

Implementation of Tri Hita Karana, A Local Wisdom of Bali to Maintain Agricultural Resources

Dewa Ngurah Suprpta

Director School of Postgraduate Udayana University

Jl. PB. Sudirman Denpasar Bali, Indonesia

E-mail Address: biop@dps.centrin.net.id

Balinese Hindu community considers that man is part of nature and is the creation of God. The existence and welfare of man are very much determined by his capability of keeping the harmonious relationship with God (Parhyangan), harmonious relationship with fellow human being (Pawongan), and harmonious relationship with the Nature (Palemahan). The key word of this conception is "harmonious relationship". Harmonious relationship is relationship developed based on values and rules of each element. The relationship with God is made based on values and rules of religion. Relationship with other human beings is also made based on values and rules of humanity, among others: the value of human right, democracy, equity, justice, and the like. The relationship with nature is also made based on the rules of the nature itself because man is alive and made alive by the surrounding environment. So, to sustain the life of man, nature must function continuously. Nature cannot be managed beyond the scope of its rules, so that nature can have its good cycle. Over-intervention to nature that causes damages or degradation in one or more of its components will be harmful. This conception is called Tri Hita Karana, meaning three harmoniously relationship among related elements bringing welfare and happiness. The three elements are man, nature, and God. In Bali, there is organization which functions to maintain and generate various local wisdoms related to rice field called "Subak". Subak, whose members are farmers, has main activities to manage water and land resources for the interest of agriculture to develop it in a sustainable way. This paper describes briefly the implementation of Tri Hita Karana which constitutes one of the local wisdom in Bali in the field of agriculture to maintain agricultural resources.



23-27 November • Manila, Philippines