

Socio-Cultural and Environmental Aspects on Toponymy System of Villages in the East Region of Cirebon

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Abstract: This research aims to reveal the origin and meaning of toponyms are contained on The East Region of Cirebon. The methods used in this study is ethnographic methods with descriptive qualitative approach and ethnolinguistic analysis technique. The object of this research is the name of villages in The East Region of Cirebon consisting of 191 villages from 18 sub-districts are located in the east of Cirebon Regency, West Java. Sources of data about names of villages in The East Region of Cirebon are obtained from literature studies and field observations. In this study found the physical environmental aspect on toponyms in The East Region of Cirebon means water, flora, landform, and land use. Meanwhile, socio-cultural aspects are characterized by words mean on historical events, expectations, perceptions, and community activities. Naming derived from Javanese (57%), Sundanese (33%), Sundanese and Javanese (8%), and others language (2%). Meanwhile, 42% of village toponim in the region means physical environment and 58% means socio-cultural aspects.

1 INTRODUCTION

The East Region Cirebon is one of the presentment cultural acculturation in Indonesia, one of the affected entities is toponym. In Cirebon toponyms contained historical value that bring together Javanese and Sundanese culture to cause characteristic that only owned by Cirebon people (Anshari and Dede, 2016). It led to the claim that Cirebon is not Sundanese or Javanese which is indicated by the existence of the Cirebon Language Dictionary (Sujana, 19xx). Toponymy discussion deals with exploration the meaning of a region's name. Toponimi according to (Rais, 2008) that a geographical phenomenon of mountains, hills, rivers, headlands, valleys, islands and so named by humans in order to facilitate identification. In addition, the naming of a region also marks the various socio-cultural phenomena experienced by humans, such as the name *karang*, *babakan* and *kampung* which refers to the variant of the name of the settlement (Rais, 2008). Prior research was undertaken by Iventocsh (1964), Ashley (2000), Churchin (2008), Grillo (2015), and Kadmon (2004) who discussed the origin of names in the Ebro Valley, Himara District (Albania), Orinda California, Saints in Cornwall, and the name's influence on geopolitics. In addition, toponymy studies ever

conducted in Indonesia by Ormeling (1984), and Perdana *et al.* (2015) discuss the need for pilots to master toponymy in Indonesia, and the origin of place names in Simalungun.

This research is a continuation of Anshari *et al.* (2017) on toponymy Cirebon, all of the above studies show that studies in The East Region of Cirebon have not been studied. This research is expected to encourage the government to preserve the names mentioned in *Undang-Undang No. 32 Tahun 2004 tentang Pemerintahan Daerah*. In addition, it certainly adds toponymy literature in Indonesia and the world.

The point of view used in this study is ethnosemantic that is the exploration of the meaning of the word and cultural reflection in it. The purpose of this study is (1) explore the origins behind the naming of places in the eastern region of Cirebon; (2) classification of toponymy in The East Cirebon in according with socio-cultural and environmental aspects. To achieve this purpose required qualitative methods (Atieno, 2009) and combined with an ethnosemantic point of view. Therefore, the results seen are Java's dominant toponimi culture in The East Region of Cirebon.

2 LITERATURE REVIEW

Toponymy as a source for historical reconstructions can thus pave the way for a proper understanding of (i) the topography of settlements as well as historical personages whose contribution to the establishment, development, and stability of such settlements is enormous, (ii) the location and distribution of various interest groups living in the settlements as well as other notable historical areas (Aleru and Alabi, 2010).

3 RESEARCH METHODS

As a qualitative research, the data collection effort on the toponym of The East Region of Cirebon is based on the empirical phenomenon of the speaker, so that the result of data obtained in the form of language provision skill. Then, the data is combined with the facts and socio-cultural facts and also environmental facts (Atieno, 2009). This research used human instrument with researcher-centered (Peredaryenko and Krauss, 2013). The data used by this research comes from documents of the names of villages and sub-districts in western Java. After that, a direct survey to the location of the research was then analyzed by the method of meaning and culture analysis that is ethnosemantic (Yelena, 2014; Fishcer, 2007).

By Using the study of language and culture, it is hoped that the discussion of toponym issues will remain at the level of meaning in disclosing the various relationships between language, culture, mind as well as patterns, conditions of society, and environment (Duranti, 1997; Kramsc, 2001). Thus, the people perception in eastern Cirebon will be revealed through toponymy in the area, by (1) Explore the origins behind the naming of places in The East Region of Cirebon; (2) classification of toponymy in The East Region of Cirebon in according with socio-cultural and environmental aspects.

4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Administratively, Cirebon is divided into 45 sub-districts, where 40 sub-districts in Cirebon Regency and five sub-districts in Cirebon City. In this paper, Toponymy study is located in The East Region of Cirebon consisting into 18 sub-districts with 191 villages. Region classification into the west or The East Region of Cirebon based on regionalization

schema that region is an area shows certain characteristic and different from other area. The place characteristics be either physical, human or combined characteristics. The East Region of Cirebon is referred to physical aspect of the geographical position of its territory who located in the east of Cirebon City and Cirebon Regency (Contel, 2015).

The toponym specificity in The East Region of Cirebon when compared with others region in West Java is fusion influence from Sundanese, Javanese, and even other cultures such as Madurese or Dutch. It evidences 108 villages name in the region have come from Javanese culture. In addition, the influence of Sundanese culture can be found in 64 village. It proves Javanese culture domination (56.6 percent) on villages name in The East Region of Cirebon, due to historical phenomenon that Cirebon as a Mataram Sultanate logistical base under leadership of Sultan Agung on the operation to attack Batavia as VOC (Dutch East India Company) center between 1628-1629 AD (Ricklef, 2012)

4.1 Physical Environmental Aspects

Physical environment aspect include 80 villages from 191 villages in the region are registered in the Government of Cirebon Regency on 2017. From these, 27 names of villages are associated with plants (flora), 27 villages mean water, 2 villages mean soil, 2 villages associate with animals, 7 villages associate with landform, 3 villages mean natural land use, and 12 names are combination of various physical aspects. Classification about physical aspect on toponim according Sudas and Gokten (2012).

4.1.1 Water

The toponym mean river has traits by word *kali* (on Javanese) is mentioned 6 times, several villages such as Kalirahayu (Losari sub-district), Kalisari (Losari sub-district), Kalimeang (Karangsembung sub-district, Kalipasung (Gebang sub-district), Kalibuntu (Pabedilan sub district), and Kalimukti (Pabedilan sub-district). Toponym kalimeang and kalipasung are given because the village is passed by Kali Gede stream. Then, Kalirahayu and Kalisari names based on environmental phenomenon that the villages were flow by river branch of Ci Sanggaraung. Meanwhile, Kalibuntu and Kalimukti names indicate Ci Benu stream who flow on the villages as a water source for agriculture (Sudas and Gokten, 2012). In addition, Kalimekar based on existence of a river who became as the boundary for Kalimekar dan Kalimaro. All villages are initiated by word *kali*, only Kalimeang

whose the people not use Javanese as major language, but Sundanese.

Toponyms in The East Region of Cirebon which means river is found at several villages name in Sundanese, they characterized by word such *ci* or *leuwi*. *Ci* is used 10 times and only one for *leuwi*, such as Ciuyah and Cisaat (Waled Sub-district), the four village on Ciledug (wetan, kulon, tengah, and lor), Cipeujueh kulon and wetan (Lemahabang Sub-district), Citemu (Mundu sub -district), and Cikancas (Beber sub-district). Interestingly, Cisaat and Ciuyah describes condition of river water are crosses the village as periodic river (*saat* mean dry) and salty (*uyah* mean salt). The field data shows moor (dry crops) is dominant landuse in Cisaat and Ciuyah. Then, Ciledug name appear from water quality of Ci Sanggarung, *ci* (river) and *ledug* (murky) show the murky water from material suspension as a part erosion processes (Núñez, et al., 2010).

Naming of Citemu villages is associates with river, *Ci* (river) and *temu* (meet) which mean estuary are given from hydrological phenomenon in the village, where some river streams are meet such as Ci Silopanganten, Kali Waruduwur, Ci Lelembu, and Ci Longkrang. Finnaly, Cikancas toponym means clear water is given from the village position as large upstream area for Ci Kanci, Kali Kebonbuah, and Ci Kancas, so its normally if water flows in this village has best quality and quantity (Rajala, 2009). Word *ci* as village toponym is also used in Cipeujeuh wetan and kulon, *ci* (water) peujeuh (sufficient) mean water-rich, its given due to physical condition as a productive agricultural area and flow by two river (Kali Putih and Ci Wadon), so the village rarely affected by drought. In The East Region of Cirebon there is also a village name whose associated with water. Leuwidinding village in Lemahabang sub-district, *leuwi* (river) and *dinding* (wall) on sundanese has mean a river as boundary. The name is given from boundary of leuwidinding village with others is Ci Singaratu in eastern and Ci Singaraja in western. Toponyms meaning water are also found in three villages, namely Sumber Lor and Sumber Kidul (Babakan sub-district), and Tuk Karangsuwung (Lemahabang sub-district). The names mean springs location who cause people to build settlement.

4.1.2 Plants

Toponyms meaning plant in the East Cirebon region are divided into 6 names meaningful *jati* or teak, 5 names associated with gebang palm, 2 village using tamarind, 2 villages name beginning with *lo* (goolar fig) and *mundu* (maphuut), and there is each one

villages which meaning of putat, ambit, wareng, dukuh, widara, picung, kendal, beringin, waru, tanjung, and sembung. All plant in toponym according with environmental factor, such climate, soil, and altitude (Gholinejad et al., 2012). Thus, Plants on toponyms in the region are divided into 16 species.

4.1.3 Landform

Physical environment aspect is often contained in the toponym is landform (Derung and Purves, 2012). In The East Region of Cirebon, it is generally divided into two physiographic zones, the north lowlands and the southern hills. So, there are village name who explain several phenomenon as valleys, mountains or hills, coral reefs, sedimentary sediments, and waterfalls. In detail see tabel 1.

Tabel 1: Landform on toponyms.

Landform origin	Information	Village Name
Sedong	Valley or Canyon	Sedong Kidul; Sedong Lor
Gunung dan watu karang	Mountain; Hills; Karts Canonical	Gunungsari; Karangsari; Karangmalang
Bojong	Sediment material	Bojongnegara
Curug	Waterfall	Curug

4.1.4 Natural Landuse

Natural land use categorize as natural form of land with all components inside which are not cultivated by humans. In The East Region of Cirebon, natural land use as toponyms consist of forest and swamp. If examined in detail, toponim of Luwung village (Mundu Sub-district) means the forest, it became due to Cirebon Sultanate's settlement expansion to the east. Whereas, Meanwhile, Rawaurip (Pangenan Sub-Dsistrict) is derived from many tidal swamps are directly adjacent to sea, currently, it use as people's pond (Ormeling, 2013).

4.1.5 Animal

There are only two animals used as name of village in The East Region of Cirebon, namely milkfish and paper wasp. Milkfish (*Chanos chanos*) on Javanese called *bandeng* is a name for Bandengan village (Mundu Sub-district), it shows milkfish habitat in brackish water or saltwater (Nelson, 2006). This interpretation is also supported by the geographical position of Bandengan is located on sea side or

estuary of Kali Grobogan and Ci Temu. *Kamarang* on Sundanese means paper wasp is often encountered in tropical rain forests. Its name also based on wasp colonies are found during forest logged for settlement.

4.1.6 Soil

Area naming referring to soil (*lemah* on Javanese) condition in The East Region of Cirebon is found in Lemahabang sub-district, such as Lemahabang Kulon and Lemahabang Wetan. The name describes soil types are namely mediteran brown and grumosol as visually red (*abang* on Javanese) (Capra et al., 2015). In addition, In The East Region of Cirebon, there are some villages name who combine various meanings of physical environment such as plants and water, water and animals, land and vegetation forms, landforms and others (see table 2).

Tabel 2: Mixed physical environmental mean on toponyms.

Word Origin	Information	Village Name
<i>Mbeled</i> and <i>asem</i>	Muddy soil (<i>mbeled</i>) overgrown tamarind (<i>asem</i>)	Waled Asem
<i>Jati</i> and <i>pancuran</i>	Spring fountain (<i>pancur</i>) near teak (<i>jati</i>) vegetation	Jatipancur
<i>Cai</i> and <i>bogo</i>	River (<i>cai</i>) as striped snakehead (<i>bogo</i>) habitat	Cibogo
<i>Leuweung</i> and <i>gajah</i>	Forest (<i>leuweung</i>) as elephant (<i>gajah</i>) habitat	Leuweung-gajah
<i>Kamarang</i> and <i>lebak</i>	Valley (<i>lebak</i>) inhabited by wasps (<i>kamarang</i>)	Kamarang lebak
<i>Cai</i> , <i>awi</i> , and <i>gajah</i>	River banks (<i>cai</i>) overgrown with bamboo (<i>awi</i>) and often see elephants (<i>gajah</i>)	Ciawigajah
<i>Bojong</i> and <i>gebang</i>	Gebang tree growth on sediment material	Bojonggebang

4.2 Socio-Cultural Aspects

Toponyms based on socio-cultural aspects are generally derived from various social phenomena who considered important in regional development. In The East Region of Cirebon, there are 21 village toponyms meaningful socio-cultural consisting of history, expectation, perception, artifacts, activities, irrigation, and others (Kleber, 1983).

4.2.1 Historical Means

Perpetuation of historical events in the village toponym is doing to memorate any important events in early village establishment (Mutakin, 1999). In The East Region of Cirebon, historical events often involve various figures from royal family or some person have some advantages, such as the story of Prince Welang and Weling (Wilulang, Susukanbak sub-district), the eight (windu on Javanese) pilgrims (haji on Javanese) arrival (winduhaji, Sedong sub-district), and Jaka Saliwah contemplation (Belawa, Sedong sub-district). In fact, tragic events of the Ki Ranggajati's death process was enshrined into three village names ie Gembongan (*gembong* mean body on Javanese), Gembongan Mekar, and Cangkuang (tied in a tree) which are located in Babakan sub-district. Besides figure aspect who enshrine in the village toponym, Village establishing along with the pattern of settlement and iconic buildings are declared by the elders were also used as several villages name, such as Astanalanggar (grave beside the mosque) and Barisan (settlement with pararel patterns) in Losari sub-district, Banjarwangunan (Settlement line, Mundu Sub-district), and some villages are beginning with word *babak* (on Sundanese means start). In The East Region of Cirebon, there are many villages name indicating the presence of Cirebon sultanate facilities such as hunting (*bedil*) places (some village names in Pabedilan sub-district) and harbor (*playangan* on Javanese mean bunder). It reinforces some folklore who explains about some palace of the sultanate spread all over its territory.

Villages toponym of the east region Cirebon also often meaningful struggle and success of village founder such as the Kudukeras (Babakan sub-district) and Durajaya (Greged sub-district) (Perdana et al., 2012). Another historical aspect that characterize several toponyms in The East Region of Cirebon is an event invites people to embrace Islam (da'wah) as in toponym of Kalimaro and Dompuyong (Gebang Sub-district), and Halimpu (Beber sub-district)

4.2.2 Matter

The toponym illustrates the public's disappointment into government (Dutch East Indies) policy is Nanggela (Greged sub-district). Nanggela origion from Javanese, *nang* means red onion and *gela* means disappointment, it is experienced by the community due to *cultuurstelsel* policy who requires farmers to grow sugar cane and forbidden to plant other commodities, including onion. Also, it is supported

by easily access to sugar factories from the village in this region (Kleberen, 1983).

4.2.3 Perception

View or image of human to the surrounding environment can be used as name for a village, not least in The East Region of Cirebon (Kastanakis and Voyer, 2014). There are five villages toponyms are meaningful perceptions. Karangtengah is given by the community because its location between Karangwarung and Karangwareng villages. Then, toponim Karangsuwung means a quiet place, the two villages are located in karangsembung district. In addition, there are two villages have difficulty in accessing to the village at past, ie Wangkelang from *wongilang* (invisible person) explain a difficult access for outer people (Lemahabang Sub-district), Karangwuni (unseen settlements), and Towangsari means settlement between paddies (Losari sub-district).

4.2.4 Artifisial Landuse

Artificial land use is form of human composition in processing the surrounding environment to fulfilment life needs. In The East Region of Cirebon, artificial land use such as settlements are often used as villages name ie Karangmangun (Susukanbak sub-district) and Karangwangun (Babakan sub-district), they have similar meaningful about building settlements. Then, there are toponyms derived from agricultural land and people livelihoods namely Gagasari (Gebang sub-district) meaningfull moor and Pasawahan (Susukanlebak sub-district) means rice fields (Ormeling, 2013).

4.2.5 Irrigation

The East Region of Cirebon is known as on of intensive agricultural center in West Java, no wonder if often meet irrigation infrastructure (Dede, et.al., 2016). Presence of agricultural infrastructures in The East Region of Cirebon could be used as villages name. For irrigation channels, there are several villages such as Kaligawe (on Javanese means artificial river), Susukanlebak (on Sundanese irrigation into the valley), Susukan Tonggoh (on Sundanese irrigation in the hills), and Susukanagung (on Sundanese large canal) in Susukanlebak sub-district. In addition, there are several reservoirs for various purposes be an inspiration for village name, namely Setu Patok (Mundu sub-district) and Bendungan (Pangenan sub-district). Beside irrigation who correlated with agricultural activities, presence

well is using as village toponym, namely Sumurkondang (Karangwareng sub-district) meaningful known wells and attracts residents to settle in the vicinity.

4.2.6 Expectations

When a village has been established, a good name is expected to affect the development of its people be civil society (Snyder, 2000). In The East Region of Cirebon, village toponyms based on hope or expectation of the village founders were divided into 5 categories, such as glory, honesty, welfare, achievement, and spirit. The glory is represented by toponym Mulyasari (on Javanese means keep the glory, at Losari sub-district), Sidamulya (on Javanese means become a glory, at Astanajapura sub-district), Astanamukti (on Javanese means Buried pleasures for noble, at Pangenan sub-district); Sampih (on Sundanese means keeping relation, at Susukanlebak sub-district), Karangwangi (on Javanese means glory village, Karangwareng sub-district), Silihasih (on Sundanese means Mutual affectionate, Pabedilan sub-district); Pangenan (on Javanese means being miss, Pangenan sub-district), and Suci (on Javanese means holy, Mundu Sub-district).

Honesty also pinned as toponym for several villages in eastern Cirebon such as Astanajapura, Japura Lor, Japura Kidul, and Japura Bakti located in Astanajapura sub-district. Names of the village are meaningful for people to be honest with do Japura (*aja pura-pura*) or dont pretend. Beside honesty and glory, some villages in the region also used a inner and outer welfare as order to always surround for village naming, such as Kertawangun (build peace, Sedong sub-district), Mertapada Kulon and Wetan (affluent, Astanajapura sub-district), Tambelang (keeping enough, Karangsembung sub-district), and Sukadana (work lover, Babakan sub-district) (Snyder, 2000).

In the region there are many villages have meaningful expectations about achievement and spirit, such Sidaresmi (officially, Pabedilan sub-district) Tersana (will be achieved, Pabedilan sub-district), Sarajaya (free from evil, Lemahabang sub-district), Gemulunglebak and Gemulungtonggoh (the best decision from pious persons, Greged sub-district). Meanwhile, villages toponym are contain determination ie Greged (go, Greged sub-district), Buntet (spirit for useful, Astanajapura sub-district), Munjul (being superior, Astanajapura sub-district), Sinarrancang (spreading spirit, Mundu sub-district),

and Windujaya (keep fighting, sedong sub-district) (Caldwell and Shine, 2008).

4.2.7 Artefact

Toponyms are mean artifacts or man-made objects in The East Region of Cirebon indicates on many villages like Panambangan (mean the ropes, Sedong sub-district), Sigong (mean *gong*, sub-district sub-district), Kanci (mean the key, Astanajapura sub-district), Ender (means *kendher* a kind of gamelan, Pangenan sub-district), and Beber (the shawl, Beber subdistrict). From some toponym are meaningful to artifacts, there is a correlation between artifacts and figures of the Cirebon Sultanate (Ricklef, 2012).

4.2.8 Activity

Important matter can also be a name for a place. In The East Region of Cirebon, various toponyms are derived from people activities till now some of these activities are continue to one like occur in Pabuaran (Kastanakis and Voyer, 2014). More detail is shown in table 3. The naming of village based on human activity and on going until now only Pabuaran. It happens because geographic position of Pabuaran has located at the crossroads are connecting many growth centers such as Ciledug, Gebang, and Lemahabang. In addition, Pabuaran is the main access to Kuningan.

Table 3: Activities on toponyms.

Word	Information	Village Name
<i>Ambu and gelu</i>	Rest first	Ambulu
<i>Noong</i>	Spy	Panongan; Panongan Lor
<i>Cai and Ngulak</i>	Take a water	Cikulak; Cikulak Kidul
<i>Waled and Desa</i>	Lively by native citizens	Waled Desa
<i>Waled and Kota</i>	Lively by chinese	Waled Kota
<i>Paku and Sambu</i>	Alternative business place	Pakusamben
<i>Bubuara</i>	Economic place	Pabuaran Kidul; Pabuaran Lor; Pabuaran Wetan
<i>Tapa</i>	Meditation	Patapan
<i>Penpen</i>	Be alone	Penpen

Overall, toponyms distribution both physical environment and socio-cultural aspects shows a pattern, which is closer to the central of Cirebon Sultanate's impact on increasing amount of socio-

cultural villages toponyms in The East Region of Cirebon (Sudas and Gokten, 2012), such as in Beber and Sedong sub-districts. Whereas, far distance from the center of the sultanate as in Pasaleman sub-district, Karangwareng, and Ciledug are dominated by physical environment aspect. Another uniqueness in the region is direction word of Javanese language is dominant to show a geographic position for village, such *wetan*, *kulon*, *kidul*, and *lor*. In addition, Toponyms tendency derived from socio-cultural aspects of the region is also found in some villages are directly adjacent to the sea, it happens causes coastal areas is place for people of The East Region of Cirebon interaction with the outsiders, this condition further confirms that meaning of Cirebon is *caruban* or combination.

5 CONCLUSION

In language term, presence of toponyms in The East Region of Cirebon are dominated by origin names in Javanese (57%), Sundanese (33%), Sundanese and Javanese (8%), and other languages. Whereas, form toponym's aspect there are 42% of villages meaningful to physical environment and 58% based on socio-cultural. In the region there also include a trend for distribution pattern of aspect toponyms which socio-cultural meaning tends to be near the center of the Cirebon Sultanate and along the coast. It is quite different from distribution of physical environment aspects are tend to inland and far from Cirebon Sultanate's influence. Toponyms as part of intangible cultural heritage should be preserved like another national asset. The preservation through exploring and reinforcement of toponym meanings in The East Region of Cirebon and Indonesia as generally. It is necessary for the existence of location names is not just a name without meaning, but contains self and regional identity as a part of nation's cultural treasures.

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