



Horoscope on Javanese Community

Darsono and Niken Wahyu Utami^(✉)

Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Universitas PGRI Yogyakarta, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
niken@upy.ac.id

Abstract. Calendars are generally used as time markers. However, the Calendar in Java is used for two things, the first is to know the best time to carry out blasphemy, and the second is to know the character and fate of people based on the date of birth. From the dual calendar function, we can see one of its functions and a horoscope. This research revealed the horoscope in Java through the Javanese book Qomarrulsyamsi Adammakna hermeneutically. Steps were taken by covering text, context, and contextual. The results showed that one of the forecastings of good and bad days was done by looking at the “*wuku*” of birth. On the Javanese, “*Wuku*” not only contains good days and bad days to do things, but *wuku* contains the character and fate of people based on their date of birth. *Wuku* is like a horoscope of Javanese people. There are 30 “*wuku*” in the Javanese calendar, which consists of 7 days each, just like weeks. The existence of many of these *wuku* causes us difficulty memorizing the current of *wuku*. However, the way of determining *wuku* is by looking at the Javanese calendar. In addition, the Javanese Book Qomarrulsyamsi Adammakna contains an easy way to memorize *wuku* through a *kinanthi* song.

Keywords: Horoscope · Javanese · Culture · Heritage

1 Introduction

Calendars are commonly used as time markers. They are used to measure the passage of time and to keep track of days, weeks, months, and years. The word “calendar” is derived from the Latin word “*kalendae*”, which means “the first day of the month” [1–5]. The word “calendar” is also derived from the Latin word “*kalendarium*”, which means “a book containing a list of days arranged in order”.

Calendars can be classified into two types: lunar calendars and solar calendars. Lunar calendars use the moon as a time marker, whereas solar calendars use the sun as a time marker. The earliest calendars were based on lunar cycles. The moon is Earth’s only natural satellite that orbits Earth every 27 days, 7 h, 43 min, and 11 s (29 days). Solar calendars are based on a 365-day year with 12 months of 30 or 31 days each. The Gregorian calendar is an example of a solar calendar that is widely used today in many countries around the world.

The calendar is a system of organizing days for social, religious, commercial, or administrative purposes. Likewise, the calendar function in Java. The function of the calendar in Java is used to determine the time to carry out activities. It can be used to commemorate someone’s death, determine the days to build a house, marriage, etc.

© The Author(s) 2023

A. Kusuma Wardana (Ed.): UPINCESS 2022, ASSEHR 695, pp. 411–415, 2023.

https://doi.org/10.2991/978-2-494069-39-8_38

The Javanese calendar has a unique function of determining fate. The Javanese believe that the day one was born their character and fate. They find out the character and fate of people based on the day and date of birth. The use of the Javanese calendar is like the zodiac. The zodiac began in Babylonia [6, 7] and then spread to other parts of the world [6, 8].

2 Method

This research revealed the horoscope in Java through the Javanese book Qomarrulsyamsi Adammakna hermeneutically. Steps were taken by covering text, context, and contextual [9, 10]. We covered the text by studying the text in the Javanese book Qomarrulsyamsi Adammakna and continued specifically in the zodiac section. We also saw the context of the zodiac and finally looked for contextual problems related to it.

3 Results and Discussion

3.1 “Wuku” in Javanese Calendar

“Wuku” is a time determination as is the case of weeks, months, years, *windu*, and others. *Wuku* consists of 7 days just like weeks. However, this *wuku* is different from the weeks consisting of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. *Wuku* does not have the names of days, but *wuku* is a group of days consisting of 7 days. In the Javanese book Qomarrulsyamsi Adammakna, there are 30 *wuku* in order, namely *Sinta.*, *Landep*, *Wukir*, *Kuranthil*, *Tolu*, *Gumbreg*, *Warigalit*, *Warigagung*, *Julungwangi*, *Sungsang*, *Galungan*, *Kuningan*, *Langkir*, *Mandhasiya*, *Julungpujud*, *Pahang*, *Kuruwelut*, *Marakeh*, *Tambir*, *Madhangkungan*, *Maktal*, *Wuye*, *Manail*, *Prangbakat*, *Bala*, *Wugu*, *Wayang*, *Kulawu*, *Dhukut*, and *Watugunung*.

The existence of many of these *wuku* causes difficulty for us to memorize the currently of *wuku*. However, the Javanese Book Qomarrulsyamsi Adammakna writes an easy way to memorize *wuku* through a *kinanthi* song by first numbering *wuku Sinta* as number 1, *wuku Landep* as number 2, *wuku Wukir* as number 3, and so on to *wuku Watugunung* as number 30 (see Table 1). The *kinanthi* song is composed by taking the first few letters of each *wuku* to represent the *wuku*, such as the donkey bridge.

Wuku Sinta (number 1) is always heading on Sunday *Pahing*, Monday *Pon*, Tuesday *Wage*, Wednesday *Kliwon*, Thursday *Legi*, Friday *Pahing*, and Saturday *Pon*. Furthermore, *wuku Landep* (number 2) heads to Sunday *Wage*, Monday *Kliwon*, Tuesday *Legi*, Wednesday *Pahing*, Thursday *Pon*, Friday *Wage*, and Saturday *Kliwon*. Likewise, *wuku* afterward, the day in the *wuku* rotates by seven days, i.e., Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday; and use five market days, i.e., *Pahing*, *Pon*, *Wage*, *Kliwon*, and *Legi*. The determination of the day in the *wuku* can be seen in Fig. 1.

Based on Fig. 1, a person who has a Sunday *Pahing* birthday has one possibility of being born in *Sinta wuku*. However, Sunday *Pahing* is not necessarily in *Sinta wuku*, it can also be on *Gumbreg wuku* (number 6), *Galungan wuku* (number 11), *Pahang wuku* (number 16), *Wuku Maktal* (number 21), or *Wugu wuku* (number 26). Meanwhile, if the guess of *Pahing* Week is on *wuku* other than numbers 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, and 26 or *wuku*

Table 1. *Kinanthi* song to memorize *wuku*

The number of <i>Wuku</i>					<i>Kinanthi</i> Song
1	2	3	4	5	<i>Si-la wukir kuran-telu</i>
6	7	8	9	10	<i>Breg lit-gung wangi sungsang</i>
11	12	13	14	15	<i>Lung kuning kir-sya pujudan</i>
16	17	18	19	20	<i>Pang kuru keh bir dhangkungi</i>
21	22	23	24	25	<i>Tal wuye manah prang bala</i>
26	27	28	29	30	<i>Gu-yang kul dhukut selardi</i>

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30
Ng. Ph.	Ng. Wg.	Ng. Lg.	Ng. Pn.	Ng. Kl.
Sn. Pn.	Sn. Kl.	Sn. Ph.	Sn. Wg.	Sn. Lg.
Sl. Wg.	Sl. Lg.	Sl. Pn.	Sl. Kl.	Sl. Ph.
Rb. Kl.	Rb. Ph.	Rb. Wg.	Rb. Lg.	Rb. Pn.
Km. Lg.	Km. Pn.	Km. Kl.	Km. Ph.	Km. Kl.
Jm. Ph.	Jm. Wg.	Jm. Lg.	Jm. Pn.	Jm. Kl.
St. Pn.	St. Kl.	St. Ph.	St. Wg.	St. Lg.

Fig. 1. The Days in *Wuku* on the Javanese Book [11]

Sinta, Gumbreg, Galungan, Pahang, Maktal, and Wugu, then it can be ascertained that it is wrong. There is no *Pahing* Week on other than *Wuku Sinta, Gumbreg, Galungan, Pahang, Maktal, and Wugu*.

3.2 Zodiac Through “Wuku” in Javanese Calendar

“*Wuku*” not only contains good days and bad days to do things but *wuku* contains the character and fate of people based on their date of birth. For example, a baby was born on January 16, 2022. The baby was born on Sunday *Pahing* with *Maktal wuku*. We can estimate the character and fate of the baby based on the date of his birth. Based on the Javanese Book of Qomarulsyamsi Adammakna, a person who has the birthday of *Pahing* Sunday with *Wuku Maktal*:

Guru, wurukung, gigis, wasesa sagara, nuju pati, lakunning rembulan, tumuruning asu ajag.

The meaning of the baby character is that this person can give clues, be a light, or a person who can calm the hearts of others. In addition, the baby is also a carrier of sustenance and luck.

4 Discussion

Not only in Java, but beliefs about a good day also exist elsewhere. According Hannon & Dunlop [12], cognitive performance differs from day to day. A total of 230 participants on this study completed the component processes test. The results showed that performance for some cognitive processes varied by the day of the week.

In line with Hannon and Dunlop, another research by Clobert et al. presents the results of their study on good days for Leoas Horoscope's influence on perception, cognitive performances, and creativity [13].

Acknowledgments. We are grateful to Community Services Universitas PGRI Yogyakarta for supporting the project.

Authors' Contributions. Darsono: research data retrieval; Niken Wahyu Utami: Designing concepts, data retrieval, data analysis, built report.

References

1. M. Halonen, "Complex tools for complex time: Solar, stellar, and lunar cycles of time in medieval roman calendars," in *Later Medieval Europe*, vol. 22, Brill Academic Publishers, 2020, pp. 275–314. doi: https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004436251_009.
2. R. Hannah, "Roman Calendars," in *A Companion to Science, Technology, and Medicine in Ancient Greece and Rome*, Georgia L. Irby, Ed. 2016, pp. 906–922. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118373057.ch54>.
3. V. L. Johnson, "The Prehistoric Roman Calendar," *Source: The American Journal of Philology*, vol. 84, no. 1, pp. 28–35, 1963, doi: <https://doi.org/10.2307/293157>.
4. Immo Warntjes, "The Origin(s) of the Medieval Calendar Tradition in the Latin West," in *Calendars in the Making: The Origins of Calendars from the Roman Empire to the Later Middle Ages*, BRILL, 2021, pp. 129–187. doi: https://doi.org/10.1163/9789004459694_005.
5. Olaniyi Banwo Adetoro, "Historical analysis of calendars-Chinese calendars and world calendars," *Artikel Asian Journal of Research in Social Sciences and Humanities*, vol. 4, no. 11, pp. 114–130, 2014, doi: <https://doi.org/10.5958/2249-7315.2014.01038.7>.
6. J. Steele, "The development of the Babylonian Zodiac: Some preliminary observations," *Mediterranean Archaeology and Archaeometry*, vol. 18, no. 4 Special issue, pp. 97–105, 2018, doi: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1472282>.
7. B. L. van der Waerden, "History of the Zodiac," *Archiv für Orientforschung*, vol. 6, no. 2, pp. 157–165, 1965.
8. R. Hachlili, "The Zodiac in Ancient Jewish Art: Representation and Significance," *Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research*, vol. 228, no. 228, pp. 61–77, 1977.
9. T. George, "Hermeneutics," *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. 2021. Accessed: May 17, 2022. [Online]. Available: <https://plato.stanford.edu/archives/win2021/entries/hermeneutics/>
10. M. Vilhauer, *Gadamer's Ethics of Play: Hermeneutics and The Other*. United States of America: Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group, Inc, 2010.
11. K. P. H. Tjakraningrat, *Kitab Primbon Qomarrulsyamsi Adammakna*. Yogyakarta: Soemodidjojo Maha Dewa, 1990.

12. B. Hannon and D. Dunlop, "The Influences of Day of the Week on Cognitive Performance," *British Journal of Education, Society & Behavioural Science*, vol. 16, no. 4, pp. 1–11, Jan. 2016, doi: <https://doi.org/10.9734/bjesbs/2016/26784>.
13. M. Clobert, P. van Cappellen, M. Bourdon, and A. B. Cohen, "Good day for Leos: Horoscope's influence on perception, cognitive performances, and creativity," *Personality and Individual Differences*, vol. 101, 2016, doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2016.06.032>.

Open Access This chapter is licensed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>), which permits any noncommercial use, sharing, adaptation, distribution and reproduction in any medium or format, as long as you give appropriate credit to the original author(s) and the source, provide a link to the Creative Commons license and indicate if changes were made.

The images or other third party material in this chapter are included in the chapter's Creative Commons license, unless indicated otherwise in a credit line to the material. If material is not included in the chapter's Creative Commons license and your intended use is not permitted by statutory regulation or exceeds the permitted use, you will need to obtain permission directly from the copyright holder.

