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library Kuningan gets the collection to the library from the government budget every year. They are open a tender to the vendors in the procurement process. Besides from the government budget, the library also gets the collection grant from all the donor. A collection that received by the team analysed to identify in accordance with the specification. If there are any collection about Jakarta or Betawi, the staff will separate it with other collection. They process the material in a different way than the others. As Ira said, "*For the collection that discusses Jakarta or Betawi will be given a code KK for identification.*"

After the public library gets the collection, they are doing some process to the collection until be used by the visitor. Like other library processing the material, the DKI Jakarta Public Library does the same thing for processing their material. There are inserting the

bibliographic info to the union catalogue, giving the inventory stamp, classified the material suitable with the subject, labelling and so on.

For the collection with the general subject from 000-999, the library put them on the 7th floor. For the reference material (such as encyclopedia, dictionary, atlas, yearly report, statistic, et cetera) and serials (magazine, bulletin, newspaper, tabloid et cetera) and the Betawi corner, the library put them on 8th floor. The Betawi and Jakarta collection put on the 8th floor inside Betawi corner because the library also treats them as a reference collection. Beside books as a collection, there are recorded collection in the form of a cassette, CD, VCD, DVD and microfilm in Betawi corner. The member can loan all of the collection on the 7th floor. Member of this library is just for Jakarta citizen, visitor beside Jakarta citizen cannot loan the collection but they are still can read or use the collection inside the library. Different with the regulation on 7th floor, the member cannot loan all the collection in the 8th floor. All of the visitor, either they are a member, they are just can read or use the collection just in the 8th floor, they cannot bring it even to the 7th floor. Until now, the DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library Kuningan has total collections as describe in table 1.

Tabel 1: Total collection

Subject	Total collection (in eksemplar)
All collection	227,919
Collection about Betawi or Jakarta	2,846

About 12% of the total collection from the DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library Kuningan are collection about Betawi or Jakarta. Increasing total collection of Betawi is always do by the government every year similar to the general collection. Together with the general collection, the DKI Jakarta Public library inserting collection about Betawi or Jakarta in the list of procurement every year.

Treatment of Betawi collection is same as the other collection. The librarian staff is checking for the collection every day. They look for a book that needs to be repaired while shelving the collection. "*We bring to the special division for repairing the book harm to make the book as good as before,"* said one of the library staff.

All the collection that received by the public library does not have retention schedule also for Betawi collection. The collection from library start operates until 2013 still kept safely in the library. They kept all the collection in all subject except the collection that they think will get the lousy effect to the user. "*Collection that will give bad effect in the future never been processed to display in the library,*" said the library staff.

Search and retrieval

The DKI Jakarta Public Library has Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) as a tool to make search and retrieval easier and faster. This OPAC gets the data from library automation system database called INLIS Lite. INLIS Lite is software for library automation system developed by National Library of Indonesia. For browsing the online catalogue, the library provides all user can use four public PC special for OPAC. As a visitor, we can ask

for help to the librarian or type the title/subject/author in OPAC, and it will show us the complete result. It shows call number with some code for special collection.

Tabel 2: Code for special collection

CODE	Definition
R	Abbreviation from *Referensi* (Reference). Use for all the reference material
KK	Abbreviation from *Koleksi Khusus* (Special Collection). Use for Betawi special collection
KC	Abbreviation from *Karya Cetak* (Printed Material). Use for deposit collection given from the publisher
A	Abbreviation from *Anak* (Children). Use for children special collection
A/R	Abbreviation from *Anak/Referensi* (Children/Reference) Use for children reference collection
A/KC	Abbreviation from *Anak/Karya Cetak* (Children/Printed Material) Use for deposit collection given from the publisher specially for children collection

Each code of special collection shows where the location of the collection can be found. When we search about Betawi in the OPAC, it will show us the collection with KK code that locates on Betawi Corner 8th floor. This code used to differentiating the general collection with special collection.

OPAC in the DKI Jakarta Library helps the success process to know the location of a place where data keep and how knowledge preserve. The knowledge from the collection should be easy to search and can be retrieved as fast as it can. By using OPAC, the step of search and retrieval solved. "*We are always improving the catalogue system to make it better for search and retrieval our collection,*" said Ira.

Representation of Knowledge

Rumah Kebaya is a well-known traditional house of Betawi ethnic group. There are five part of this house; Terrace, *Paseban* (guest room)*, Pangkeng* (family room)*,* Bedroom, and *Srondoyan* (kitchen). The DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library Kuningan takes the concept of the house and brings it to the library. Even though there are five part of *Rumah Kebaya*, the DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library Kuningan just applied two part of it, there are Terrace and *Pangkeng*. Terrace can be used for reading the collection and *Pangkeng* is used for setting down Betawi and Jakarta collection, traditional games, photograph, ondel-ondel and also CD/ VCD/ DVD player.

A collection about Jakarta and Betawi with KK code, arrange in not just ordinary place for arranging the books (bookshelf) but they use a table, glass cabinet and simple buffet for displaying the collection too. Not only just the shape of the *Rumah Kebaya*, but also the furniture of it try to describe the Betawi ethnic group house style. By coming to this

corner as a visitor who are not from Betawi ethnic, we will know the shape and the furniture that describe traditional Betawi house while searching the collection too. "*It is good to visit here, we can find a lot of reference material about Betawi and know the shape of Betawi house*" said Vira, one of visitors.

The DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library Kuningan is used this *Rumah Kebaya* replica for attracting and make a difference from other libraries to represent one of Betawi culture. The collection represents some explicit knowledge about Betawi and Jakarta. This house replica can describe us how the DKI Jakarta Public Library doing the step of knowledge preservation in representation point. In the near time, the library will make an agenda to spread the information from the book about Betawi. As Ira said "*Collaborate with Betawi community, we will make an interesting agenda to spread the knowledge about Betawi culture next year. We hope the citizen can make use of the Betawi collection to understand well about Betawi culture and the local content of Jakarta. Not just for the book collection but also the other's agenda from us.*"

CONCLUSION

The Betawi culture collection described tradition, art, culinary and others knowledge that can be categorised as indigenous knowledge in the DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library Kuningan. This study investigated that the DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library Kuningan is doing three of nine steps for knowledge preservation, such as storage and retention, search and retrieval, and representation of knowledge. In the storage and retention, although they have not yet made a retention schedule because they should preserve those local contents, they keep the collection in the special storage in the library. In search and retrieval, the collection in this library is easy to search in the process of retrieval with the OPAC for searching the collection, especially Betawi collection. The visitor also can search by themselves with "KK" code in the call number to help searching the document faster. The last, in representation of knowledge stated the DKI Jakarta Provincial Public Library Kuningan preserves the knowledge that is represented with the Betawi corner for putting down the special collection of Betawi. This corner also described the house of Betawi ethnic group which is one of the knowledge that should preserve. To sum up, all of these steps discussed how the library tries step by step to preserve the indigenous knowledge of Betawi ethnic group with managing the special collection of Betawi.

Acknowledgement

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