

A. Introduction

Discussions on local wisdom in relation to the implementation of government policies have been widely studied¹. However, not many articles discuss leaders who have leadership traits based on local wisdom. Therefore, this article is here to fill this void and examine local wisdom from a different perspective.

Local wisdom is the ideas or values, and views of the local area that are wise, full of wisdom, and of good value that are embedded and followed by members of the community². Local wisdom is wisdom or noble values contained in local cultural riches such as traditions, proverbs, and life mottos. Every local wisdom has cultural values that are considered good, right, and appropriate as agreed in the community.

These cultural values are formulated in culture and implemented in society and are revealed in self-direction or interactions, directly or indirectly, between community members in their various activities. These cultural values become the guide of life and even become an inseparable part of people's lives so that they can be observed through attitudes and behavior³.

Pohutu Momulanga is one of the local pearls of wisdom that exist in the culture of the people in the Gorontalo Province. This tradition is a traditional ritual related to the coronation or awarding of titles to a leader who is judged by the customary council to meet the requirements as a leader who is crowned with a customary title. The conditions that must be met are religious and high morals, know self-control and know how to use power, love for the people, know how to run the law, dare to act, and dare to face challenges.

The Pohutu Momulanga ceremony is held in a traditional house, which in Gorontalo language is called Bathayo Boide. A crowned leader must make a solemn

¹ Saharuddin, 'Pemberdayaan Masyarakat Miskin Berbasis Kearifan Lokal', *Sodality: Jurnal Sosiologi Pedesaan*, 3.1 (2009), 17–44 <<https://doi.org/10.22500/sodality.v3i1.5873>>.

² Desni Azlin, 'Kolaborasi Pemerintah Desa Dan Lembaga Adat Terhadap Pelestarian Kearifan Lokal Di Desa Bandur Picak Kecamatan Koto Kampar Hulu Kabupaten Kampar Tahun 2014-2016', *Jom Fisip*, 5 (2018), 1–15.

³ Muhammad Takdir Mursak and STISIP Muhammadiyah Sinjai, 'PENGUATAN NILAI-NILAI KEARIFAN LOKAL DALAM PENYELENGGARAAN PEMERINTAHAN DESA DI KECAMATAN SINJAI TENGAH KABUPATEN SINJAI Oleh':, *Jurnal Ilmiah Administrasita*, 10.02 (2019), 138–45.

understand the value of local wisdom in his culture and implement it in his leadership system. This research was conducted on the value of local wisdom in Gorontalo culture, namely Pohutu Momulanga which is a title-giving coronation ceremony. This research is a literature study that studies the autobiography of a Regent or regional head in Boalemo Regency, Gorontalo Province, who ruled for two periods, 2001-2006 and 2007-2012. There are 2 (two) main references used, namely the traces of the government of the Regent, Dr. Ir. Iwan Bokings, MM entitled Boalemo⁴ Bertasbih (Civil Society-Based Development Model) and a book that deals with Gorontalo cultures entitled Four Aspects of Gorontalo Regional Customs⁵.

Thus, this article poses a research question on how the Regent of Boalemo Regency, Gorontalo Province, for the period 2001-2006 and 2007-2012, implemented the values of Gorontalo traditional wisdom, Pohutu Momulanga, in running his government?

B. The essence of Pohutu Momulanga

In the life of the Gorontalo people, there are 4 (four) customary aspects related to human nature itself, namely aspects of the custom of welcoming guests (Pohutu Motombulu), aspects of coronation customs (Pohutu Momulanga), aspects of marriage customs, and aspects of funeral customs⁶. Of these 4 (four) aspects, *Pohutu momulanga* is the subject of this research. *Pohutu momulanga* is one of the traditional ceremonies in the regional culture of Gorontalo Province which is related to the traditional coronation ceremony of a regional leader, for example, a mayor or regent⁷. In ancient times this ceremony was performed to enthrone royal leaders, but nowadays, it is used to enthrone democratically elected regional leaders.

Pohutu is a traditional ceremony related to religion, government, and society. Dj. Buloto Baate, Limboto District, divides *pohutu* into 4 (four) parts,

⁴ K Abdussamad, *Bertasbih (Model Pembangunan Berbasis Masyarakat Madani)* (Boalemi, 1985).

⁵ K dkk Abdussamad, *Aspek Adat Daerah Gorontalo* (Boalemo, 1985).

⁶ K Abdussamad.

⁷ K dkk Abdussamad. 33

namely to give respect and a high position, according to the position that is crowned so that it has authority in the eyes of the community and that the position that is obtained democratically is for the benefit and benefit of society in general.

One of the coronation ceremonies that is still maintained is the traditional ceremony of awarding titles, known as *Momulanga*. Position title in Gorontalo language is *home*¹³. Officials who are given a position title are called *momulanga*, which means they have met the requirements to be given an official title.¹⁴.

The title of office (*ulanga*) is given to an official within the government, starting from the regent or mayor, deputy mayor or deputy regent, sub-district head, village head or *lurah*. The place of execution of *pohutu momulanga* is usually in the palace where the king lives, and now at the official house of the regent or mayor, or in the traditional house of each region.

Pohutu momulanga for an official has a very deep meaning and a very important meaning. Besides being important for the person concerned, it is also important for the community and for the preservation of the custom itself. If an official has the right to receive a title (*home*) and this is applied to him, it means placing the person concerned in a customary position. With his position in the custom, it means that the person concerned becomes the head of the customers so that it will positively impact the survival of the custom.

Pohutu momulanga will give strength and authority to an official in carrying out his duties so that his duties as government executor will run well. Community leaders and society, in general, give high appreciation to officials who are given titles. This full trust guarantees the implementation of the policies made, because whatever decisions the officials make will be fulfilled by the community.

The awarding of titles to government officials has conditions that have been determined based on customary agreements. There are 3 (three) main requirements for an official selected to obtain a title, namely (1) descent; (2) education; (3) temperament.¹⁵ In its development, the first condition is no longer decisive because the second and third conditions are the determining indicators.

¹³ K Abdussamad.

¹⁴ K Abdussamad.

¹⁵ K dkk Abdussamad.

reduce poverty; (6) building a system for empowering women through Family Welfare Development (PKK)¹⁹.

In building a civil society system, Dr. Ir. Iwan Bokings, MM applies the principles of civil society, which emphasizes the principles of participation, legitimacy, transparency, accountability, competence, and compliance with the law and human rights. This civil society system made Boalemo Regency famous for its slogan "Boalemo Bertasbih"²⁰. The concept of civil society applied by Iwan Bokings is based on Surah Ali Imran verse 103:

"And hold fast to the rope (religion) of Allah and do not be divided (split in conflict). And remember Allah's favor upon you when you were (in the days of ignorance) enemies (in conflict). So Allah tamed between your hearts and made you, by Allah's favor, brothers. (Originally) it was as if you were on the brink (of destruction). And Allah saves you from it. (Qur'an, 3:103)

Unions or community groups are the hallmark of civil society and really have a place in the government-run system by Iwan Bokings. It is evident from the formation of various associations of community groups. From existing records, since 2001, there have been 33 union groups in Boalemo²¹ Regency and have received legitimacy for their establishment by the Boalemo Regency government.

D. Research Method

This study uses a type of qualitative research that aims to describe the leading figure of the Regent of Boalemo, who applies the values of local wisdom, namely Pohutu Momulanga, in his government system. The research approach uses autobiographical research by taking references that wrote the life of the Regent of Boalemo in Dr. Ir. Iwan Bokings, MM 2001 to 2010 for 2 (two) periods while leading Boalemo Regency, Gorontalo Province as primary data. Secondary data was taken through interviews with the community, including traditional leaders, politicians, educators, traders, and farmers. There is 1 book which is the main reference about the leading figure of the Regent of Boalemo, 10 books on

¹⁹ K Abdussamad.

²⁰ K Abdussamad.

²¹ K Abdussamad.

The description of Iwan Bokings' leadership in building a civil society system was also shared by a prominent educator, a former teacher at SMA Negeri 1 Tilamuta.

“Mr. Iwan Bokings is a successful leader in setting an example of carrying out religious orders, especially Islam and instilling Islamic values in the younger generation. During his leadership, Islamic values were felt in people's lives, especially in schools. He required Muslim teachers to be proficient in the Koran and wear the hijab for female teachers. In addition, the policy is to perform the dhuhur congregational prayer at school with the students. Therefore, under the leadership of the Regent Iwan Bokings, Boalemo Regency has the slogan Boalemo Bertashib.”

In building the civil society space system, several rules are set related to improving the morale of the community, especially civil servants (PNS)²³, namely:

- a. Require Muslim female employees to wear the hijab and dress in white for all employees on Fridays
 - b. Require Muslim employees to be proficient in reading the Qur'an
 - c. Carry out the Zikr Assembly after every Fajr prayer and perform congregational prayers during working hours
 - d. Conducting seminars on the theme of bribery and usury in terms of Islamic law
 - e. Strengthen anti-corruption socialization.
2. Reform Civil Servants (PNS)

Mr. Regent Iwan Bokings carried out the reform of Civil Servants (PNS) as outlined in the mission of the Regent of Boalemo Regency for the period 2001-2004, namely (1) preparing quality government apparatus; (2) application of reward and punishment system; (3) development of government organizations as needed; (4) computerized management of

²³ K Abdussamad.

3. Hamlet decentralization

Dusun decentralization is a system of delegation of authority from the top level of the organization to the level below it in a hierarchical manner. Through the delegation of authority, the government at lower levels is allowed to take the initiative and develop creativity to find the best solution to the problems encountered in daily tasks. The government of Boalemo Regency under the Regent Iwan Bokings implemented decentralization with a policy of hamlet autonomy²⁵. The Regent's mission is to focus on hamlet-based development. Therefore, in 2007, the Regent issued a Regent regulation on Guidelines for the Election of Dusun Heads, intending to foster democratic life and community participation and obtain candidates for Hamlet Heads who truly matched the aspirations of the people (Shadiqin Nursa, 2007: p. 205) .

A community leader who is still feeling the impact of the village decentralization policy said:

“During the leadership of Regent Iwan Bokings, we felt the ease of accessing various community needs. For example, we don't have to go to the village office to pay taxes because the *dusun* heads are actively collecting taxes from house to house. So, participation in tax payments has also increased. In 2004, 2005, and 2006, Boalemo Regency, Gorontalo Province, was ranked in the top 10 tax payments nationally. In addition, we feel the ease of access to clean water with the healthy hamlet program promoted by the Regent”.

Dusun decentralization helps the Boalemo District Government implement community welfare improvements through the Dusun Sehat program. There are 25 activities programmed in the Healthy Hamlet, including structuring and developing healthy homes, providing household clean water, providing waste management and trash bins, etc.

4. Building a Women's Economic Productivity System

In an effort to reduce poverty and improve women's economic productivity system, the Government of Boalemo Regency, Gorontalo Province, under the leadership of Mr. Iwan Bokings, has implemented an integrated

²⁵ K Abdussamad.

government of Boalemo Regency has succeeded in increasing women's economic productivity by planting corn and making goose-neck toilets.

A female figure as well as a traditional leader who is the administrator of the Women's Economic Productivity Improvement Forum (FPPEP) stated:

“The Regent and the Regent are very supportive of increasing the potential of women to participate in the creative economy. When Boalemo Regency implemented the one million corn program, FPPEP participated in planting corn on 32.5 hectares of land in Pontolo Village, Mananggu District. This forum also has a business unit, namely the manufacture of goose-neck toilets.

The success of the Regent of Boalemo Regency during the period... namely Dr. Ir. Iwan Bokings, MM in running the government cannot be separated from his leadership character. The customary title given to him is Tauwa LoMadala which means King of the Country, reflecting his character and attitude in leading. Likewise with the slogan he chose as a symbol of Boalemo Regency, namely Boalemo Bertasbih.

Iwan Bokings has the characteristics of a leader according to the guidance of the Qur'an and the sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad SAW, namely trustworthy (trusted), intelligent, concerned with the public interest, and courageous. These characteristics are in accordance with the figure of a leader described in Islamic religious guidance, namely knowledgeable, physically and mentally healthy, gentle, deliberation, trustworthy, fair, and trusting.

6. Community Empowerment

Some of the policies carried out by the Regent Iwan Bokings in empowering the community is:

1. Equalization of perceptions and updating of poor household data through workshops
2. Strengthening community institutions in community empowerment
3. Presenting low-income families as VIP guests at every Boalemo Anniversary celebration activity

4. Examination of the 2003 CPNSD exam transparently
5. Asian community services (mail/phone/SMS/coffee morning)
6. Elimination of fences and monkey posts for the office of the regent/deputy regent

Participation

1. Preparation of participatory local regulations
2. Entrusting LPM to lead the musrebang
3. Preparation of regional planning documents with universities and involving community components
4. Review the RAPBD with youth/students
5. Appointment of sub-district head by considering community aspirations
6. Allocation and village

Reform of the Procurement of Goods and Services

1. General auction mechanism (tender)
2. Taking the oath for the tender committee at the mosque
3. Formation of a special committee in examining the work of the tender committee
4. Rotation of treasurer every year
5. The winning contractor is required to explain the details of the activity to the community

Formation of a legal advocacy team in project supervision as a manifestation of the bupati's "built in control"

A trustworthy or responsible leader will lead his people to prosperity and prosperity. Therefore, a trustworthy leader only calls for the good and avoids everything contrary to Allah's prohibitions and the laws of a region. He tries to carry out the mandate given by holding fast to the provisions of Allah SWT. In Surah Al-Hajj verse 41 Allah SWT says:

"Those who, if we had established their position on earth, they would have established prayer, paid zakat, ordered to do good and forbid what was wrong; and to Allah all matters return. (Surat Ali-Imran:103)

optimistic, and always looking for productive and innovative ways. *Gotong royong* means a belief in the importance of doing activities together and voluntarily so that the activities carried out can run quickly, effectively, and efficiently.²⁶

It is increasingly apparent that the values of the traditional Pohutu Momulanga ceremony or coronation ceremony are also in line with the values of Pancasila and the Indonesian government system. Thus, it is very relevant to use the results of this study as an example for selecting leaders who have the characteristics of Dr. Ir. Iwan Bokings, MM, Regent of Boalemo Regency, Gorontalo Province 2001-2006 and 2007-2012.

Local wisdom is the values or norms of life that come from a culture that has been developed from generation to generation and is embraced by the community where the culture is developed. Therefore, each region has local wisdom that is implemented in their lives and even affects the way they live their lives, for example, how to socialize, how to trade, and how to grow crops²⁷.

The values of local wisdom can inspire local government policies to build a prosperous, prosperous, and peaceful society. Mapalus culture²⁸ in Temboan Village, South Langowan District, Minahasa Regency, North Sulawesi Province. Mapalus culture is a culture of mutual help which means that humans live or help each other. This culture is one of local wisdom and has positively impacted the community. The people of Temboan Village, South Langowan District, Minahasa Regency, North Sulawesi Province, feel the benefits of Mapalus culture; for example, when there are uninhabitable houses, the village community works together to build the house, which is known as house renovation. Another example is when a villager dies, other villagers will collect funds and give them to the bereaved family. Therefore, there is an association called the pillars of mourning in the village. When the values of local wisdom are applied in government services, the community feels comfortable and safe in managing the required population

²⁶ Muhammad Ansori Lubis, 'Revitalisasi Nilai-Nilai Kearifan Lokal Masyarakat Hukum Adat Batak Toba Dalam Melindungi Eksistensi Danau Toba Di Mata Dunia (Kajian Hukum Progresif)', *Jurnal Darma Agung*, 27.3 (2020), 1234 <<https://doi.org/10.46930/ojsuda.v27i3.607>>.

²⁷ Fitri Rukhaini Rahmawati, 'Karakteristik Pemimpin Dalam Prespektif Islam (Kajian Tafsir Ibnu Katsir)', *Manajemen Dakwah*, 2.1 (2017), 1–12.

²⁸ Cendy Lidya Lalu Marthen Kimbal and Sofia Pangemanan, 'Pembangunan Berbasis Kearifan Lokal Di Desa Temboan Kecamatan Langowan Selatan Kabupaten Minahasa', *Jurnal Eksekutif*, 1.1 (2017).

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