

# The Relationship Between Siri' Na Pacce Traditional Values and Corruption Behavior of Public Employees in Jeneponto Regency

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## ABSTRACT

This article describes the relationship between Siri' Na Pacce cultural values and the corrupt behavior of public employees in the Jeneponto Regency. The subject of this study is 58 public employees in one of the local government offices. The data are derived from a questionnaire in the form of a Likert scale consisting of items of the cultural values and corrupt behavior adapted from an expert. This study suggests that there is a relationship between Siri' Na Pacce cultural values and the corrupt behavior of public employees in Jeneponto regency.

**Keywords:** *Cultural values, corruption, scale behavior*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In Indonesia, dishonesty is rife everywhere. Psychologically, for example, corruption cases, it is an abuse of authority that can occur because the individual already has a tendency (nature) to cheat. Furthermore, in a behaviorist view, it is the environment that actively gives the individual impetus for corrupt behavior and against the ethical behavior of the individual who has become his trait. The environment does not provide punishment to individuals, instead it encourages when individuals abuse his authority [1], [2].

Setyaningrum et al. [3] revealed that the corruption perception index in Indonesia was ranked 88th among 168 countries in 2015. Besides, the Indonesian Forum for Budget Transparency released the most corrupt provincial government in Indonesia. For example, South Sulawesi ranked 7th out of 33 provinces, with state losses of Rp 157.7 billion from 589 cases. The data also confirms South Sulawesi as the most corrupt province in Sulawesi Island. The data in Jeneponto District is one of the most corrupt districts in South Sulawesi. It was 50 cases per year. The researcher chose the Jeneponto district because this district was more homogeneous than Makassar city, which consists of many tribes.

Moreover, the initial research resulted in that the behavior of corruption often occurs in a kind of time corruption. The employees are used to being late and go home before the office hour is over. Lack of awareness

of responsibility is a contributing factor [4]. In Jeneponto, there is a pearl of local wisdom that has the potential to prevent corruption. The value of Siri' Na Pacce has become a grip of life for the general population of Jeneponto. Unfortunately, this local wisdom was not a moral guide for employees in their work.

Upholding the culture of Siri' Na Pacce and applying it in daily life will foster a positive attitude following the values contained in this culture. The positive attitude is an attitude that shows, accepts, acknowledges, approves, and implements the prevailing norms where the individual lives. [5]. The positive attitude of the application of the value of Siri' Na Pacce is that individuals will work to increase their potential. Individuals will also try to obey the rules that apply to society. Several studies have shown that culture and corruption have a close relationship.

One study conducted that the causes of changes in the level of corruption in each country found that three things affect corruption, namely social values, wealth, and government [6]. Countries that uphold social values tend to be lack of corrupt behavior. Social values, in this case, are related to the value of individual autonomy, social diversity, and egalitarian social status, which can reduce the level of corruption that occurs in the country.

Other research stated that the influence of social norms and values on the tendency of corruption conducted that individual's environment. The people

grow up in a commonly corrupt society more likely to act in corruption compared to individuals who live in a society that does not commit crime [7]. However, the results of research conducted indicate that not all individuals involved in bribery or corruption reflect the values or norms prevailing in the communities where individuals were raised. The results of this study concluded that corruption is part of a cultural phenomenon.

The population with ethnic Makassar inhabits Jeneponto Regency in South Sulawesi. In this ethnicity, there is a cultural concept that becomes a reference for life. *Siri Na Pacce* is a concept of awareness of the Makassar community in navigating his life, become guidelines and moral guidelines. *Siri Na Pacce* has become a strong character for society. Since several centuries ago, the concept became a cultural identity that is embodied in every activity. The *Siri Na Pacce* culture includes all aspects of human life and become a view of life and guidelines that govern life.

This research describes the relation of traditional values and corruption behavior. That is because corrupt behavior is a real phenomenon of negative behavior and is very detrimental to society. Meanwhile, *Siri Na Pacce* culture is a form of the cultural value of the people of South Sulawesi that aims to make life more useful, meaningful, and positive. Therefore, the present researchers are interested in seeing the relationship between the culture of *Siri Na Pacce* and corrupt

behavior in government officials in Jeneponto District, South Sulawesi, Indonesia.

**2. METHOD**

The researcher used the quantitative method by descriptive approach. The independent variable (X) is *Siri Na Pacce* Cultural Value Bound. Meanwhile, the dependent variable (Y) is Corruption behavior. Operationally the cultural values of *Siri na pace* is a social norm derived from Makassar culture, which is a reference for behavior and works for ethnic Makassar communities. The population of this study is that all employees in the Jeneponto public work are 113 people. Fifty-eight people become the samples of this study derived from the purposive sampling technique along with the 22 items given.

**2.1. Data Collection Technique**

This study used the Likert Scale to collect data as follows:

**2.1.1. Siri Na Pacce Scale**

*Siri Na Pacce Scale* is a scale used to measure its cultural values. This scale has four answer choices, namely 1 for Very Disagree, and 4 for Very Agree to answers. The aspects applied for the test are self-actualization, shame, loyalty, and honesty aspects. Every aspect has different items.

**Table 1.** BluePrint Scale of *Siri Na Pacce* Before and After Test

No	Aspect	Favorable		Unfavorable		Total	
		Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
1	Self-actualization	1, 5, 15	5, 15	17, 19	19	5	3
2	Shame	2, 7, 8	7, 8	10, 12, 21	10, 12, 21	6	5
3	Loyalty	3, 6, 13	3, 6, 13	16, 18, 20	16, 18, 20	6	6
4	Honesty	4, 14, 22	4, 14, 22	9, 11	9	5	4
	Total					22	18

Questions are designed by using the Likert Scale, which means every item should contain "symmetry" and "balance." "Symmetry" is defined as that the "favorable" and "unfavorable" questions possess the same number of questions. For the latter, "balance" is interpreted as that the item's options have the odd numbers, sometimes five or seven. [8].

For all of the 22 items provided, the *self-actualization* aspect was cut into three items from 5 items. Both the *shame* and *honesty* aspects are reduced by 1 item, while the *loyalty* aspect stays the same. All the 22 items in the *before* column are considered as the fit items to be the questions for the *Siri na Pacce* scale. After the test, we

found that only 18 items suit to be the measurement of the research.

**2.1.2. Corrupt behavior Scale**

Corruption behavior scale is a scale created to measure the behavior of corruption adapted from [9]. This scale has four answer choices, namely 1 for Very Disagree answer and 4 for Very Agree to answer. The aspects employed for the test are bribery, extortion, and nepotism aspects. All the elements possess items for each.

**Table 2.** Blue Print of Scale of Corrupt Behavior Korupsi Before and After Test

No	Aspect	Favorable		Unfavorable		Total	
		Before	After	Before	After	Before	After
1	Bribery	1, 7, 10, 15	1, 7, 10, 15	3, 14, 18	3, 18	7	6
2	Extortion	5	5	2, 8, 11	2, 8	4	3
3	Nepotism	4, 6, 12, 13, 16, 17	6, 12, 16	9, 19	9, 19	8	5
	Total					19	14

For the corruption scale, only *nepotism* aspect was decreased by three items, item number 4, 13, and 17. Both *the bribery* and *extortion* aspect were lessened by 1 item. It is item number 14 for the first and number 11 for the latter.

All items have been validated based on statistical analysis and expert review. In this study, item discrimination power and reliability test are also undertaken.

**2.2. Data Analysis Technique**

Normality test and linearity were also conducted in the initial analysis. The normally distributed and suggested that the Pearson correlation test could have proceeded. This study also formulated the hypothesis, i.e.,

$H_0$  = there is a negative relationship between *Siri' Na Pacce* and the corrupt behavior of the employees in Jeneponto regency.

$H_a$  = there is no negative relationship between *Siri' Na Pacce* and corrupt behavior of the employees in Jeneponto regency.

The relationship between variables was analyzed using the criteria described in Table 3.

**Table 3.** Correlation Coefficient Index

Interval	Criteria
0.00 – 0.199	Very low
0.200 – 0.399	Low
0.400 – 0.599	Moderate
0.600 – 0.799	Strong
0.800 – 1.000	Very strong

**3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

The results of the descriptive analysis of the two variables are described in Table 4.

**Table 4.** The statistical value of the variable

Statistical value	<i>Siri' Na Pacce</i>		Corruption Behavior	
	Hypothetical	Empirical	Hypothetical	Empirical
Max	72	69	56	40
Min	18	43	14	20
Mean	45	56.43	35	31.43
SD	9	5.34	7	5.69

Empirically, the max *Siri'Na Pacce* value is 69 or 96% of the hypothetical value. Furthermore, the mean value of 56.43 is higher than the theoretical value. In the variable corruption behavior, the maximum empirical value is 40 or 71% of the researchers' estimate.

The results of the data analysis result in the R-value is -0.559, and the significant value is  $p = 0,000$  ( $p < 0.05$ ). The result means that the hypothesis proposed in this study ( $H_a$ ) is accepted. The result of the value  $r = -0, 559$  indicates that there is a negative relationship between *Siri' Na Pacce* with corrupt behavior. The higher the cultural value of *Siri 'Na Pacce*, the lower the corrupt

behavior. These results indicate that the level of influence is moderate.

The results of the hypotheses test are described in the following table:

**Table 5.** Hypothesis Test Result

Variable	R	P	Result
<i>Siri' Na Pacce</i> corrupt behavior	-0, 559	0,000	Significant

The results of the analysis show that the cultural values of *Siri 'na Pacce* can suppress corrupt behavior. Furthermore, the values contained in the *Siri 'na Pacce* culture require a person to work optimally and seriously. Everyone must rely on their abilities and potentials and comply with the prevailing regulations in society. This culture also encourages people to uphold honesty and be able to enforce the mandate. On the other hand, people who have power or hold positions have the potential to commit corruption. If the external demands are more generous, the value of *Siri 'Na Pacce* will be reduced.

The value of *Siri ' Na Pacce* serves as a control against the primitive impulses emanating. The value attempted the evil whisper that are contrary to values prevailing morals in the Makassar society. So that employees who uphold the cultural values of *Siri 'na Pacce* in life can avoid temptations at work, which coincides with prevailing cultural values.

Based on the above explanation, the cultural values of *Siri ' na Pacce* can be influenced by corrupt behavior due to individuals who teach. *Siri 'na Pacce's* value at work will use existing potential in him not out of a desire for reward or reward, and deep work will comply with applicable regulations, do not ask and provide fees according to applicable rules and do not use power in elevating close relatives to public officials can harm society.

Corruption is the exploitation of power for personal interest. Corruption carries a variety of forms, such as bribery, bartering influence, exploitation of functions. Still, it can also disguise as nepotism, the opposition of interest, or oscillating doors, either the public or private areas. Its consequences are parlous and widespread. Corruption initiates an impendence to safety, as an enabler for illegal activities along with terrorism. It serves as a brace on a growing economy by establishing enterprise uncertainty, delaying processes, and enforcing additional expenses [10].

#### 4. CONCLUSION

This study concludes that there is a negative relationship between *Siri ' Na Pacce's* cultural values and the corrupt behavior of government employees in the Jeneponto Regency. The hypothesis test results show that the r-value indicating the relationship of *Siri ' Na Pacce* culture values and corruption behavior is -0.559 with a significance value of 0,000. The description of *Siri ' Na Pacce* variable data shows that the level of *Siri ' Na Pacce's* cultural values of the subject is in the high category. Meanwhile, the description of the corruption variable data shows that the level of corruption behavior of the subject is moderate.

Based on the explanation and several previous research above about corruption behavior and Siri's culture Na Pacce illustrates if the two variables can be

related to each other. That is because corrupt behavior is a real phenomenon of negative behavior and is very detrimental to society. Meanwhile, *Siri ' Na Pacce* culture is a form of the cultural value of the people of South Sulawesi that aims to make life more useful, meaningful, and positive. Therefore, the present researchers are interested in seeing the relationship between the culture of *Siri ' Na Pacce* and corrupt behavior in government officials in Jeneponto district.

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