

Reading the Balinese Traditional Architecture Cosmology: The Element Concept of Cosmologic Placing in the Justice Court Hall (Case Study: Bale Kertagosa, Klungkung Bali)

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ABSTRACT

In the Balinese architecture there are three cosmological orientations and ritual as a guidance to manage the environment. The three cosmologies orientations are: first cosmos orientations bhur/ the underworld, bwaah/the world of human being, and swah/ the heavens above, second : ritual orientation Kangin/East–Kauh/West, and third : earth orientations Kaja/North–Kelod/. The unification of the two orientations values (ritual and earth) will formed an imaginary the Balinese compass rose (Sanga Mandala), which dividing areal into nine parts in accordance to earth orientation. This research discuss social building in its function as a traditional court of justice hall which built in the 18th century and situated within the compound of Puri Agung Klungkung. The purpose of the research is to read and analyze the placement concept of decorative elements at the court hall (Kertagosa). Qualitative descriptive method by emic perspective is utilized for this research.

The result of the research shows that the unique parts of the Traditional Court hall arrangement lies at placement of its cosmological concept: (1) Placement of puppet painting at the ceiling is trying to convey communication or moral message Karmapala in relation to Balinese perception about time (Tri Semaya), past time (athita), current time (nagatha) and future time (warthamana) ; the paintings consist of nine lines/rows and eight story themes and read based on cosmological orientations value, which is 'circling to the right' (purwadaksina). (2) Placement of 12 supporting pole based with 12 fauna symbols shows 'the vehicle' (wahana) of the devas and have meaning as to add the power of the deva based on its place, time and condition (desa kala patra).

Keywords: *Balinese architecture, cosmos, puppet painting, saka pillar*