

Awig-Awig as a Pillar of Harmonization in the Traditional Village of Tenganan Pegringsingan, Karangasem, Bali

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ABSTRACT

Tenganan Pegringsingan Traditional Village in Karangasem, Bali, has a customary law system called Awig-Awig. Awig-Awig serves as a guideline for community life in various aspects, including social, economic, cultural, and environmental. This article aims to analyze the role of Awig-Awig in maintaining the harmonization of the Tenganan Pegringsingan Traditional Village community. Using a descriptive qualitative method, this research examines the function and implementation of Awig-Awig based on literature studies and interviews with traditional leaders and local communities. The results show that Awig-Awig plays an important role in maintaining social balance, strengthening cultural identity, and preserving the environment. This article asserts that the sustainability of Awig-Awig is key in maintaining the harmony of indigenous communities amidst modernization.

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INTRODUCTION

Tenganan Pegringsingan Traditional Village is one of the Bali Aga villages that still strictly maintains ancestral traditions. As an indigenous community that has a different social and cultural system from other villages in Bali, Tenganan Village still adheres to traditional values that have been passed down from generation to generation. One of the main elements that form the basis for organizing community life is Awig-Awig, which is a set of customary rules that bind every member of the community.

Awig-Awig not only functions as a social norm but also becomes the main instrument in creating harmonization within the indigenous community. These customary rules cover various aspects of life, ranging from social systems, economics, culture, to environmental preservation. With its existence, Awig-Awig ensures that people's lives continue to run in accordance with ancestral values and remain in harmony with the surrounding environment.

The Role of Awig-Awig in Social and Cultural Harmonization Awig-Awig in Tenganan Pegringsingan Traditional Village plays an important role in maintaining social balance. This system regulates community manners, conflict resolution mechanisms, and the obligations of each individual in community life. For example, in social relations, Awig-Awig determines how interactions between residents should be carried out, including in traditional events such as Usaba Sambah, which is one of the important ceremonies in the life cycle of the Tenganan community.

In addition, Awig-Awig also establishes a system of land ownership and inheritance, ensuring that the sharing of resources is done fairly and in accordance with customs. This plays a role in preventing social conflicts that may arise from fighting over land rights or inheritance. As such, Awig-Awig is a key foundation in creating social harmony within indigenous communities.

In terms of culture, Awig-Awig regulates the procedures for implementing various traditional rituals that have become the identity of the Tenganan community. For example, in making gringsing cloth-one of the village's famous cultural heritages-the manufacturing process must follow certain customary rules set out in Awig-Awig. That way, the cultural values inherited by the ancestors are maintained and not eroded by the flow of modernization.

Environmental Preservation and Ecological Sustainability In addition to maintaining social and cultural harmony, Awig-Awig also plays a role in environmental conservation. These rules regulate the wise use of natural resources, for example by prohibiting indiscriminate tree cutting or illegal hunting in customary forest areas. This prohibition aims to maintain the balance of the ecosystem and ensure that natural resources remain available for future generations.

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Ecological sustainability is also a major concern in the life of the Tenganan community. In Awig-Awig, there are strict rules regarding sustainable traditional agricultural systems, such as a land rotation system that aims to maintain soil fertility. With this rule, people can still grow crops without damaging the environment, so that the ecological balance is maintained.

Challenges in the Era of Modernization Although Awig-Awig has proven effective in maintaining harmonization in Tenganan Village, challenges remain, especially in the face of modernization and globalization. The rapidly growing tourism sector in Bali also has an impact on the social and cultural life of the Tenganan community. Interaction with tourists and increased access to modern technology have begun to influence the way of life of the younger generation in this village.

Some of the rules in Awig-Awig began to change due to pressure from the outside world. For example, the rules regarding traditional marriage patterns that were once very strict are now starting to experience a little leeway along with the development of people's thinking. In addition, the entry of the modern economy has also brought new challenges to the traditional economic system previously regulated by Awig-Awig.

Adaptation and Preservation Strategy To face these challenges, the community and traditional leaders of Tenganan Village have tried to adjust some of the rules in Awig-Awig so that they remain relevant without losing their essence. One of the strategies carried out is through education and socialization to the younger generation about the importance of maintaining traditions and customary law.

In addition, strengthening the role of customary institutions in upholding Awig-Awig is also an important step in ensuring the sustainability of this rule. With the joint commitment of the community, Awig-Awig is expected to remain the main pillar in maintaining the harmony of Tenganan Pegringsingan Traditional Village in the midst of changing times.

Awig-Awig in Tenganan Pegringsingan Traditional Village acts as the main instrument in maintaining social, cultural and environmental harmonization. As a customary law passed down from generation to generation, Awig-Awig is not only a social norm but also a tool to maintain the identity of the Bali Aga people.

Despite facing challenges from modernization and globalization, Awig-Awig remains a strong foundation in the lives of the Tenganan people. With the right adaptation efforts and preservation strategies, these customary rules can continue to survive and remain relevant in the face of the dynamics of the times, so that Tenganan Village remains an example of the sustainability of traditional traditions in Bali.

METHOD

This research uses a qualitative approach with ethnographic methods. Data was collected through participatory observation and in-depth interviews with traditional leaders, the community, and related parties in Tenganan Pegringsingan Village. Interviews were conducted in a structured manner to explore the role of Awig-Awig in daily life, as well as the community's views on this customary rule. In addition, document

analysis related to Awig-Awig was also conducted to understand the historical and philosophical context of the customary rules.

RESULTS

1. Definition and Function of Awig-Awig

Awig-Awig in Tenganan Pegringsingan Village is a set of customary rules that are binding and regulate all aspects of community life. This rule is passed down from generation to generation and has an important role in maintaining social order, environmental balance, and preservation of local culture. As a customary law system, Awig-Awig serves as a guideline in various aspects of life, ranging from social relations, natural resource governance, to cultural practices and religious rituals.

The main function of Awig-Awig is to maintain harmonious social relations in the community, regulate the division of responsibilities of each individual, and manage natural resources sustainably (Geertz, 1973). With clear and mutually agreed rules, people can live their daily lives in a more orderly manner and in harmony with the customary values that have been passed down by their ancestors.

One concrete example of the application of Awig-Awig is in the process of making gringsing cloth, a very important cultural heritage for the Tenganan community. The making of this fabric has strict rules that must be followed, starting from the selection of materials, natural coloring techniques, to the weaving process which must be done by hand without the help of modern technology. Each stage of gringsing fabric production is regulated in Awig-Awig and carried out through certain traditional rituals aimed at maintaining the authenticity and sacred value of the fabric. This shows how Awig-Awig not only regulates social life, but also plays a role in preserving local culture which is the identity of the Tenganan community.

In addition to the cultural aspect, Awig-Awig also has a customary law mechanism that serves to resolve conflicts peacefully. When there is a violation of customary rules, the community concerned will be subject to sanctions according to the level of guilt. The sanctions given can be in the form of verbal warnings, fines in the form of goods or money, to social punishment such as temporary exclusion from traditional activities. The purpose of these sanctions is not to punish, but to provide a deterrent effect and maintain order in social life. Thus, Awig-Awig functions as a social control tool that ensures every member of the community remains compliant with the inherited norms.

Furthermore, Awig-Awig also plays a role in the sustainable management of natural resources. As an agrarian society, Tenganan villagers have special rules in terms of utilizing agricultural land, forests, and water sources. For example, there is a prohibition on cutting down trees carelessly or hunting certain animals that are considered to have important ecological value. This rule aims to maintain environmental balance and ensure the availability of resources for future generations.

From these various aspects, it can be concluded that Awig-Awig in Tenganan Pegringsingan Village is a customary legal system that not only plays a role in maintaining social order, but also in preserving culture and the environment. Its existence is proof that local wisdom values can contribute to creating a harmonious and sustainable society.

2. The Role of Awig-Awig in Social and Cultural Harmonization

Awig-Awig is a customary rule that has a central role in maintaining social and cultural harmonization in Tenganan Pegringsingan Traditional Village, Karangasem, Bali. As a customary regulation passed down from generation to generation, Awig-Awig not only regulates the social life of the community, but also ensures the balance of the relationship between humans and nature. In their daily lives, the Tenganan people practice a close-knit communal system, where solidarity and togetherness are an important part of their lives. The existence of Awig-Awig strengthens this system by providing guidelines in interacting and carrying out social and customary obligations.

2.1. Awig-Awig and Social Harmony

In Tenganan society, each individual has a predetermined role in the social structure. Awig-Awig regulates community involvement in various aspects of life, such as participation in traditional ceremonies, conflict resolution, and the division of social responsibilities. Every family in the village is required to participate in various religious rituals and traditional activities. This aims to strengthen relationships between residents and strengthen the value of togetherness in the community. Traditional ceremonies that are held regularly serve as a platform for the community to interact with each other and strengthen their solidarity.

In addition, the conflict resolution system in the Tenganan community is also regulated by Awig-Awig. When there is a dispute between residents, the settlement is carried out through village deliberations while still prioritizing the principles of justice and harmony. With this mechanism, conflicts can be resolved peacefully without compromising social relations in the community. The existence of Awig-Awig as the foundation of

customary law makes the community more disciplined in implementing the norms that have been inherited by their ancestors.

2.2. Awig-Awig in Environmental

Management In addition to regulating social relations, Awig-Awig also has an important role in maintaining ecological balance. Tenganan Village, which is surrounded by customary forests, has strict rules on the utilization of natural resources. The prohibition to cut down trees or hunt animals in the customary forest area without permission is a clear example of how Awig-Awig functions as an instrument of environmental protection. These rules aim to ensure that natural resources remain sustainable and can be utilized by future generations.

Agricultural land utilization is also strictly regulated by Awig-Awig. Land management and irrigation systems must be carried out in accordance with established customary provisions. This aims to prevent over-exploitation that can damage the balance of the ecosystem. With regulations governing natural resource governance, the Tenganan community can coexist with nature in harmony. According to Koentjaraningrat (1990), customary rules such as Awig-Awig are a form of local wisdom that can create long-term environmental sustainability.

The existence of Awig-Awig in Tenganan Pegringsingan Village proves that customary rules have a very important role in maintaining social harmony and environmental balance. Through these rules, the community can live a structured, peaceful, and full of togetherness life. In addition, Awig-Awig also ensures that natural resources are managed wisely so that they can be passed on to the next generation. By maintaining and respecting Awig-Awig, the people of Tenganan not only maintain their cultural identity but also create a sustainable and harmonious life.

3. Preservation of Tradition through Awig-Awig

3.1. Awig-Awig as a Guardian of Local Tradition and Culture

One of the most fundamental aspects of the life of the indigenous people of Tenganan Pegringsingan is Awig-Awig, which functions as a customary law that regulates various aspects of life, including the preservation of local traditions and culture. This customary regulation has been passed down from generation to generation and is the basis for maintaining the authenticity of the culture in this village.

One concrete example of Awig-Awig's role in cultural preservation is in the making of gringsing cloth. Gringsing cloth is a valuable cultural heritage of Tenganan and is made through a very strict process. The technique of making this fabric using the double ikat method is very rare in the world and can only be found in a few places, one of which is in Tenganan Pegringsingan. Awig-Awig stipulates that only Tenganan natives are allowed to make gringsing cloth using traditional methods. In addition, there are strict rules regarding raw materials, natural dyeing techniques, and rituals that must be performed during the fabric-making process. Local beliefs state that violating these rules can disturb the cosmic balance and damage relationships with ancestors. Therefore, the making of this fabric is still carried out in accordance with long-established customary rules.

3.2. Awig-Awig's Role in Maintaining Traditional Ceremonies

In addition to making gringsing cloth, Awig-Awig also plays an important role in maintaining the sustainability of traditional ceremonies that have been passed down by the ancestors. Some traditional ceremonies that are closely related to Awig-Awig are Usaba Sambah and Usaba Kasa.

The Usaba Sambah ceremony is a sacred ritual held annually to commemorate and celebrate the life cycle of the Tenganan indigenous people. The ceremony involves various processions regulated by Awig-Awig, including ritual stages that must be strictly followed by ceremony participants. Young people involved in this ceremony, especially those entering adulthood, take a series of traditional exams that test their readiness to understand and implement Tenganan cultural values. This procession not only serves as a means of cultural preservation, but also as an educational medium for the younger generation to continue to understand and appreciate their ancestral heritage.

Meanwhile, Usaba Kasa is a ceremony related to respect for nature and ancestral spirits. In this ceremony, the Tenganan people make various forms of offerings aimed at maintaining balance and harmony between humans, nature and the spiritual world. The rules written in Awig-Awig ensure that this ceremony is carried out correctly, starting from the selection of auspicious days, the type of offerings used, to the role played by each member of the community in the ritual. This shows how Awig-Awig not only regulates people's social life, but also maintains their relationship with nature and the spiritual world.

3.3. Awig-Awig as a Pillar of Social and Economic Sustainability

Apart from maintaining traditional traditions and ceremonies, Awig-Awig also plays a role in maintaining the sustainability of the social and economic system of the Tenganan Pegringsingan community. With structured customary regulations, communities can maintain the stability of their lives and ensure that cultural values are maintained in various aspects of life, including in the economic sector.

One example is the management of natural resources which is carried out based on the Awig-Awig rules. Tenganan people should not carelessly manage their natural resources, such as forests, rice fields and water sources. There are strict regulations regarding who can use the land, how it is managed, as well as sanctions for those who violate these rules. In this way, ecological sustainability is maintained, and people can continue to live in harmony with their environment.

In the economic sector, Awig-Awig also regulates the trade of gringsing cloth and other typical Tenganan handicraft products. Not everyone can sell gringsing cloth, and there are strict rules regarding who is allowed to weave it and how the production process must be carried out. This aims to maintain the quality and authenticity of the products produced, while ensuring that the community's economy remains stable without sacrificing cultural values that have been passed down from generation to generation.

From the various aspects that have been explained, it can be concluded that Awig-Awig has a very important role in maintaining and preserving the traditions and culture of the Tenganan Pegringsingan indigenous people. With the existence of these traditional regulations, various cultural heritages such as gringsing cloth, traditional ceremonies, as well as the social and economic systems of society can continue to survive in the face of changing times. More than just customary legal rules, Awig-Awig is the guardian of the balance of community life, ensuring that noble values are upheld by each generation. Therefore, understanding and preserving Awig-Awig must continue to be fought for so that the cultural identity of the Tenganan indigenous people remains sustainable and is not eroded by the flow of modernization.

4. Dynamics and Challenges in Awig-Awig Implementation

4.1. Social and Cultural Changes

Awig-Awig as a customary rule that regulates community life in Tenganan Pegringsingan Traditional Village has experienced various dynamics in its application. Along with the times, social and cultural changes that occur in society bring their own challenges in the implementation of Awig-Awig. One of the main challenges is the influence of globalization which causes a shift in traditional values and norms.

Globalization brings various elements of outside culture that can influence the perspective of indigenous peoples, especially the younger generation. With wider access to information through the internet and social media, the younger generation is more open to modern culture which is often different from the traditional values contained in Awig-Awig. This can lead to a shift in cultural identity and decreased adherence to customary rules that have been passed down from generation to generation.

In addition, modernization has also changed the pattern of community life, both in social, economic and educational aspects. Indigenous communities that once relied heavily on traditional systems in their daily lives are now starting to adopt more modern systems of life. This can lead to an imbalance between the preservation of traditions and the demands of an increasingly developing era.

4.2. Effect of Tourism on Awig-Awig

Tourism is one of the sectors that has a significant impact on the implementation of Awig-Awig. Tenganan Pegringsingan Village is known as one of the cultural tourism villages that attracts many tourists, both domestic and foreign. The presence of tourists brings a positive impact in terms of the community's economy, but also poses challenges in maintaining the sustainability of traditional values.

Interaction with tourists can affect the mindset of indigenous people, especially in terms of lifestyle and perspective on local culture. Some communities are becoming more open to outside influences, which in some cases can erode long-held customary values. For example, rules governing dress code, social behavior, and traditional rituals may be modified to suit the needs of the tourism industry.

In addition, in some cases, economic interests may conflict with traditional values. Some communities may prioritize economic aspects over compliance with Awig-Awig, resulting in negotiation or even compromise in the application of customary rules. This creates a dilemma between maintaining cultural values and capitalizing on the economic opportunities offered by the tourism sector.

4.3. Changes in the Mindset of the Young Generation

One of the biggest challenges in the implementation of Awig-Awig is the changing mindset of the younger generation. The younger generation has an important role in maintaining cultural sustainability, but on the other hand, they also face various influences from the outside world that can change their perspective on traditions and customary rules.

In this digital era, the younger generation spends more time with technology, which can reduce their involvement in traditional activities. A lack of understanding of the importance of Awig-Awig can lead to a decreased sense of ownership of customary values. In addition, some of them may feel that customary rules are too rigid or irrelevant to modern life, resulting in less interest in maintaining traditions.

Lack of regeneration in adat leadership is also a challenge in maintaining the existence of Awig-Awig. The elders who have been the guardians of traditional values are dwindling in number, while not all of the

younger generation are interested in continuing the role. If there is no appropriate strategy to attract the younger generation, then there is a possibility that these customary rules will degrade over time.

4.4. Adaptation Strategy to Keep Awig-Awig Relevant

To face these challenges, adaptation strategies are needed to ensure that Awig-Awig values remain relevant and acceptable to the community, especially the younger generation. One strategy that can be implemented is early cultural education. By including Awig-Awig values in the local education curriculum or through extracurricular activities, the younger generation can better understand and appreciate the importance of customary rules.

In addition, the digital approach can also be used as a tool to preserve and socialize Awig-Awig. The creation of educational content about Awig-Awig in the form of videos, articles or social media can be an effective way to reach younger generations who are more familiar with technology. In this way, customary rules can be conveyed in a way that is more interesting and relevant to their lives.

Active participation of the community in maintaining and enforcing Awig-Awig is also very necessary. The involvement of all elements of society, including the younger generation, in customary discussions and decision-making related to customary rules can increase a sense of ownership and responsibility for cultural preservation. Thus, Awig-Awig is not only a legacy of the past, but also an integral part of the community's evolving life.

CONCLUSION

Awig-Awig is a customary law system that regulates various aspects of the life of the Tenganan Pegringsingan Traditional Village community, including social, cultural, economic and environmental fields. Its existence is the main pillar in maintaining the harmonization of indigenous communities in the midst of modernization. In social and cultural aspects, Awig-Awig plays an important role in creating balance through regulating behavioral norms, conflict resolution mechanisms, and land ownership and inheritance systems. In addition, these rules also regulate the implementation of traditional rituals and the production of gringsing cloth, which is part of the cultural identity of the Tenganan community.

In the environmental field, Awig-Awig has provisions aimed at maintaining ecosystem balance, such as the prohibition of indiscriminate tree cutting and illegal hunting. Sustainable traditional farming systems are also regulated in this customary law to ensure the preservation of natural resources for future generations. However, the influence of modernization and globalization, especially from the tourism and technology sectors, brings challenges to the sustainability of Awig-Awig. Interaction with tourists and exposure to outside cultures began to influence the mindset of the younger generation, resulting in some customary rules being changed or relaxed.

To ensure the sustainability of Awig-Awig, the community and customary leaders developed various adaptation strategies, such as cultural education for the younger generation, the use of digital technology for socialization, and strengthening the role of customary institutions in enforcing customary law. Overall, Awig-Awig remains a key element in maintaining the harmony of the Tenganan Pegringsingan community. With the right adaptation strategy, this customary law system is expected to continue to survive and be relevant in facing the dynamics of the times without losing its essence as a guardian of Bali Aga cultural identity.

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