

# Empowerment of the People Effected by Covid-19 Through GULIJAT Technical Training for Member of FBS Cleaning Service at Universitas Negeri Surabaya

Muhajir<sup>1,\*</sup> Fera Ratyaningrum<sup>1</sup> Nunuk Giari Murwandani<sup>1</sup> Indah Chrysanti Angge<sup>1</sup>

Eko Agus Basuki Oemar<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Departement of Fine Art Education, Faculty of Language and Arts, Universitas Negeri Surabaya, Surabaya, Indonesia*

<sup>2</sup> *Departement of Design, Faculty of Language and Arts, Universitas Negeri Surabaya, Surabaya, Indonesia*

\*Corresponding author. Email: [muhajir@unesa.ac.id](mailto:muhajir@unesa.ac.id)

## ABSTRACT

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the FBS UNESA campus implemented Work from Home and Study from Home, which impacted on reduced working hours for campus cleaning service members. The impact, their income is also reduced and their free time is increased. On the other hand, the life needs are increasing and prime goods price are getting higher. To increase the income of the cleaning service members who are mostly women is to give them some new skills. GULIJAT technique is one of the cloth tie dye technique that can be trained to the cleaning service. This technique is quite interesting and relatively easy to do for beginners. In the context of cultural preservation and development, innovations and development GULIJAT also served to help the creative process of the FBS team cleaning service to improve the independent economy. The Participants were designed from 10 people selected based on their interest in GULIJAT technical training. There are several training methods are lecture, question and answer, demonstration and practical training methods. The training produced outcomes in the form of products resulting from the application of the GULIJAT technique which was applied as interior equipment such as chair cushions, tablecloths, and dining table equipment.

**Keywords:** *Gulijat Technique, Covid-19, Cleaning Service*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Covid-19 Pandemic/Corona Virus had an impact in various sectors, including the economy and education sector. To combat the spread of the corona virus, which is quite vicious, several regions have implemented policies to restrict social interaction, Large-Scale Social Restrictions as known as the PSBB program. This PSBB program can be likened to a two-edged knife. In one side, it aims to break the chain of Covid-19 transmission, in other side it has an economic impact both at the household level and at the corporate level, even the government. The most concrete impact felt by daily employees is loss of livelihood / layoffs. Because Surabaya is a city that has implemented the PSBB on an ongoing basis from April 28 to May 25 2020, the economic impact, especially at the household level, is felt by its citizens.

Meanwhile, in the educational sector, the impact of the Covid-19 has changed the face-to-face learning system into an online system due to Government policies to work from home, learn from home. For universities, including the State University of Surabaya, the implications are not only related to learning aspects but also community service activities. State University of Surabaya's response to the impact of the Covid-19 aspects of Community Service is directed at providing basic food assistance followed by providing skills training in the context of empowerment. Compliance of the life basic needs of fulfilment of human life which is short term (quickly depleted), while training in skills to support human needs is relatively more medium term or long term.

The activities given to the target audience in this activity were training in GULIJAT (Roll, Fold, Jump, Bundle) technical craft skills which was basically an innovation from a combination of pre-existing fabric decorating techniques.

One of the efforts to eliminate the stigma that universities are ivory towers that are not friendly to their environment, State University of Surabaya carries out various activities that involve the community outside the academic community in the form of community service. In this regard, the State University of Surabaya, especially the Language and Arts Faculty, has a Cleaning Service Team partner, which is not a component of the academic community. They are the closest community to the campus. In general, the personnel of the State University of Surabaya's FBS Cleaning Service Team do not have skills in the art of craft as an alternative skill that they can develop.

On the other side, the Dedication Community Team of the Fine Arts Department and Design Department of The State University of Surabaya's FBS, has competences in the textile crafts areas, which are relatively easy to work on, namely the Roll, Fold, Jump, Tie (GULIJAT) technique. In these conditions that the activity "Empowerment of People Effected By Covid-19 through GULIJAT Technical Training for Member of FBS Cleaning Service at Universitas Negeri Surabaya" found its relevance.

**2. METHOD**

There are several methods applied to achieve the purpose, namely the method of lecturing, question and answer, demonstration, and practical work exercises. The lecture was given to present the material that was theoretical, namely about the understanding of the GULIJAT technique, the materials used, the equipment needed, the manufacturing steps, coloring with naphthol, and finishing.

After delivering the theory, the training was continued with demonstrations. Demonstration includes how to prepare the material according to the product to be made, make a design or pattern that is applied, application of folding, pinching, or a combination thereof, doing binding, preparing naphthol dye, applying or using dyes, untying the folds or jumputan, and the finishing step.

**2.1. GULIJAT Crafts Creation**

Participants in the activity were selected from 6-10 members of the State University of Surabaya's FBS cleaning service team with a priority scale based on the activity and interest in the GULIJAT technique training to be followed. Participants consisted of teenagers and housewives aged 20-45 years.

GULIJAT technique training was carried out at the Textile Studio of the Fine Arts Department, FBS, State University of Surabaya, which was quite adequate for training, because it was supported by adequate facilities. Materials used include the main materials namely cloth, and supporting materials are naphthol coloring, raffia ropes, rubber bands, and ice cream sticks. The tools used are scissors, plastic cups or bowls, a bucket for coloring, and a large bucket for washing.

After all the materials and tools are ready, the next step is to deliver the brief material. This step begins with a lecture, shows examples of work that has been made by the PPM team, and introduces the materials and tools used. By showing the examples of creation, it is hoped that participants will be able to get an overview and come up with inspiration for the designs to be made.

The detailed implementation of this Dedication Community activity is as follows.

- 1) Opening by team representatives followed by introductions of members of the service team to the participants. At this event, team representatives also presenting the purpose of providing training, showing examples of the creations that could be produced, as well as the possibilities for developing GULIJAT designs and techniques in other products.



**Figure 1** Opening by The Representative Team

- 2) The Delivery of Material about GULIJAT. To facilitate understanding, the material is presented in the form of a powerpoint presentation and a video tutorial on making works using the GULIJAT technique. Participants listen quietly.



**Figure 2** Delivery of the GULIJAT's Material

- 3) Demonstration / demonstration of the work process using the GULIJAT technique by the PpM team members. This activity is carried out to provide direct

examples of how to fold, pinch, pin, and their combinations, as well as how to tie them.



**Figure 3** Demonstrations of Folding Technique

4) The Practice of the Participants to making the Creations. Starting with the distribution of materials, the participants then practiced making GULIJAT technique creations, accompanied by the PpM team. Given the size of the cloth is quite large (115x115 cm), to make it easier, fabric folding is done in cooperation with the participants. The fabric is folded back and forth in a fan fold pattern. This is necessary so that the folds are neat and when coloring the result is even.



**Figure 4** Participants Fold the GULIJAT's Cloth

There are several forms of folds applied by the participants, namely standard triangular folds, long triangular folds, rectangular folds, and square folds. After the folding is complete, the fabric is then tied with rubber or raffia. To enrich the motif, several sides of the folds are then pinched with ice cream sticks and tied with the ends.

After the folding and binding are complete, participants are accompanied to do the coloring. The dye used is a type of naphthol with red and blue colors. To give examples of the steps, team members demonstrate first and then the participants follow. After the coloring is complete, the fabric is washed and untied. Then the cloth is washed clean.



**Figure 5** Participants Coloring the GULIJAT's Cloth

5) Evaluation which includes evaluation of the implementation of training and product evaluation, namely the work of the participants. Evaluation of the

implementation process is intended to obtain feedback from participants about the training process. For this, a questionnaire was given to the training participants. The evaluation of the results is carried out in an open manner, in which the participants are involved to appreciate the work of their friends, before the trainer team gives their comments. One of the works produced by the participants is as follows.



**Figure 6** One of the Participants Creations

The above works include those that are technically precise in folding and binding and innovative in their coloring. Using a long triangular fold pattern and popsicle stick clips, Ms. Shella applied the coloring by dividing the blue and red planes directly, without leaving any grass or folds aside.

### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Preparing the materials and equipment needed is the first step that must be done before making GULIJAT technique crafts. Raffia ropes, rubber bands, ice cream sticks, cloth, dyes, and other supplies are prepared in advance. These items are not foreign materials to the participants, but that with these materials a cloth with a distinctive motif can be produced is new knowledge for them. They can also use an used materials to develop this technique, for example with used t-shirts, used curtains, used rubber bands, used ice cream sticks, or used raffia ropes.

Making a GULIJAT craft pattern means making a design, planning the techniques that will be used. The pattern in the GULIJAT technique is not in the form of an image of the motif as in written batik but rather in the pattern of folds, jumps, and ties that will be applied. After seeing the video and demonstration by the team, participants were asked to determine their own patterns to be applied. By applying different patterns from one participant to another, participants can learn from each other and know each other's bond patterns and the resulting motives.

The binding step is the process of tying patterns that have been made, using the selected technique. Tie the pattern carefully and slowly so that the knot is neat and strong so that the GULIJAT technique is clearly visible.

This teaches participants to be patient, sensitive, and at the same time not careless. Participants also practice sensitivity and care for their surroundings because the folding process is carried out in collaboration. When you want to tie one part, the other participants will hold the other part so that the fabric is kept neat. Participants must also understand that neatness of folds, how to tie them, and how strong they are tied play an important role in forming the motifs of GULIJAT's work.

Dyeing fabrics is the most fun stage in the process of working on GULIJAT craft. At this stage, participants are free to apply the color according to their creativity, but they still have to be careful when dipping the dye so that it doesn't turn upside down between solution one and solution two. Some of the participants colored by sorting the parts that were grassed with different colors from the folded parts. There were also participants who colored by dividing them into right and left columns which were then given different colors. There were also participants who only applied one color. They are indeed given the freedom to choose their own color and its application in the GULIJAT sector. All the participants did the dyeing process themselves so that they could gain hands-on experience in the field of dyeing with naphthol.

Removing the rope or rubber tie from the fabric is the closing activity of the process of making this work. Raffia ropes, rubber bands, ice cream sticks, all removed from the fabric that has been dyed. Furthermore, the cloth is rinsed using clean running water so that the remaining color that is not absorbed is not left on the cloth. This process aroused curiosity because after the ties were removed and washed clean, participants would know the final embodiment of GULIJAT's creations that they had made. The fabrics are then stretched out on a clothesline and examined together. There are fabrics that have very strong colors and clearly visible motifs, there are fabrics that have lots of white areas, there are also fabrics that have an uneven coloring.

Through the small talks on the guidelines of the coloring process and untying the ties, it was found that the participants felt happy following the training and hoped that there would be further training sessions. Whether they realize it or not, participants have learned to make creations with simple techniques but have the possibility of producing various motives and sometimes they have not previously thought about. Participants also learned not to be afraid to try a field other than their daily activities as a cleaning service that makes work using the GULIJAT technique. They feel entertained, gain new knowledge and skills, and are proud of their unexpected yet good work.



**Figure 7** The team, Participants, and the Resulting GULIJAT Cloth

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

This GULIJAT technical training is one of the efforts to empower residents affected by Covid-19, in this case members of the FBS Unesa's Cleaning Service. GULIJAT craft as a heritage as a cultural heritage, values patterned fabrics more, but more to the preservation of cultural development.

Learning to make message crafts teaches participants about planning before doing, persistence in the process, being thorough, careful, and focused on acting, willing to enter and interact with others, help each other, and respect each other.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

This Community Dedication based by self-funding from the Visual Art Department and the Design Department, FBS UNESA. We would like to thank to Prof. Dr. Nurhasan M.Kes, as the Rector of Unesa, Dr. Trisakti M.si, as Dean of the Faculty of Language and Arts Unesa, Dra. Indah Chrysanti Angge M.Sn., as the Head of the Visual Arts Department and Marsudi, S.Pd., M.Pd. as Head of Design Department of FBS Unesa, members of the FBS Unesa cleaning service team, members of the PpM team including the supporting students and all other parties that helped in materializing this community dedication. We also convey a big thank to reviewers who have provided the insight and expertise to enhance this article. Thank you.

#### **REFERENCES**

- [1] Susanto, Sewan. *Seni Kerajinan Batik Indonesia*. Yogyakarta: BBKB. 1980.
- [2] Wardhani, Cut Karamil; Ratna Panggabean. *Tekstil*, Jakarta: Desantara Utama. 2004
- [3] Ratyaningrum, Fera. *Buku Ajar Kriya Tekstil*. Surabaya: Satu Kata. 2017
- [4] TIM. *Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia*. Jakarta: Balai Pustaka. 2011.
- [5] Wahyu, Ami, dan Tati Supardi. *Shibori*. Jakarta: PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama. 2017.