

# Digging and Preserving the National Cultural Heritage through Handling of the Ancient Javanese Manuscript at Sebelas Maret University

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Abstract—The institutions located in the central and regional levels, the government and the private sector try to take a role in script handling activities. This shows that the script is seen as meaningful and important. Sebelas Maret University of Surakarta with the slogan Mangesthi Luhur Ambangun Nagara has done a lot of handling the script covering of some activities, namely: 1. rescue, 2. preservation, 3. research, 4. utilization, and 5. dissemination. This research is a qualitative descriptive. This research uses a philological approach in the form of handling the ancient manuscript including: 1. rescue, 2. preservation, 3. research, 4. utilization, and 5. dissemination. The data sources are the collections of UNS Library and UNS Museum both printed and handwritten manuscripts. Various values of life at the moment are essentially a form of continuity of the values that have existed in the past. The thoughts, views, noble values of the nation's culture can be found on the legacy of writings in the ancient manuscript.

Keywords: ancient manuscript, manuscript handling, UNS.

# I. Introduction

The ancient manuscript are literary works of ancestral cultural heritage. The manuscript is handscript / manuscript. Manuscripts are cultural treasures that reflect ancient life. It contains thought result, the feeling of information in the past. In addition, it also contains values that are useful for society, such as teaching, history, morals, art, culture, philosophy, law, even medicine.

The manuscripts are stored in various museums, libraries or institutions such as the Sasanapustaka Library, Surakarta Palace, Reksapusta ka Library Pura Mangkunegaran, Radyapustaka Surakarta Museum, Solo Literature Foundation, PNRI Jakarta and so on. Besides being stored in these places, there is also a private collection script. However, not all texts are in good condition or can be said to have been damaged. One of the manuscript damage is caused by age, or easily damaged material. In fact, many texts that have not been revealed. This is due to the limited understanding of letters and languages in the script by the current generation. Understanding of letters and language is important, so that the content of the manuscript can be conveyed correctly.

It can be imagined that if the manuscripts were not carefully cared for, the sepat would once be destroyed and there would be no value as the ancestral cultural heritage. Manuscripts are not jewelry that can be proud of by just showing. The text is only valuable if it can still be read and understood its contents.

## II. Literature Review

The ancient manuscript have an important role for past, present and future communities. It was also stated similarly that "there is no more adequate legacy of a nation for the purposes of cultural history research than written testimony, through written documents like that can be studied more clearly and thoroughly the way of thinking of the nation that composes it (Soebadio in Soeratno, 1996).

Therefore, it is necessary to make efforts to handle the text both in terms of its content and physical. A field related to handling the text is philology. The main task of philology is to make the text readable / understandable through two things, namely presenting and interpreting (Robson, S.O., 1994: 12). A deeper understanding is presented by Haryati Soebadio, that the task of philological research is to get back the manuscript that is free from mistakes, give the best understanding and can be accounted for, so that the text closest to the original can be known (written in Edwar Djamaris, 1977: 7). This is important, so that the contents of the manuscript are not interpreted incorrectly.



The research on philological manuscripts conducted at UNS is directed to look for manuscripts that are close to the original so that in the future there will be no mistake. Criticism text is an activity of producing texts that are as close as possible to the original that is based on the presumption and based on the results of scientific research. The purpose of textual criticism is to produce the text that is closest to the original (Sulastin Sutrisno, 1981: 15). If there are various texts from the same essay, text criticism tries to determine which of them are authoritarian (authoritative) or original. This effort is carried out with the meaning of text construction.

Edward Djamaris (2002: 37) states that textual criticism is the study, consideration, comparison, and determination of the original text or text which is the most superior text quality authoritative, as well as cleaning the text of all kinds of errors. All accountability and errors are recorded in the criticism apparatus.

#### III. Method

This research is a qualitative descriptive study. It uses a philological approach in the form of handling the ancient manuscript including: 1. rescue, 2. preservation, 3. research, 4. utilization, and 5. dissemination. Data sources are the collection of UNS Library and UNS Museum both printed and handwritten manuscripts. Data is information / content of stories contained in Javanese texts both printed and handwritten. Data collection techniques use interview techniques, and content analysis. Research sites are the UNS Library and the UNS Museum.

The process of data analysis is interactive, by using: data reduction, data display, and conclusion (Sutopo, 1996 :)

#### IV. Result and Discusion

## A. Handling manuscripts at UNS

The institutions located in the central and regional levels, both government and private, have activities in handling the manuscript. This shows that the manuscript is seen as meaningful and important. Sebelas Maret University Surakarta always tries to take part in efforts to handle old texts including activities: 1. rescue, 2. preservation, 3. research, 4. utilization, and 5. dissemination. To get a clearer picture of each of these activities, the following will be described in more detail by the Sebelas Maret University in handling the manuscript.

# 1. Rescue

Sebelas Maret University (hereinafter abbreviated as UNS) conducts the rescue of manuscripts by providing a place to store texts that have been collected, compiled them in the inventory list and catalogs, conducts manuscript repairs with new repairs and binding, manages manuscripts by maintaining cleanliness from dust droppings and maintain its integrity from insect attacks, seek preservation of manuscripts by regulating air temperature in its storage area. Besides that, UNS also tried to recall Javanese texts stored abroad.

In order to save the manuscript it clearly requires a large supply of funds. Besides that it also requires personnel who have knowledge in script care, and who have compassion for the manuscript. The fact proves that not all institutions that have activities to handle the text can carry out the rescue of the manuscript properly.

UNS has a central library building that is quite adequate with seven floors. The collection of books stored in the UNS library is more than 50,000 thousand titles. Some books include old books, Javanese manuscripts, printed Javanese manuscripts, old Dutch, English books, old magazines, old archives, journals, and old dictionaries. This Javanese collection including the carik and print manuscripts and the Dutch collection is stored on the 3rd floor. 2014 UNS received 12,000 book grants from the Amsterdam Netherlands Tropen Museum. UNS also started to establish a library and scriptorium museum for the care and storage of old manuscripts. Visitors can visit the UNS library by going to the 3rd floor at the DUTCH Collection & Javanese Collection. Equipped with an air-conditioned room, researchers can read Javanese collections that include language, customs, culture, equipment, and art.

The old Dutch-language magazines in the collection of the UNS Library include *Archipel* which is published in each edition in sequence, *L'horizon nousantarien Melanges en hommage a Denys Lombard* from volume *I onwards, Blijvers en Repatriante*, News August 1960 and September 1960, news Mapie 1955 -1958, tea research bulletin and Van de Kon's Handelmuseum Berichten Van De Afdeeling. Vereeniging Koloniaal Instituut, Tindjauan Mas'alah Labor January-October 1953, Plant Area and Production of Jang Most Important Plantation Crops 1950-1951, Prices of Rice and Corn in Plantation Areas in Java 1957-1959.

Other old books Vereeniging Voor Colonial Studie Van Maatschappelijke Vraagstukken. Schets van de economische ontwikkeling der afdeeling Poerworedjo (Residentie Kedoe) Door Dr. C.L. Van Doorn,



De Voedselvoorziening van Nederlansch-Indie was published by Drukkerij G. Kolff & Co. Batavia in 1919. Star Weekly magazines in the 1960s with various publications were also in the UNS library.

UNS also stores Java scripts like Serat Bratayuda, Serat Nawawi and both are grants from Dr. Prakoso is one of the founders of UNS. Printed Javanese manuscripts include *Kasidan Jati, Serat Pepeling lan Pamrayoga*, *Serat Enut Gendhing Slendro* in 1919, *Serat Pangracutan* by *Ranggawarsita* printed in 1924, *Wirit Soponoloyo*, *Serat Niti Prana*, *Serat Piwulang Real Narmada*, *Serat Woro Sewojo*, *Fiber Karongron Volume II*, *Serat Kridhahatmoko*, *Serat Natacangkrama*, *Cariyos Lampahan of Purwa Ringgit*, *Serat Babad Tanah Jawi*, *Serat Arjuna Sasrabahu* and so on. All of the Dutch and Javanese collections were stamped by the UPT. Sebelas Maret University Library and book serial number. The manuscript of the grant is also equipped with a stamp, namely the Grant from the owner of the manuscript and the number of years the manuscript was submitted to UNS.

Other Javanese collection books that have been published in a project by the Ministry of Education and Culture The Indonesian Literature Book Publishing Project and the Jakarta Region, especially in 1983, also adorn the collection of UNS libraries. Some of the titles include *Babad Dipanagaran ing Nagari Ngayogyakarta I* over the script by *Ny. Drs. Ambaristi* and *Lasman Marduwiyota*, *Babad Mangir 1 and 2*, *Raden Jaka Pekik, Story of Dewi Soja*, *Babad Panambangan*, *Langendriya Gunjaran*, *Lutung Kasarung*, *Milih Jodo*, *Arjuna Wiwaha*, *and other Javanese books*, *Wedhatama*, Text Criticism by William van der Mollen available at UNS Central Library, especially the 3rd floor.

In this rescue process, the first step is to systematically record and organize existing collections. This process treats all paper-based manuscripts physically to record, the condition of the damaged script is placed in cardboard stopmap boxes, then arranged in a cabinet or table rack. The list of works of each manuscript has been made including a description of the manuscript with things that are physical (title, catalog number, text size, text size, text form, language, general condition of the text) to the text summary. For old magazines, the digitization process has begun.

In addition to providing a script storage area at the UNS Central Library in the form of collections of ancient books both in the Javanese and Dutch collections, UNS also has a museum. The UNS Museum is located on the 7th floor of the UNS library and has a collection of old photo documents from the photo repro from the UNS Archives office. These old photos are stored in the UNS Archive building and some of them are on display at the UNS Museum. Among them is an old photo, a photo of Hadiwidjojo Maharsi, one of the founders of the Saraswati National University; photo of Solo Mayor Mohammad Saleh who had the initiative to establish a university by forming a University Establishment Committee in Surakarta, photos of the construction of the UNS campus, a 1973 IKIP Surakarta Anniversary photo before joining another university which eventually became UNS, photos of the Surakarta Karaton Show as lecture places, newspapers about the opening of the UNS campus by President Soeharto and many more old archives stored on UNS.

Some lontar manuscript collections stored in the UNS Museum were also treated and placed in special cupboards. Old manuscripts from lontar numbered 13 of them, entitled Serat Yusuf, also about medicine, and this folklore belongs to Javanologi UNS and is displayed at the UNS Museum. This ejection is a grant from the Netherlands to the Javanology team who are interested in saving ancient texts.

#### 2. Preservation

Handling the second manuscript is preservation. Activities are carried out by making copies or derivatives of the script both with transcription from and to the same letter, as well as with transliteration from other letters; by making photographic reproduction, both with microfilm, or with a digital camera and making edited edits by applying certain textual criticism methods according to the nature of each text.

Activities with the preservation of the manuscript are some of which have been carried out by UNS, either individuals personally, lecturers or students, or because they carry out agency tasks. For example the copying of the manuscript with transliteration by the students of Regional Literature FIB UNS at the Radyapustaka Museum, Sanabudaya Museum, the Library of Sasana Pustaka Surakarta Hadiningrat Palace and the Reksapustaka Library Pura Mangkunegaran. The collaboration of Sebelas Maret University with Reksapustaka in making digitization of Javanese manuscripts a few months ago resulted in quite satisfying results. Even so, transliteration by students who do not understand the manuscript are also found. For example misunderstanding has the wrong effect in copying, misreading that has the wrong result in termination of words, wrong in spelling, or wrong in typing.

Misalnya: griya nyasa klering masjid should Griyanya saklering masjid



Amarta pawonten ing should Amartapa wonten ing

Wrong kacuriganya manjing should Wrongka curiganya manjing

Susu kering wadhuk should Susukering wadhuk

Ling nyaris should Lingnya ris

Kaya tangi manaken ing Gusti should Kayata ngimanaken ing Gusti

Ginelaranmu jijat Nabi should Ginelaran mujijat Nabi

Barja mangah should Bar jamangah dan sebagainya.

The students who were previously not educated or poorly trained in transliteration problems became more aware in handling the script. It is true that they have the ability to read script letters, but if they do not master the spelling of Javanese with Latin letters that are adjusted to the improved Indonesian spelling, the results are also disappointing. There are times when they feel they do not understand the meaning of the words used in the text, and they do not know the text repair techniques in transliteration. Even the error may increase or occur due to inaccurate typing.

Such transliteration results before being presented to the public have been examined by the responsible team. Educated skilled workers from students who want to work on transliteration should have or have the provision of sufficient basic knowledge about transliteration. Thus the results of their work can be expected to be more satisfying, mistakes that should not occur can be avoided.

Conservation activities with transcription have also been carried out by UNS. In order to obtain the equivalent of the script in its original form, at least in the form of Javanese writing which is still the same and to continue the tradition of copying and copying the text was carried out in the 1980s. Various titles have been published by UNS Press for various manuscripts that have become collections of the Radyapustaka Museum. Computers with Javanese letters were created and are said to be the only computers in the world that can be used to write Javanese letters.

# 3. Research

The manuscript research activities can be carried out in terms of literature, both with analysis and interpretation that are independent of things outside it, as well as in relation to the surrounding environment. In addition, research on manuscripts can be carried out in terms of language, both with grammatical analysis of the manuscript, or general problems of all linguistic elements that can provide a background in writing. For example, scientific writing can be in the form of papers / papers / articles, theses, theses and dissertations.

Javanese manuscript research activities at the tertiary level, especially at UNS until now, feel better. This can be proven by the offers and funds provided by various studies, and supported by the existence of the Center for Javanology Studies at UNS. Although the amount is still limited, it is not balanced with the number of manuscripts outside UNS, presumably the research activities are quite encouraging, every year funds are always available.

On the other hand, the interest and attention of researchers grew, the number of interested candidates for the script researchers increased. Every year the Regional Literature Study Program receives new students of approximately 60 people. In addition, all study programs at the Faculty of Cultural Sciences also have a course in Javanese Cultural Studies, oriented to the source of written texts. Many medical faculties make use of Javanese manuscripts that talk about medicine, the Faculty of Engineering uses texts relating to the Javanese architecture or about Kawruh Kalang. There is an increase of awareness in the campus community, showing that script research is needed to explore and reveal the nation's cultural heritage, both as a source of inspiration or as a means of evaluation in the formation of national culture.

Various research of Javanese manuscripts, especially based on paper, have been carried out by many philological approaches by students. The Regional Literature Study Program has three fields, namely philology, literature, and linguistics. Manuscript research activities are mostly carried out by students who take the philology focus. The manuscript is done philologically, among others by the steps of inventorying the manuscript, manuscript description, comparison of the manuscript, the basics of determining the manuscript to be transliterated, the manuscript abbreviation, and the transliteration of the manuscript. The final result is making text edits or producing text that is considered to be close to original or free from errors. The edits of the text are then analyzed in terms of their contents, for example with regard to ethics, morals, law, governance, and so on in accordance with the content of the manuscript.



Several manuscript study titles include Fiber Babad Umbul Pengging A Philological Review by Prasetyo Adi WW (thesis in 1999), Bab Ngaturi Dhahar The Prophets The Guardians of Tuwin Colorful Remarks of a Philological Review by Nur Muchlis (thesis in 2014), Cariyos Lairipun Dajal Lanat A Philological Review by Tantri Ismuningsih (thesis in 2010), Stylistic Study of Sexual Texts in Pakubuwana V's Fiber Centhini Works, Linguistic S2 thesis by Nurnaningsih, Serat Prabangkara Review of Literature Psychology and Character Education Value by Onok Yayang Pamungkas (S2 thesis in 2014), Study of Stylistics of Babad Tanah Jawi Volume 1-5 The work of Raden Ngabehi Yasadipura I by R. Adi Deswijaya master's thesis in 2014, Stylistic Studies of Ki Padmasusastra's Works of Holistic Criticism Perspective (S3 dissertation in 2016) and so on.

The example of text criticism of Serat Atmawiyata Pupuh IV Asmaradana bait 6 by students of Regional Literature FIB UNS is as follows.

6	Miwah kahananireki/	Miwah kahananireki/
	sajrone wismaning liyan/	sajro wismaning liyan/
	krana iku tanpa gawe/	krana iku tanpa gawe/
	kuneng bab tentreming wisma/	kuneng bab tentreming wisma/
	lawan rukuning somah/	lawan rukuning somah/
	agenti ingkang winuwus/	agenti ing kang winuwus/
	bab panrimaning satitah//	bab panrimaning satitah//

A manuscript is written in the word *lupute* which means 'wrong', and in manuscript B written *lupute* means'wrong'.

Various differences in copying the script are also presented. a. Title Writing





Figure 1a. Title of Serat Atmawiyata in manuscript A



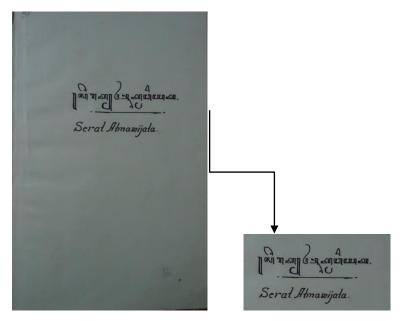


Figure 1b. Title of Serat Atmawiyata on manuscript B

The picture above clearly shows the writing of the title in manuscript A and manuscript B. The manuscript is only written in Latin letters, while in the manuscript B is written in Javanese script, the Latin letter is written below it. The title writing on manuscript B looks much neater than in the manuscript A.

# b. Writing of characters

In writing this script there are several characters, including: Latin script, Javanese script, Roman numerals and Arabic numerals.



Figure 2a. Examples of writing Latin script in manuscript A

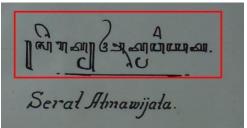


Figure 2b. Examples of writing Javanese script in manuscript B



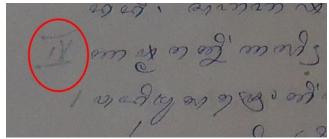


Figure 2c. Examples of writing Roman numerals in manuscript A

## c. Writing of Pupuh Markers

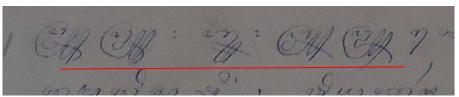


Figure 3a. Pupuh marker in manuscript A

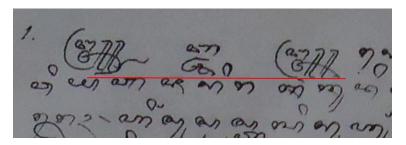


Figure 3b. Pupuh marker in manuscript B

In the picture above there is a difference in making pupuh markers. The difference is only because variations are not readings. In the tradition of copying scripts there are often differences. This is because the script is copied by different people and at different times. From the Atmawiyata Fiber dish above, there are also many differences between manuscript A and manuscript B. Through the existing differences, it can be concluded that the manuscript is the original and the script is the derivative.

# d.Manuscript Utilization

The Javanese manuscripts that have been studied in UNS contain various contents. There are manuscripts that contain elements of important events in history, attitudes and thoughts and feelings of people who live and support events, ideas of heroism, attitudes of subordinates to superiors and vice versa. There are manuscripts which outline the system of government, the rule of law, customs, religious life, moral teachings, and so on. There are also manuscripts that describe the performance stage along with the equipment, and others.

Thus it is clear that the text is very useful, can be a source for understanding various aspects of life and culture. The contents of the manuscript are not known to the public, if the text is not examined, its contents are not disclosed. Manuscripts that contain the contents of values, ideals, rules, guidelines and guidelines that are considered to be used in the life of the community must be examined and disclosed. This is useful to support the efforts of soul development and personality development.

Utilization of the manuscript is often carried out at UNS both the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, especially the Regional Literature Study Program, the Teaching and Education Faculty, especially Javanese Language and Literature Education, as well as by Javanologi UNS, among others by macapatan, by reading the text accompanied by discussion, raising the contents of the manuscript to be compiled in the performance stage, raised the contents of the manuscript to be discussed in lectures, gatherings, seminars at national and international levels, as well as making translations so that they can be read and understood by those who do not know the language of the script. Besides that, the translation can also be done in the form of an adaptation or summary.



Various seminars by raising the old manuscripts included the National Seminar "Kalatidha in the Current Context" on 23 November 2016 at the UNS Auditorium, the National Seminar on Javanese Culture with the theme "Profile of Sinuhun Pakubuwana IV The Raja Pujangga" by the Regional Literature Study Program on 10 September 2015 at the Karaton Surakarta Hadiningrat, the National Seminar on Javanese Culture with the theme "Reactualization of the Great Values of Sri Mangkunagara IV Great Works" by the UNS FSSR Regional Literature Study Program in Mangkunegaran on September 13, 2014, Book Review of Gender Assessment of Character and Character Education Values in Wulang Literature on Javanese Manuscripts on December 9, 2014 at the UNS FSSR, and the upcoming activity is the International Seminar on Archipelago Manuscripts which will be held at UNS, September 25-26, 2017.

#### e.Dissemination

The dissemination referred to is by publishing all the results of activities, especially those in the form of edited edits with translations and discussions, as well as the results of other studies based on manuscripts. The dissemination of the publication of today's manuscripts has been widely carried out by UNS both students and lecturers. This was quite encouraging, but unfortunately it was unfortunate with the limited information to the public / researchers who visited UNS and the media of its distribution.

With the provision of the UNS Digital Library researchers will freely utilize data that has been uploaded from various approaches. Including exploring and studying Javanese language, literature and culture in the framework of finding the format and values of local wisdom as the basis of national identity. In each of the uploaded studies, it is also completed with a description of the source of the manuscript, text photographs of each page of the manuscript, another identity in the source text that will bridge the researcher to find out the physical condition of the manuscript and its contents.

Through the web owned by the UNS library, handling the script by the Regional Literature Study Program of the Faculty of Cultural Sciences UNS, the use of this technology provides hope and broad opportunities for researchers to take the next step. As digital text, the content of the manuscript has been formatted to be accessed by the public and research interests through the internet (www) or other media. The publication of the thesis from the UNS FSSR through Digilib UNS has reached 4294 thesis titles, FIB as many as 385 theses, 7564 Postgraduate theses and dissertations, FKIP as many as 11329 theses, and so on.

# V. Conclusion

Sebelas Maret University of Surakarta has made various efforts to handle the manuscript including: 1. rescue, 2. preservation, 3. research, 4. utilization, and 5. dissemination. Manuscript handling is not only limited to the physical. To be more useful, it is also necessary to save the manuscript in terms of its contents before we lose the valuable national cultural documents of the past. To be able to better utilize the contents of the text it is necessary to disseminate, not limited to publishing in the form of books but also by utilizing technology.

The process of digitizing information contributes to a large part of enhancing the nation's culture and intellectual heritage and providing important benefits for its users. Today the use of computers has undergone very rapid changes, especially in processing and providing information. Digital information can be accessed widely by people in need by ignoring the time, distance and place where the information and users are located.

Although it was realized how many advantages, but the problems faced were still there. How far we want and are able to provide information to others through digital media, will we lose the ancestral intellectual heritage when we have been sharing abroad, can we compete with other nations. These are the questions that we must reflect together.

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